



Parks Section, Community & Cultural Development Department

**Proposed Development of Shanganagh Park
Masterplan – Phase 1, Shankill, Co. Dublin
PC/PKS/03/21**

Appendix 1 – EIA Screening Report

**Environmental Impact Assessment
Screening Report for
PHASE 1 OF PROPOSED
SPORTING FACILITIES AT SHANGANAGH PARK,
Co. DUBLIN**

for: Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council

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Table of Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. The proposed development	3
2.1 Overview of the development.....	3
2.2 Project details.....	3
3. Legislative basis for EIA	19
4. Preliminary Examination	19
5. Screening considerations.....	19
5.1 Project type	19
5.2 Subthreshold development.....	21
5.3 Review against Schedule 7 criteria.....	22
6 Conclusions	27

Figures

Figure 1 Site location map.....	4
Figure 2 Site environs map	5
Figure 3 Proposed general arrangement	6
Figure 4 Shanganagh Park & Cemetery	7
Figure 5 Proposed Baseball & Cricket layout	8
Figure 6 Baseball & Cricket section	9
Figure 7 Proposed layout of pitches and running track	10
Figure 8 Bridge crossing and Callisthenics Area	11
Figure 9 Drainage Layout.....	12
Figure 10 Grass Pitch and Athletics Track D-D	13
Figure 11 Grass Pitch Section E-E	14
Figure 12 Grass Pitches Section B-B	15
Figure 13 Grass Pitches Section C-C	16
Figure 14 Natural Play Area and Bridge Crossing I.....	17
Figure 15 Natural Play Area and Bridge Crossing II	18

Appendices

Appendix I – Standard Descriptions of Effects

Appendix II – Competency of Author

1. Introduction

CAAS Ltd. has been appointed by Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council to prepare this Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report for phase 1 of proposed sporting facilities at Shanganagh park, Co. Dublin (the proposed development). This report has been prepared to form an opinion as to whether or not the proposed development should be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and if so, whether an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) should be prepared in respect of it.

The screening assesses the proposed development with reference to the EIA legislation¹ including the EIA Directive, and Planning and Development legislation. It also has regard to relevant parts of *EIA Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding sub-threshold development*, 2003, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, *OPR Practice Note PNO2 Environmental Impact Assessment Screening*, 2021, OPR and *Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment*, 2018, Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and relevant EU Guidance including *Interpretation of definitions of project categories of annex I and II of the EIA Directive*, 2015, EU and *Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects - Guidance on Screening*, 2017, EU.

The first step involves a preliminary examination to find out if: (i) there is any likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development; (ii) there is significant and realistic doubt in regard to the likelihood of significant effects on the environment; or (iii) there is a real likelihood of significant effects on the environment. In instance (i) no EIA will be required, in instance (ii) the project need to be screened for EIA using prescribed screening criteria and in instance (iii) an EIA is required and no further screening is necessary.

The consideration of potential impacts covers all significant direct, indirect and secondary impacts as relevant, with reference to the guidance and in compliance with the legislation, including the criteria for determining whether certain development types should be subject to EIA, and which are grouped into these categories in the Directive:

- (i) Characteristics of the proposal
- (ii) Location of the proposal
- (iii) Characteristics of potential impacts

Where used, descriptions of impacts follow the statutory EPA (draft) *Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports* (2017). For ease of reference, these standardised descriptions are reproduced in Appendix I of this report.

Information on the development has been obtained from Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, including a brief written description and relevant drawings.

¹ see section 3 for details

The following sections of this report cover:

- The proposed development (s2)
- The legislative basis for EIA (s3)
- Screening considerations (s4)
- Conclusion (s5)

An overview of the author's competency is provided in Appendix II.

2. The proposed development

2.1 Overview of the development

The proposed development represents Phase 1 of the Shanganagh Park masterplan and mainly involves the construction and rearrangement of sporting facilities. The total area of the site is approx. 8.7 ha.

The whole masterplan for Shanganagh Park includes plans for a range of other facilities as shown on Figure 3. These include a car park extension, a wetland pond for stormwater attenuation, enlargement and relocation of a playground, tea rooms in Shanganagh Castle, a formal herbaceous garden, the renovation of a multi-sport complex and a potential greenway route through the site. These other masterplan elements are not included in the current Part 8 proposal and are referred to in relation to consideration of cumulative effects in this report but are not otherwise considered. They will be subject to separate planning and environmental assessment compliance requirements in due course.

The proposed development involves the construction of 2 sand based GAA pitches, an amalgamation of a cricket and baseball pitch and a 6-lane sprint track, tree planting and pollinator areas, improvements to the perimeter path and access over DART line and ancillary works all with suitable lighting and netting facilities as detailed below and in the Pt. 8 report and drawings.

2.2 Project details

The proposed development comprises:

- Grass Pitches: Two GAA sized sand-based grass pitches with floodlights and reinforced warm up area.
- Baseball/Cricket: Amalgamated cricket and baseball areas with fencing and netting as required.
- Athletics: 6 lane, 100m sprint track with long and triple jump facilities and covered canopy housing PV.
- Park Integration: New tree planting, pollinator areas, etc.
- Other Improvements: Improvements to perimeter path and access over DART line, calisthenics, natural play, seating, etc.

The total proposed site area is approx. 8.7 ha.

