

**APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT
SCREENING REPORT**
For
***Scheme: PILOT ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING HUB SCHEME AT ÁRAS
AN CHONTAE, ROSCOMMON***
For
**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (AS AMENDED) - PART 8-
Application**



Development description and consisting of:

Pilot Electric Vehicle Charging Hub Scheme at Áras an Chontae, Roscommon

Consisting of a pilot project for the provision of an Electric Vehicle Charging Hub Scheme at Áras an Chontae, Roscommon car park. Within the RCC car park, a block of sixteen standard existing car parking spaces has been selected as being at the optimal location for this EV charging hub. The project involves:

- Electric vehicle charging hub infrastructure – civil works with trenching, ducting, RC bases and plinths
- Electric cabling and associated equipment
- Control boxes and subsequent installation of electric vehicle chargers with all ancillary equipment and connection to customer substation / switchroom power source for the purpose of creating an electric vehicle charging hub for use by Roscommon County Council staff and the general public.

Screening for Appropriate Assessment: Pilot Electric Vehicle Charging Hub Scheme at Áras an Chontae, Roscommon

Table 1: Project Details

Development Consent Type	
Development Location	Áras an Chontae, Roscommon, F42VR98
File Reference Number	No planning ref number
Description of the Project	Pilot Electric Vehicle Charging Hub Scheme at Áras an Chontae, Roscommon Consisting of a pilot project for the provision of an Electric Vehicle Charging Hub Scheme at Áras an Chontae, Roscommon car park. Within the RCC car park, a block of sixteen standard existing car parking spaces has been selected as being at the optimal location for this EV charging hub.

Table 2: Identification of Natura 2000 Sites (SACs and SPAs) which may be impacted by the proposed development

Please answer the following questions in order to determine whether there are any Natura 2000 sites which could potentially be impacted by the proposed development.

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

Impacts on habitats

1.	Impacts on Freshwater Habitats	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	<p>Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include freshwater habitats, or in the catchment of same?</p> <p>Sites to consider <u>Lough Ree SAC</u> (Site Code: 000440) Distance from Site: 3.93 km Designated features: Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation (#3150)</p> <p><u>Ballinturly Turlough SAC</u> (Site Code: 000588) Distance from Site: 4.62 km Designated features: Turloughs (#3180)</p> <p><u>Lisduff Turlough SAC</u> (Site Code: 000609) Distance from Site: 8.71 km Designated features: Turloughs (#3180)</p> <p><u>Lough Funshinagh SAC</u> (Site Code: 000611) Distance from Site: 12.76 km Designated features: Turloughs (#3180)</p> <p><u>Four Roads Turlough SAC</u> (Site Code: 001637) Distance from Site: 12.88 km Designated features: Turloughs (#3180)</p> <p><u>Fortwilliam Turlough SAC</u> (Site Code: 000448) Distance from Site: 13.8 km Designated features: Turloughs (#3180)</p> <p><u>Lough Croan Turlough SAC</u> (Site Code: 000610) Distance from Site: 13.98 km Designated features: Turloughs (#3180)</p>	<p>The area proposed for the EV Charging Hub is in an area local zoned as a car parking area for community and educational facilities and is Not within an SAC and greater than 1km from SACs with No Effects on SACs as closest one is 3.93km away.</p>

2.	Impacts on Bog Mires and Fens Habitats	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	<p>Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Bog Mires and Fens habitats, or within 1km of same?</p> <p>Sites to consider Lough Ree SAC (Site Code: 000440) Distance from Site: 3.93 km Designated features: Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration (#7120), Alkaline fens (#7230)</p> <p>Corbo Bog SAC (Site Code: 002349) Distance from Site: 7.31 km Designated features: Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion (#7150), Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration (#7120), Active raised bogs (#7110)</p>	<p>The area proposed for the EV Charging Hub is in an area local zoned as a car parking area for community and educational facilities and is Not within an SAC and greater than 1km from SACs with No Effects on SACs as closest one is 3.93km away.</p>
3.	Impacts on Forests Habitats	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	<p>Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Forests habitats, or within 1km of same?</p> <p>Sites to consider Lough Ree SAC (Site Code: 000440) Distance from Site: 3.93 km Designated features: Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles (#91A0), Bog woodland (#91D0)</p>	<p>N/A as not within an SAC or SPA</p>
4.	Impacts on Grasslands Habitats	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	<p>Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Grasslands habitats, or within 1km of same?</p> <p>Sites to consider Lough Ree SAC (Site Code: 000440) Distance from Site: 3.93 km Designated features: Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia)</p>	<p>N/A as not within an SAC and therefore not within a grassland habitat and not affecting any satellite grassland habitats that are <1km or >1km from site.</p>