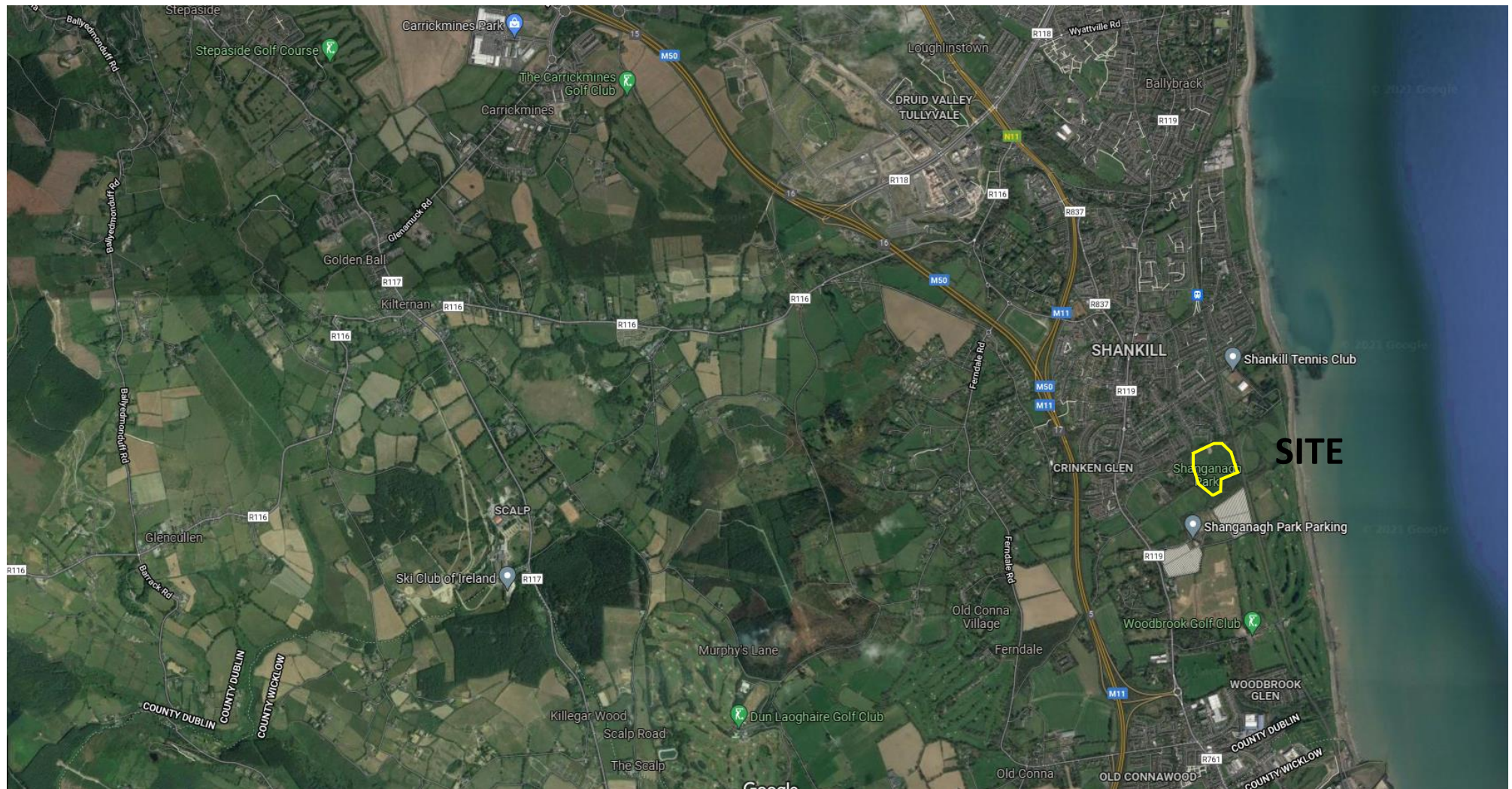


Figure 1 Site location map

Source: Google maps, the perimeter of the site is approximate

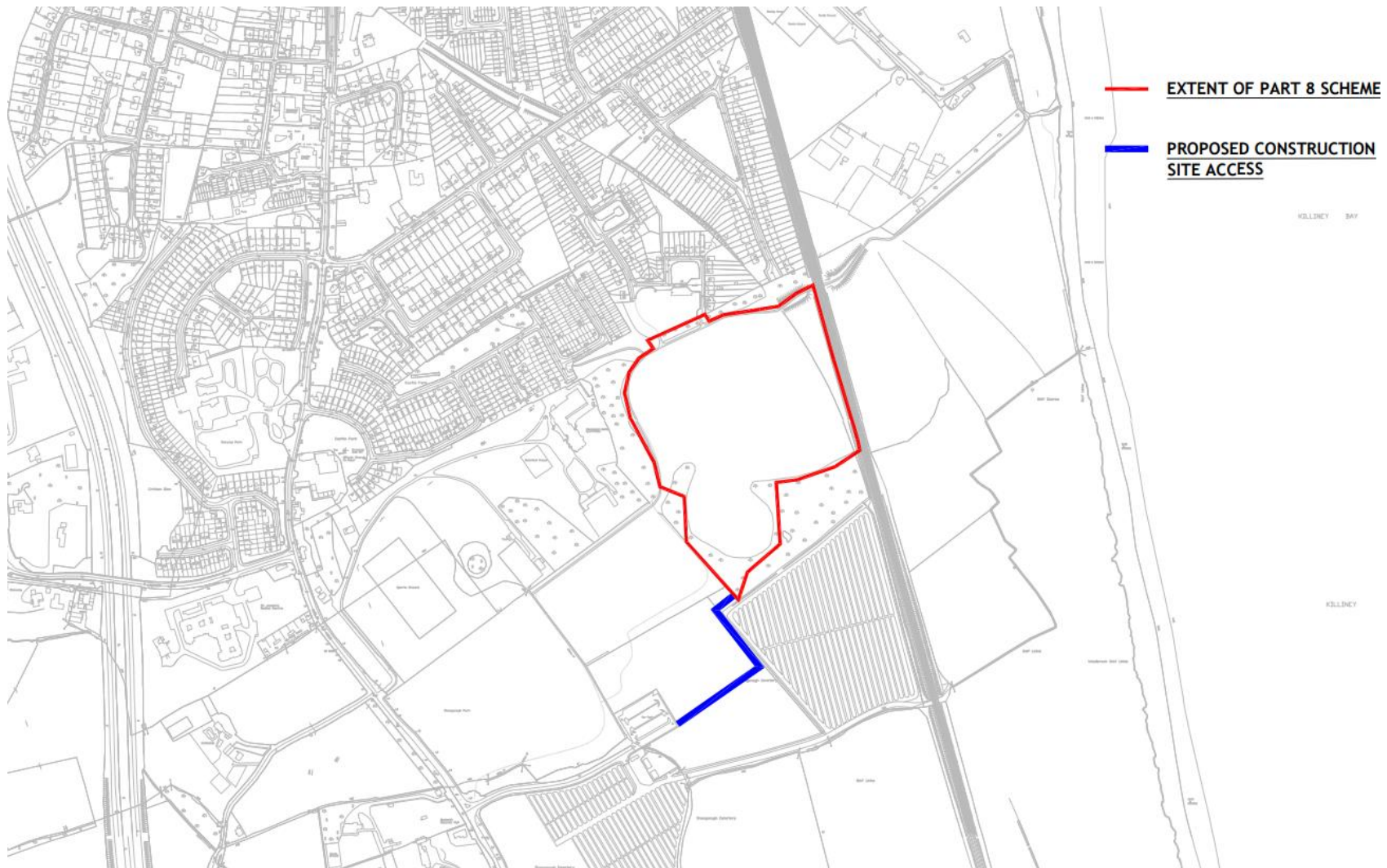


Figure 2 Site environs map

Source: DLRCC



Figure 3 Proposed general arrangement

Source: DLRCC



Figure 4 Shanganagh Park & Cemetery

Source: DLRCC

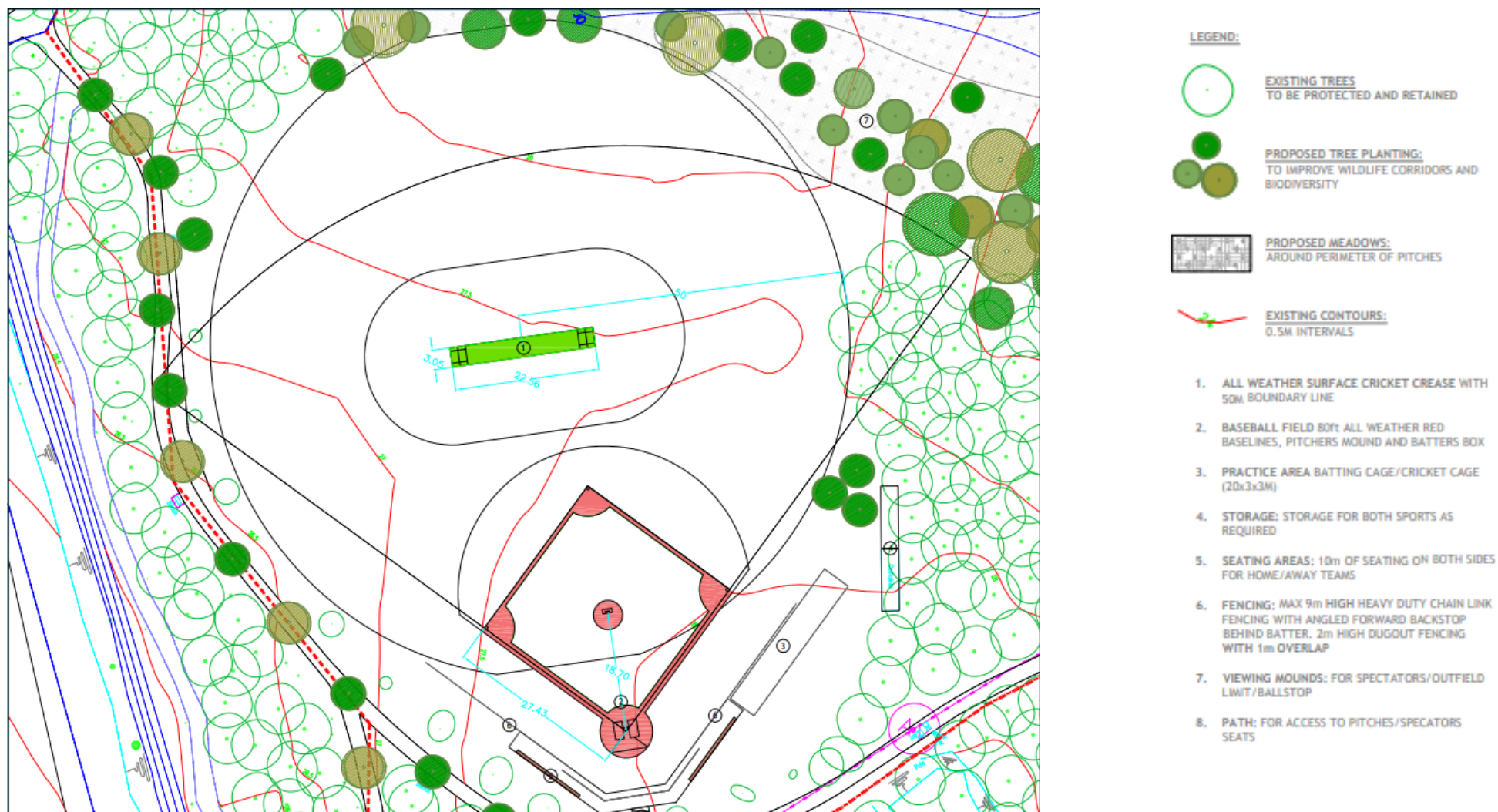


Figure 5 Proposed Baseball & Cricket layout

Source: DLRCC

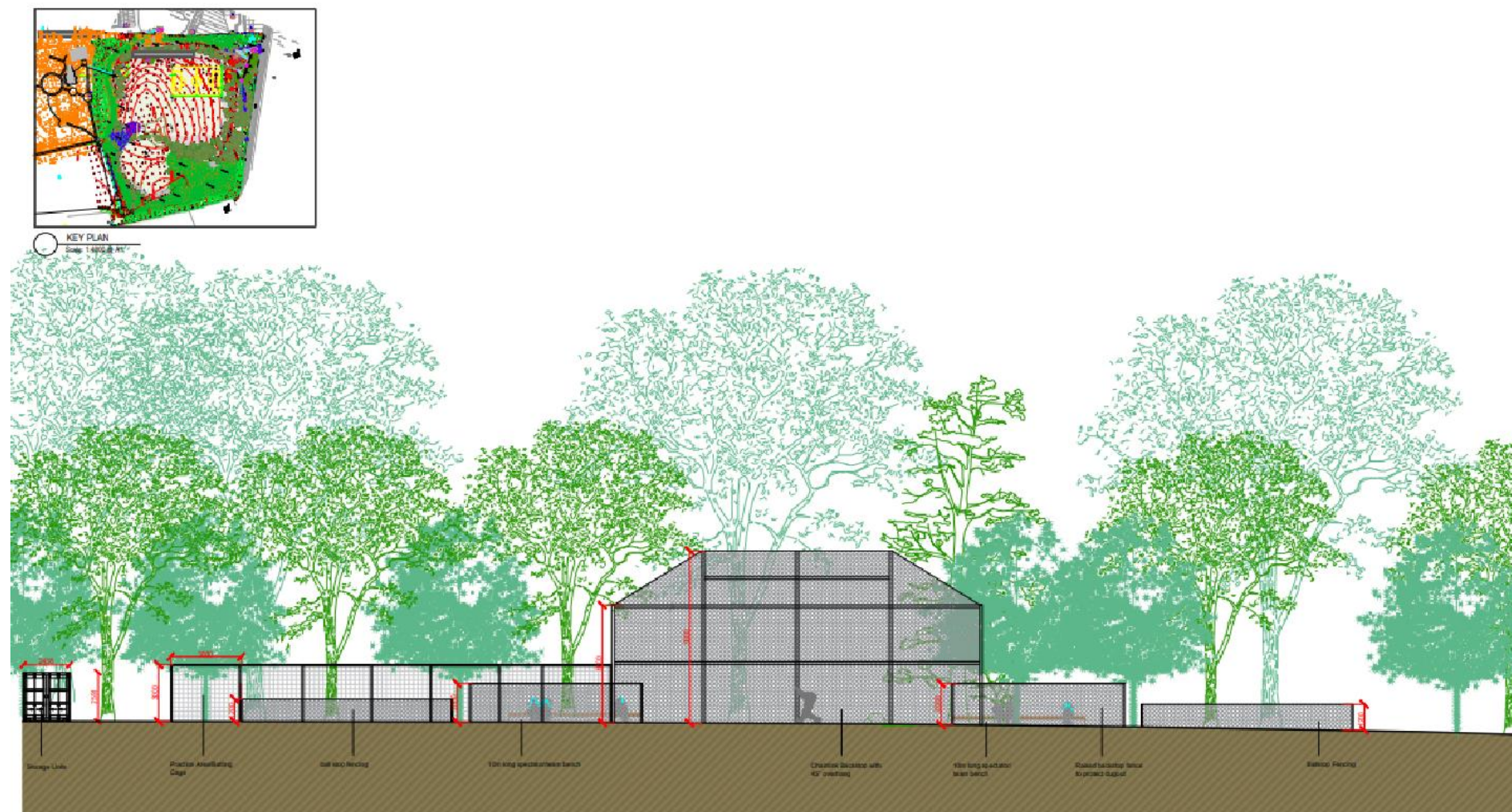