	(* important orchid sites) (#6210)	
5.	Impacts on Heath and Scrub Habitats	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Heath and Scrub habitats, or within 1km of same? Sites to consider None	N/A as not within an SAC
6.	Impacts on Rocky Habitats	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Rocky habitats, or within 1km of same? Sites to consider Lough Ree SAC (Site Code: 000440) Distance from Site: 3.93 km Designated features: Limestone pavements (#8240)	N/A as not within an SAC
7.	Impacts on Dunes Habitats	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Dunes habitats, or within 1km of same? Sites to consider None	N/A as not within an SAC
8.	Impacts on Coastal Habitats	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Coastal habitats, or within 1km of same? Sites to consider None	N/A as not within an SAC

Impacts on Species

1.	Impacts on Amphibians	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
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	<p>Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Amphibians, or in the catchment of same?</p> <p>Sites to consider None</p>	N/A as not within an SAC
2.	Impacts on Anthropods	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	<p>Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Anthropods or within 1km of same?</p> <p>Sites to consider None</p>	N/A as not within an SAC
3.	Impacts on Fish	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	<p>Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Fish, or within 1km of same?</p> <p>Sites to consider None</p>	N/A as not within an SAC
4.	Impacts on Mammals	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	<p>Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Mammals, or within 1km of same?</p> <p>Sites to consider <u>Lough Ree SAC</u> (Site Code: 000440) Distance from Site: 3.93 km Designated features: Lutra lutra (Otter) (#1355)</p>	N/A as not within an SAC
5.	Impacts on Molluscs	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	<p>Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Molluscs, or within 1km of same?</p> <p>Sites to consider None</p>	N/A as not within an SAC
6.	Impacts on Non-vascular Plants	Likely Effects

		(direct, indirect or cumulative)
	Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Non-vascular plants, or within 1km of same? Sites to consider None	N/A as not within an SAC
7.	Impacts on Reptiles	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Reptiles, or within 1km of same? Sites to consider None	N/A as not within an SAC
8.	Impacts on Vascular Plants	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include Vascular Plants, or within 1km of same? Sites to consider None	N/A as not within an SAC

Special Protection Areas (SPA):

1.	Impacts on Birds	Likely Effects (direct, indirect or cumulative)
	Is the development within a Special Protection Area, or within 1km of same? Sites to consider <u>River Suck Callows SPA</u> (Site Code: 004097) Distance from Site: 6.51 km Designated features: Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) (#A038), Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) (#A050), Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) (#A140), Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) (#A142), Greenland White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) (#A395), Wetland and Waterbirds (#A999) <u>Lough Ree SPA</u> (Site Code:	N/A as not within an SPA

	<p>004064) Distance from Site: 7.97 km Designated features: Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis) (#A004),Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) (#A038),Wigeon (Anas penelope) (#A050),Teal (Anas crecca) (#A052),Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) (#A053),Shoveler (Anas clypeata) (#A056),Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) (#A061),Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) (#A065),Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) (#A067),Coot (Fulica atra) (#A125),Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) (#A140),Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) (#A142),Common Tern (Sterna hirundo) (#A193),Wetland and Waterbirds (#A999)</p> <p><u>Four Roads Turlough SPA</u> (Site Code: 004140) Distance from Site: 12.88 km Designated features: Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) (#A140),Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) (#A395),Wetland and Waterbirds (#A999)</p> <p><u>Lough Croan Turlough SPA</u> (Site Code: 004139) Distance from Site: 13.98 km Designated features: Shoveler (Anas clypeata) (#A056),Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) (#A140),Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) (#A395),Wetland and Waterbirds (#A999)</p>	
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All designated sites within a 15km radius of the subject site have been considered in this screening for Appropriate Assessment.


Conclusion Table 2: If the answer to all of these questions is no, significant impacts can be ruled out for Natura 2000 sites. No further assessment is required; proceed to the Habitats Directive Conclusion Statement.

Screening for Appropriate Assessment - Conclusion Statement

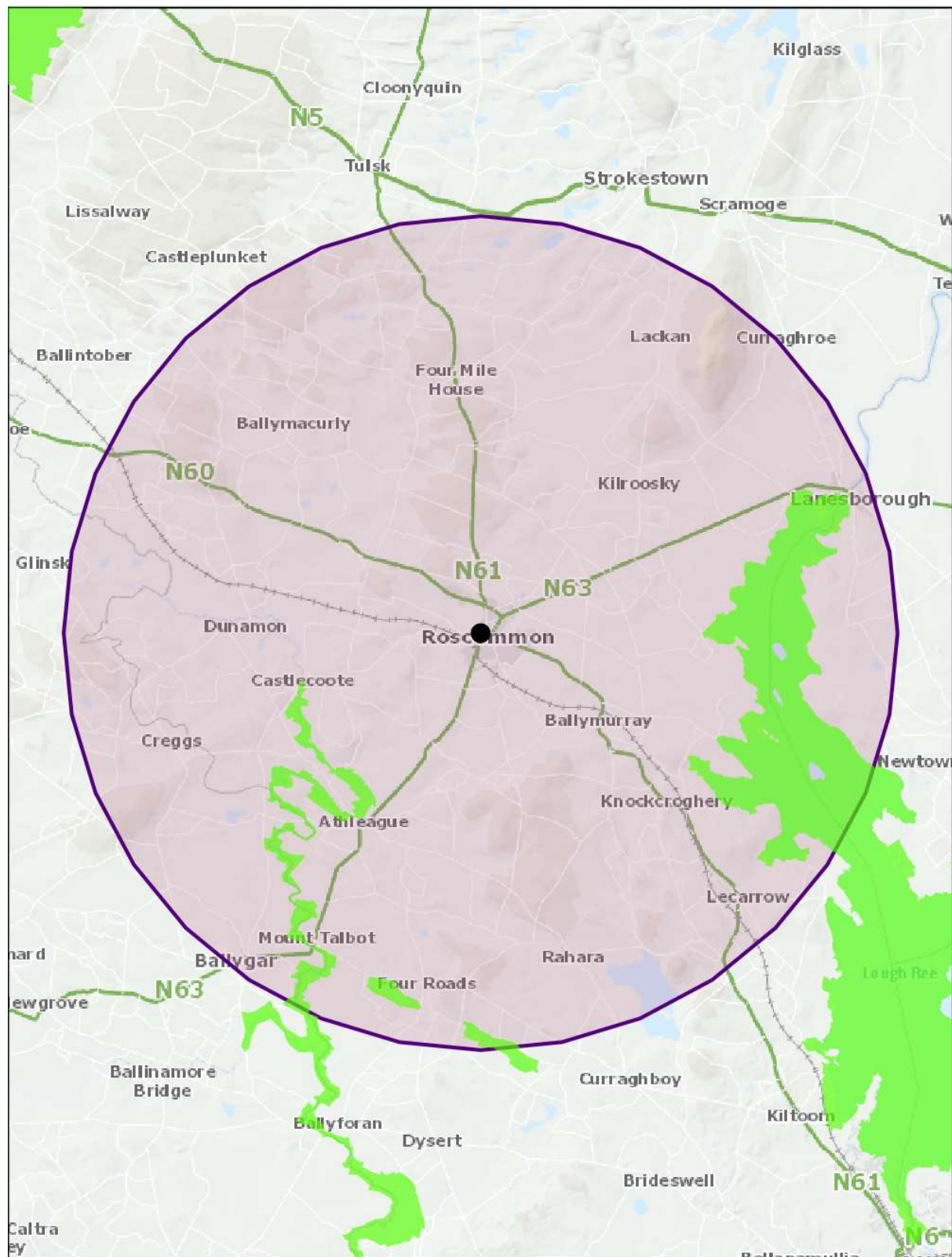
Development Type:
Development Location: Áras an Chontae, Roscommon, F42VR98
Natura 2000 sites within impact zone: SAC:000440, SAC:000609, SAC:000588, SAC:000610, SAC:001637, SAC:000448, SAC:000611, SAC:002349, SAC:002199, SAC:002200, SPA:004064, SPA:004097, SPA:004139, SPA:004140
Planning File Reference Number: n/a - (AA screening report for determination of a Part 8 planning submission)
Description of the Project: Pilot Electric Vehicle Charging Hub Scheme at Áras an Chontae, Roscommon Consisting of a pilot project for the provision of an Electric Vehicle Charging Hub Scheme at Áras an Chontae, Roscommon car park. Within the RCC car park, a block of sixteen standard existing car parking spaces has been selected as being at the optimal location for this EV charging hub. Describe how the project or plan (alone or in combination) could affect Natura 2000 sites(s): No effects either alone or in combination If there are potential negative impacts, explain whether you consider if these are likely to be significant, and if not, why not: No negative impacts as works civils works are localised, limited in extents and negligible/ zero impact on immediate area as with the installation of EV equipment. There is no likelihood of significant effects and no adverse impacts to site integrity are predicted, due to the nature of the works and the limited scale of development. It is not considered that there will be any loss of habitat within any European Sites, nor any loss of any qualifying Annex 1 habitat outside designated sites. Conclusion of Screening Assessment: The project does not present a risk or affect any SAC or SPA and therefore will have virtually a net zero environmental impact on the nearest SPA and SAC sites and the wider eco-system as it's within the heart of an urban setting. The project is connecting into an existing power source so there is no wider implications e.g. ESB Networks do not have to do reinforcement works outside of the site to increase power demand to charge hub. So no SPA or SAC affected by secondary works for project. Following an assessment of the proposed development and any potential relationships with European Sites, it is concluded that either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, there would be no likely significant effects on any European Sites. Documentation reviewed for making this statement: Completed by: John Shaughnessy Date: 24/10/2024