Figure 6 Baseball & Cricket section

Source: DLRCC

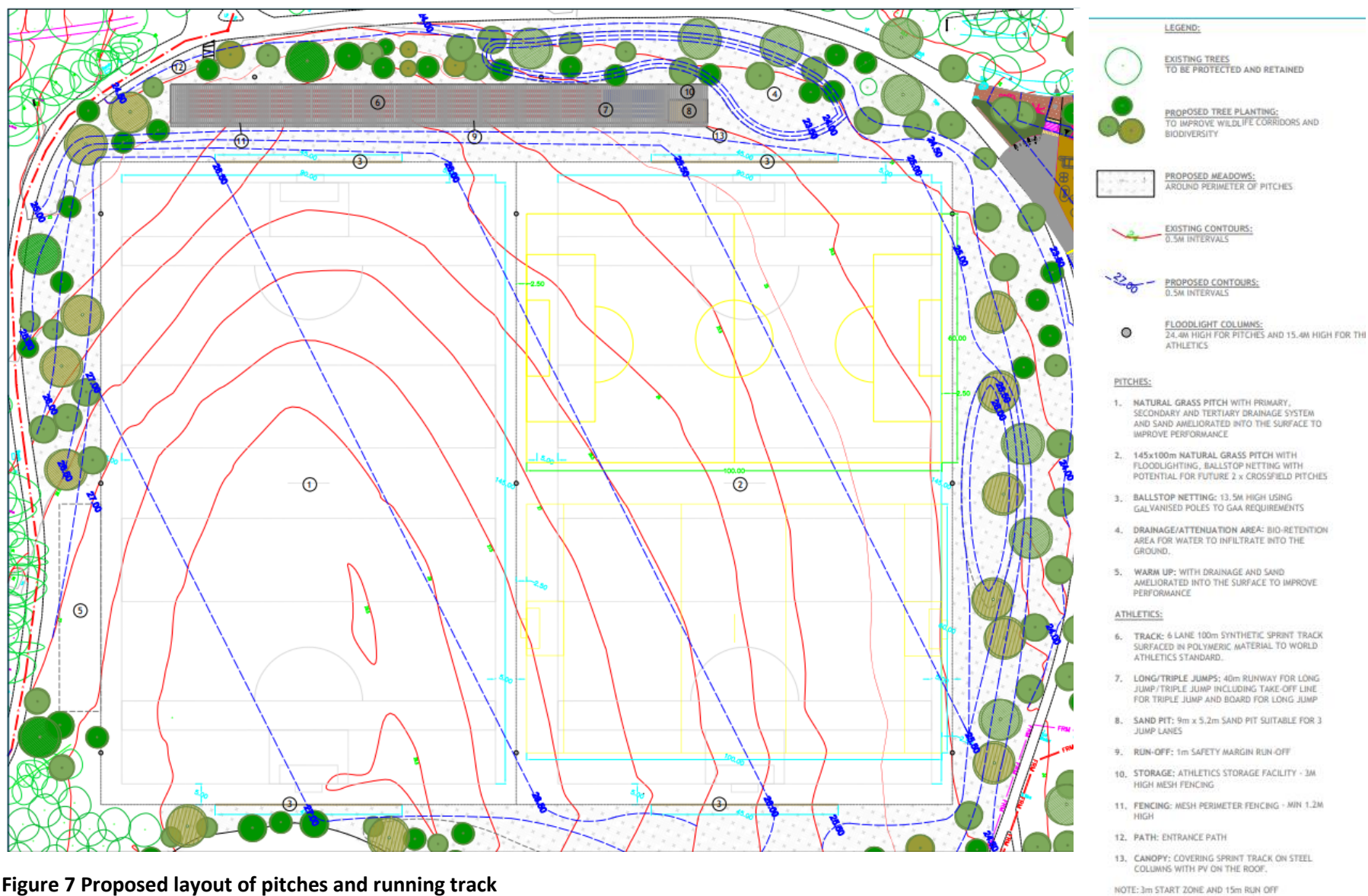


Figure 7 Proposed layout of pitches and running track

Source: DLRCC

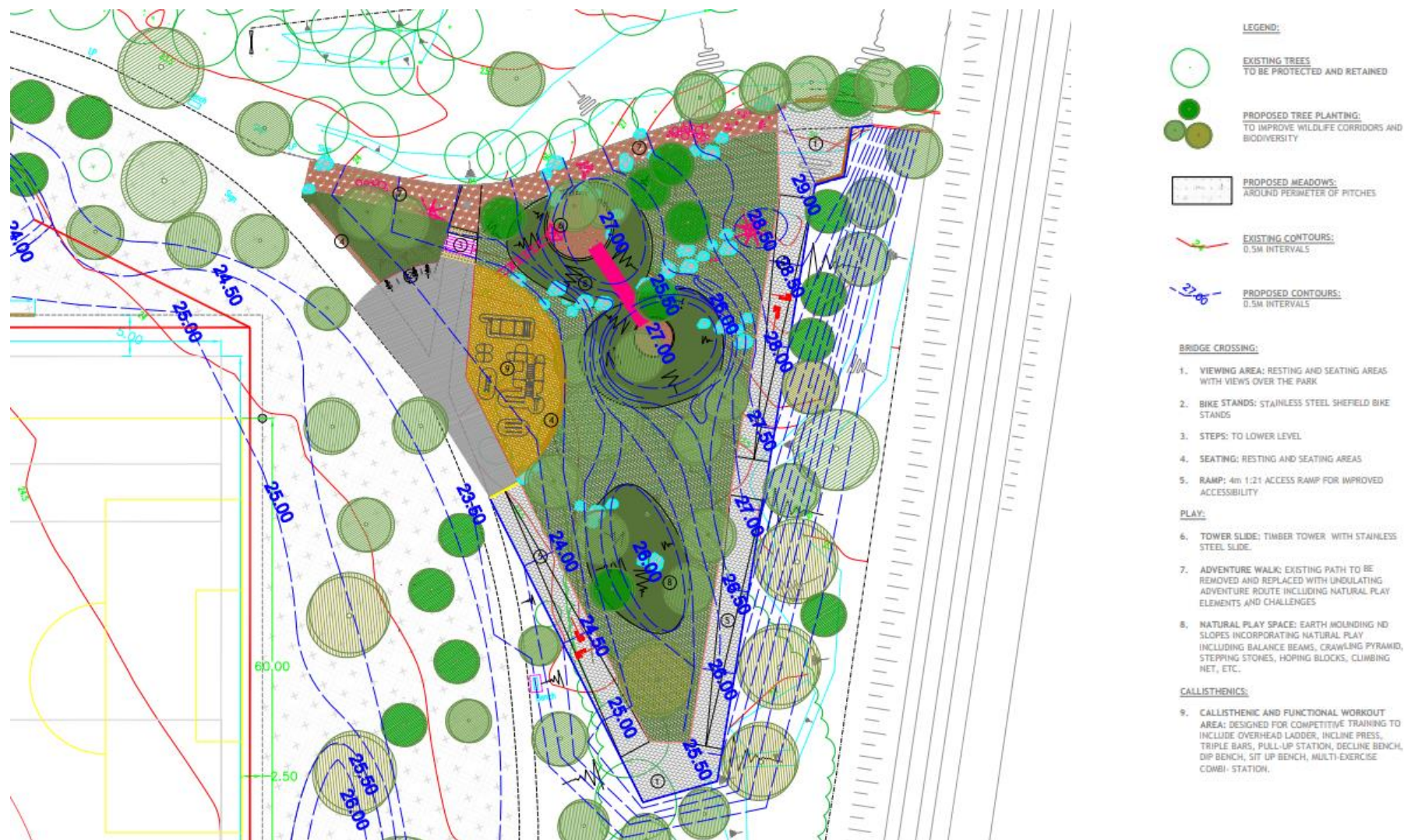
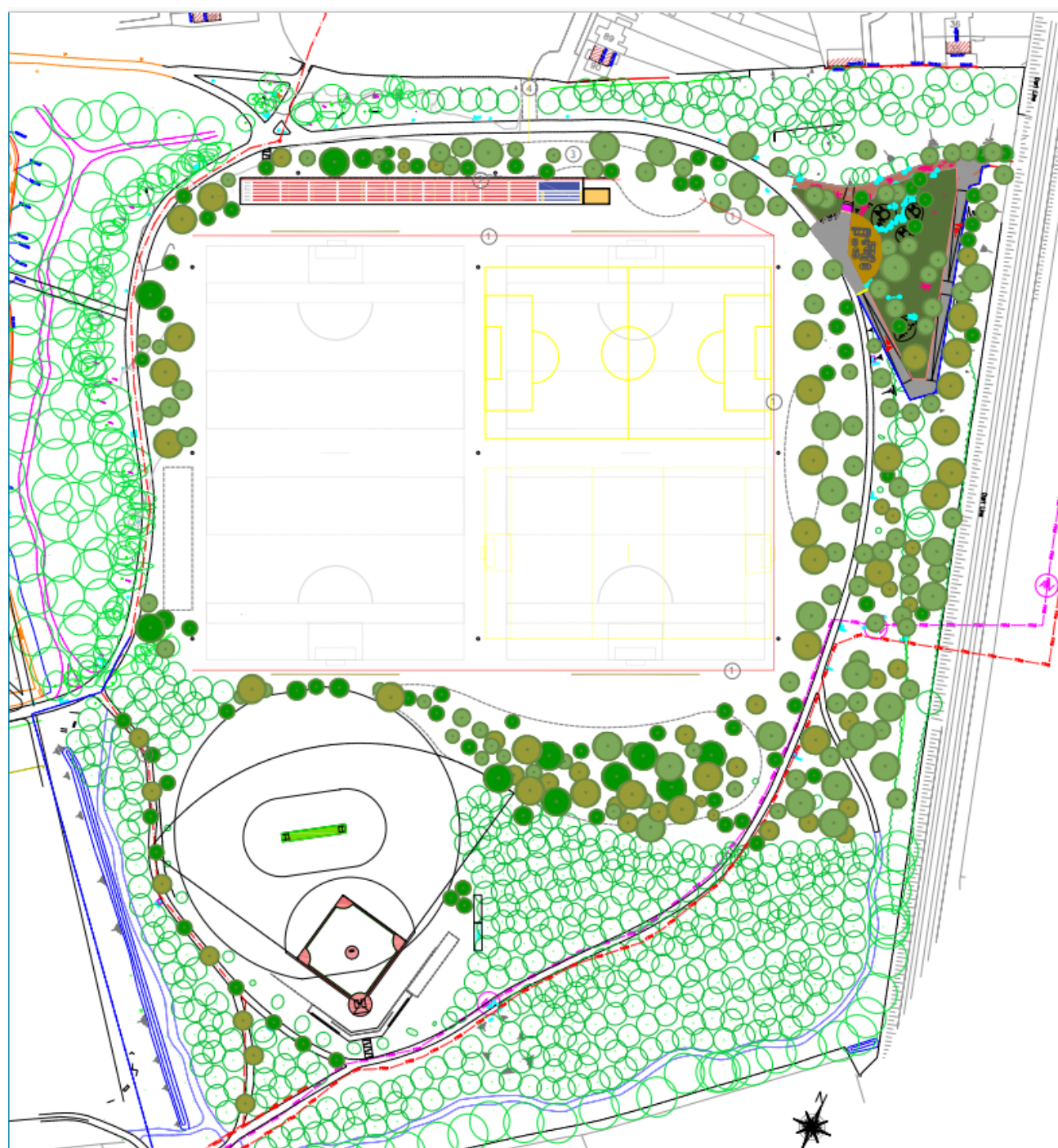


Figure 8 Bridge crossing and Callisthenics Area

Source: DLRCC

**LEGEND:**

1. PITCH PRIMARY DRAINAGE SYSTEM CONSISTING OF 225MM PERFORATED PIPES (AREA 7200 SQ. M)
2. TRACK PRIMARY DRAINAGE SYSTEM CONSISTING OF 150MM PERFORATED PIPE (AREA 1300 SQ. M)
3. BIO-RETENTION AREA (VOLUME 100 CU. M)
4. OUTFALL FROM ATTENUATION AREA WITH HYDRO-BREAK

NOTE:

Silt drains and perforated lateral drains will be installed across the pitches and directed to a bio-retention area via collector drains (primary drainage system) that will be installed around the perimeter of the pitch. Further minor drainage will take place at the cricket/baseball field as required, the sprint track and at the bottom of any steep slopes. The attenuation system will be an above ground bio-retention pond is to be located along the northern boundary of the pitches and will be designed so that attenuation will be provided for the 1.0% AEP (1:100 year) storm event. The attenuation system outflow will be controlled by a hydrobrake connected to the existing surface water drainage system with the outflow restricted to 2l/s/ha or Q_{br}, whichever is the greater, in accordance with the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Strategy

(GDSDS). The exact size of attenuation system will be determined by a drainage engineer following further geotechnical site investigation and will be subject to the agreement of the Water & Drainage Section.