Signed:  _____

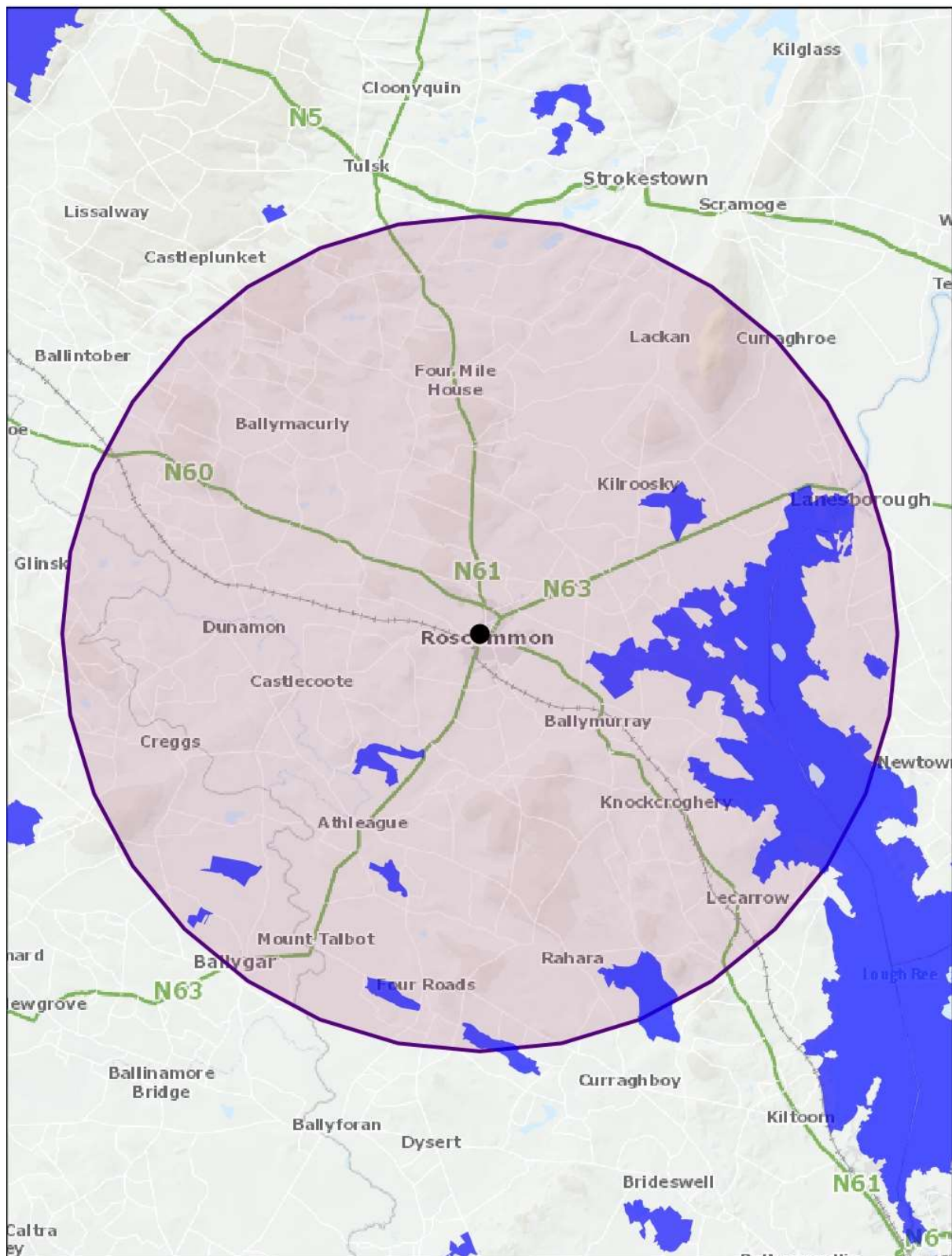
Date: 24/10/2024

Signed:  _____
Alan O'Connell, A/Senior Planner

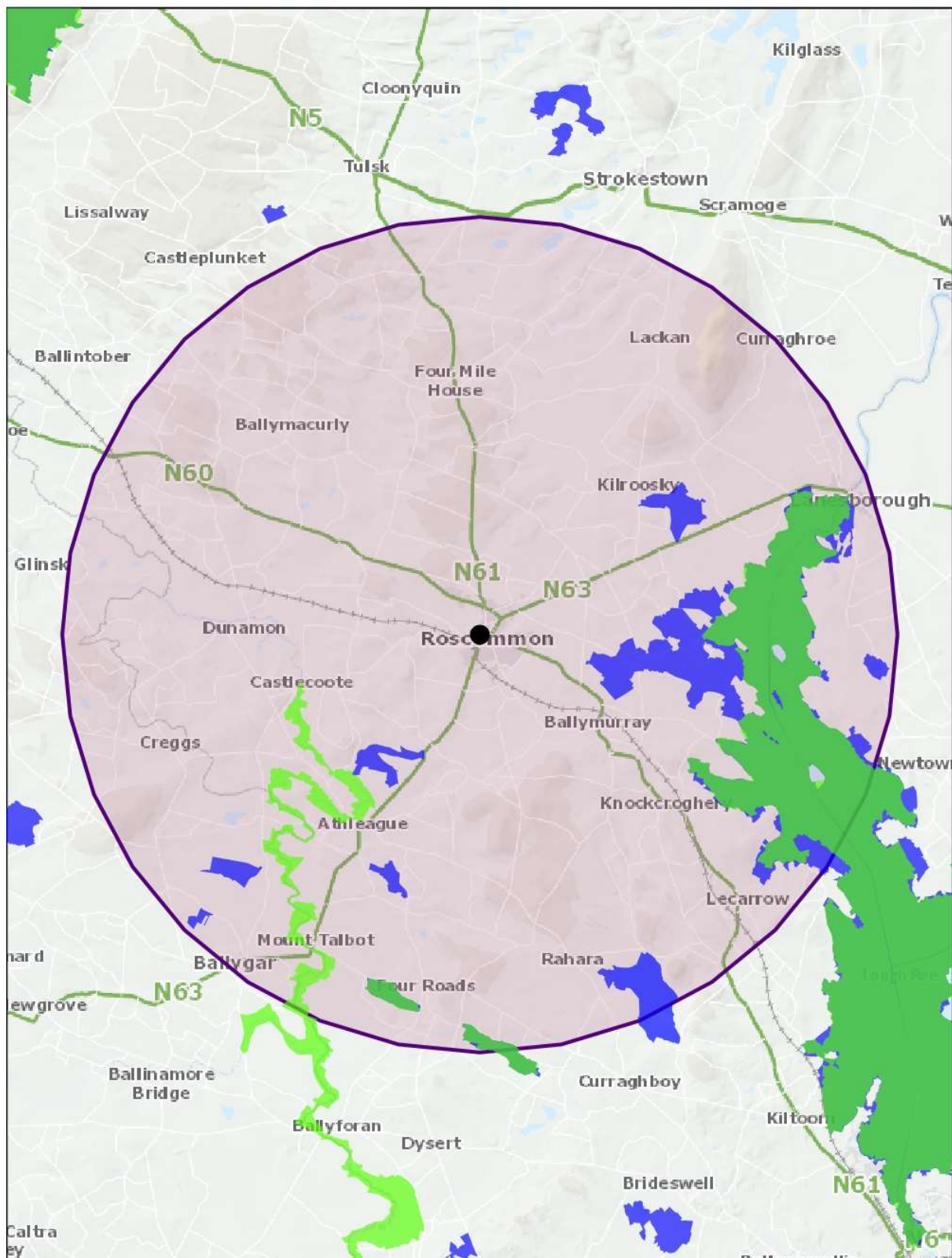
Date: 31/10/2024



The map above illustrates the Special Protection Areas (SPA) – highlighted Green and within 15km radius of the proposed Pilot EV Charge Hub scheme at RCC Corporate HG carpark area.



The map above illustrates the Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) – highlighted Blue and within 15km radius of the proposed Pilot EV Charge Hub scheme at RCC Corporate HG carpark area.



The combined map above illustrates the Special Protection Areas and the Special Areas of Conservation (SPA & SAC) – highlighted Green & Blue and within 15km radius of the proposed Pilot EV Charge Hub scheme at RCC Corporate HG carpark area.