Figure 9 Drainage Layout

Source: DLRCC

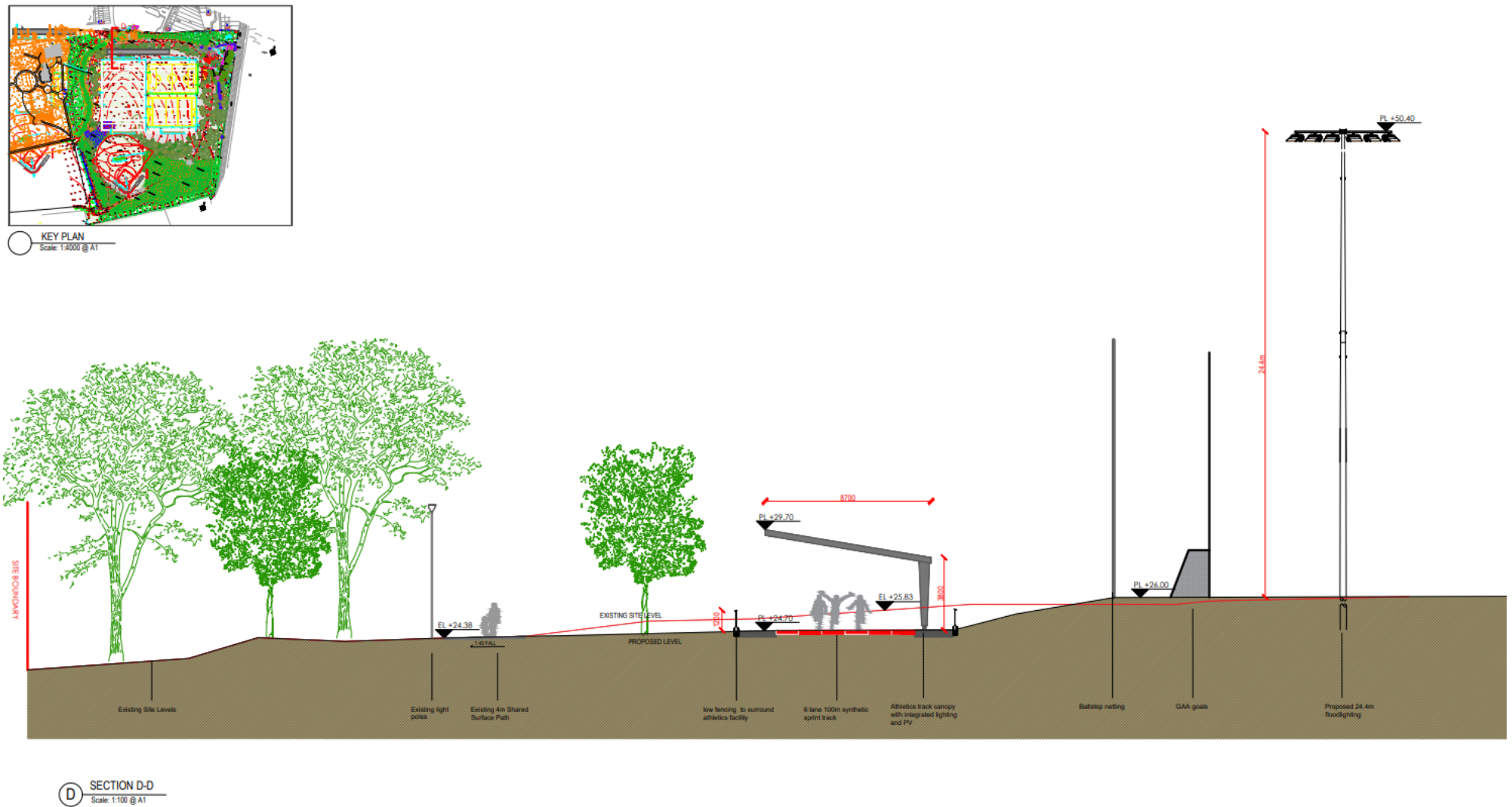


Figure 10 Grass Pitch and Athletics Track D-D

Source: DLRCC

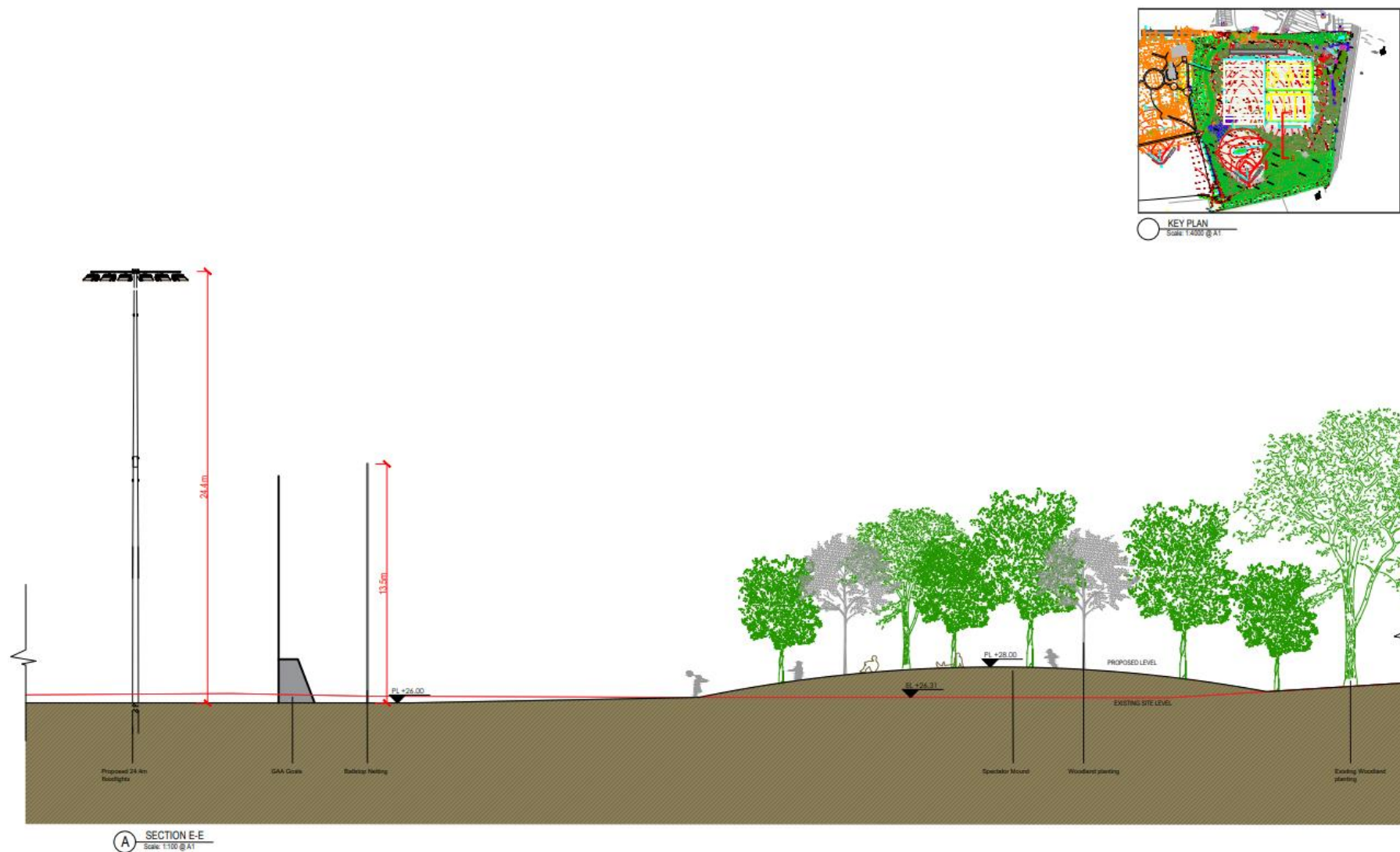


Figure 11 Grass Pitch Section E-E

Source: DLRCC

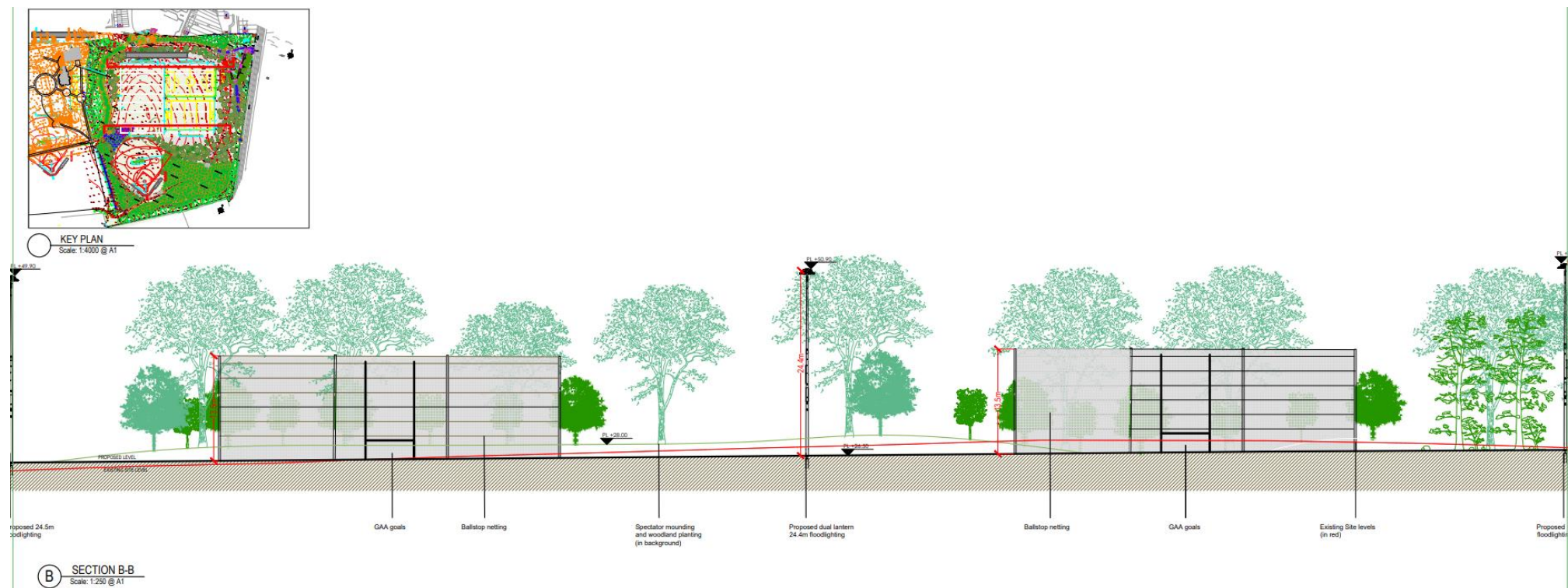


Figure 12 Grass Pitches Section B-B

Source: DLRCC

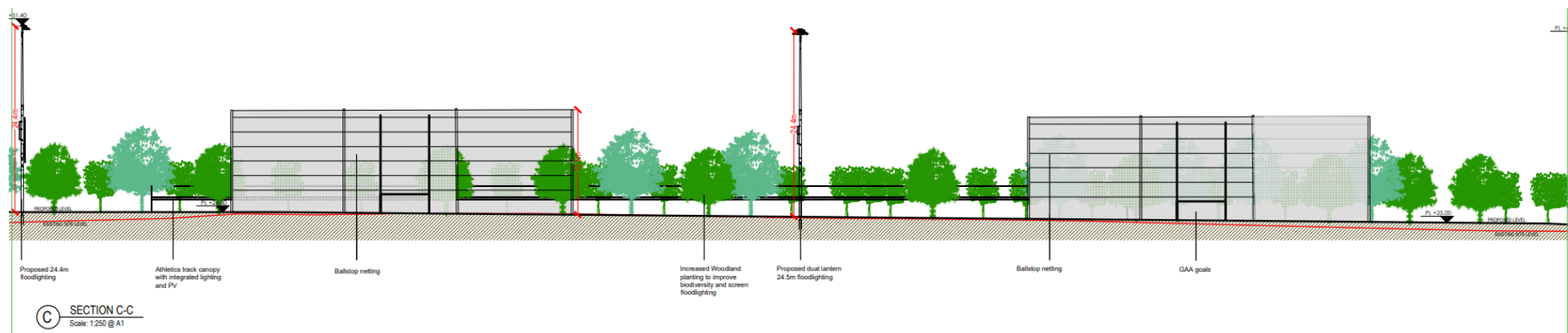


Figure 13 Grass Pitches Section C-C

Source: DLRCC

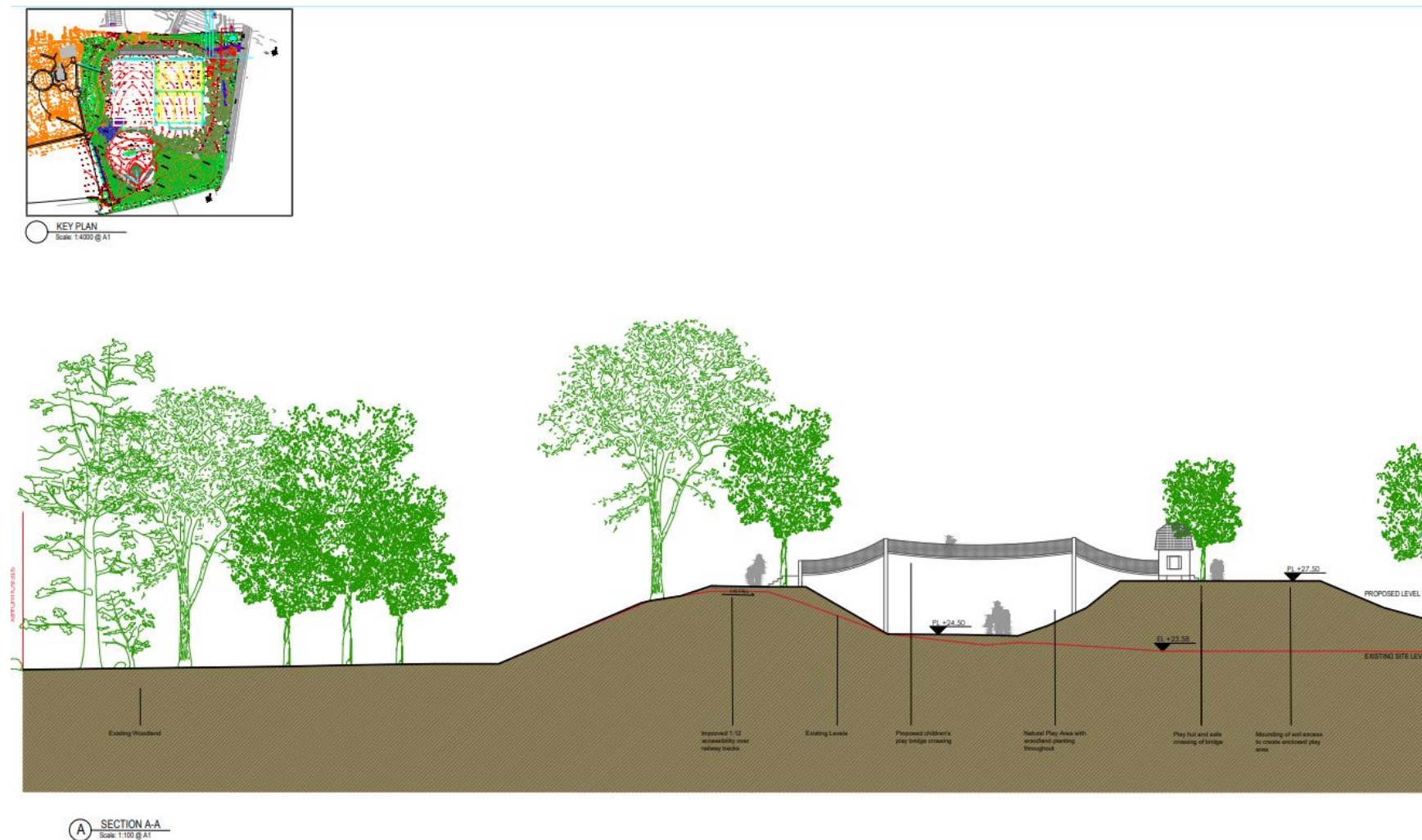


Figure 14 Natural Play Area and Bridge Crossing I

Source: DLRCC

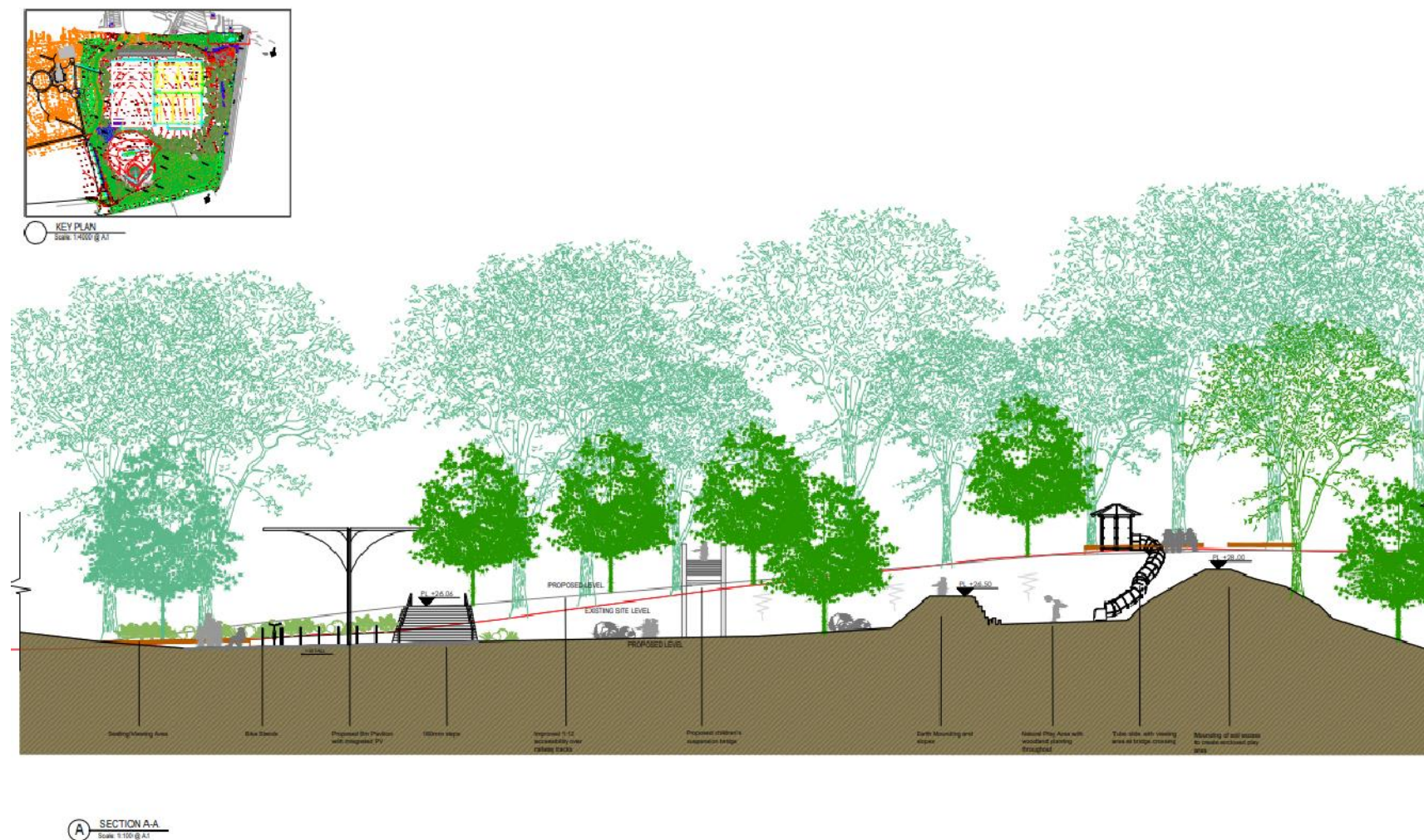


Figure 15 Natural Play Area and Bridge Crossing II

Source: DLRCC

3. Legislative basis for EIA

EIA requirements derive from EU Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU) on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment. The Directive has been transposed into various Irish legislation of which the following are the most relevant to this development.

- The Planning and Development Acts 2000-2020 (Part X), as amended by, *inter alia*, the:
 - Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (S.I. 600/2001)
 - European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018) (S.I. 296/2018)

Part 1 of Schedule 5 of these regulations lists projects included in Annex I of the Directive which automatically require EIA.

For projects included in Annex II of the Directive, Part 2 of Schedule 5 provides thresholds above which EIA is required.

4. Preliminary Examination

Article 120(a)(1)(a) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, requires that prior to screening a project for EIA: -

Where a local authority proposes to carry out a sub-threshold development, the authority shall carry out a preliminary examination of, at the least, the nature, size or location of the development.

In the case of the subject development, as the proposal involves groundworks on a large site of 8.7 ha and because it is in a public park which is of significant amenity value it can be considered that there is significant and realistic doubt in regard to the likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development. Thus, in accordance with the Regulations, it is required to screen the proposal to form an opinion as to whether or not the proposed development should be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

5. Screening considerations

5.1 Project type

In the first instance it is necessary to determine whether the project is of a type that requires EIA.

Potentially relevant project types prescribed for EIA purposes in the Planning and Development legislation are listed in the table below, with commentaries of their applicability to the proposed development. Criteria prescribed in the legislation for changes or extensions are included.

The proposed development does not correspond to any specific project type listed under the regulations. However, for the purpose of providing a robust assessment, the proposed development has been considered under classes which it may correspond to most.

Project type / criteria	Comment	Is EIA required on this basis?
Planning and Development legislation S.I. 600/2001, Schedule 5, Pt 2		
Project type 10. <i>Infrastructure projects (b) (iv)</i>		
<i>Urban development which would involve an area greater than 2 hectares in the case of a business district, 10 hectares in the case of other parts of a built-up area and 20 hectares elsewhere.</i> <i>(In this paragraph, "business district" means a district within a city or town in which the predominant land use is retail or commercial use.)</i>	<p>Commission guidance² lists a range of projects, stating that these or other projects with similar characteristics can be considered to be 'urban development'. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shopping centres • Bus garages • Train depots • Hospitals • Universities • Sports stadiums • Cinemas • Theatres • Concert halls • Other cultural centres • Sewerage or water supply networks <p>The closest of these to the subject proposal is 'sports stadiums'. While the proposed project includes sports pitches it does not include other characteristics of sports stadiums such as a grandstand, indoor facilities, public address systems or new car parking space. It can therefore be considered as not corresponding to or having similar characteristics to a sports stadium or any of the above listed project types.</p> <p>On the basis of case law it is arguable that the 'urban development' project type can be considered to apply to developments in an urban areas that are not listed in the Commission guidance (ref <i>Carvill & Anor v Dublin City Council & Ors</i> [2021 No. 111 JR]). However, it is notable that this case related to development of a cycle route on a roadway in an</p>	No

² Interpretation of definitions of project categories of annex I and II of the EIA Directive, 2015, EU

Project type / criteria	Comment	Is EIA required on this basis?
	<p>urban area. The subject proposal is for development of new amenity facilities and rearrangement of existing amenity facilities in a public park which is located adjacent to an urban area. It is in keeping with the normal park management functions of the Council. It is considered that this proposal does not fall into the 'urban development' project type (type 10(b)(iv)).</p> <p>In terms of scale, the area of the proposed development is stated to be 8.7 ha. It is apparent from the maps provided (in Figures 2-7 above) that significant parts of this are will not be subject to any development works so that actual area of the proposed works is likely to be significantly less than 8.7 ha. As the site is adjacent to but not in a built-up area, the 20 ha threshold would apply if this were considered to be a type 10(b)(iv) development type. The project would in this event be 'sub-threshold' for EIA screening purposes (ref. s4.2 below).</p>	
<i>Project type 13. Changes, extensions, development and testing</i>		
<p><i>(a) Any change or extension of development which would:-</i></p> <p><i>(i) result in the development being of a class listed in Part 1 or paragraphs 1 to 12 of Part 2 of this Schedule, and</i></p> <p><i>(ii) result in an increase in size greater than-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 25 per cent, or - an amount equal to 50 per cent of the appropriate threshold, whichever is the greater 	<p>The changes covered by the proposed development will not result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the development being of a listed class* or (ii) the development corresponding to either of the expansion scales given in (ii) <p>* N.B. While (subject to interpretation and case law as discussed above) the subject development could be deemed to fall into the 'urban development' project type, it is below the corresponding threshold. As it both does not correspond to a listed project type and does not meet or exceed the threshold, it is not of a listed 'class' of development.</p>	No

5.2 Subthreshold development

Article 92 of the Regulations of 2001, as amended define: 'sub-threshold development' as:

development of a type set out in Part 2 of Schedule 5 which does not equal or exceed, as the case may be, a quantity, area or other limit specified in that Schedule in respect of the relevant class of development.

Annex III of the EIA Directive (2011/92/EU, as amended) as transposed into Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations - sets out criteria for review of sub-threshold projects to determine if they should be subject to EIA. These criteria include characteristics, location and potential impacts.

The proposed development does not clearly fall into a project type prescribed in Part 2 of Schedule 5 and can be considered, on the one hand, not to be 'sub-threshold development'. On the other hand, taking project type 10(b)(iv) to have a wider meaning, per the case law referred to above, it may be considered that the development does correspond to this project type. For the avoidance of any doubt the next section of this report contains a review of the characteristics, location and potential impacts of the proposal against the Schedule 7 criteria to determine if it should be subject to EIA.

5.3 Review against Schedule 7 criteria

These criteria cover:

1. Characteristics of the proposed development
2. Location of the proposed development
3. Types and characteristics of potential impacts

The criteria are listed in the table below. The comments provided in relation to the category 1 and 2 criteria are factual and do not comment on the types or characteristics of impacts. In keeping with the intent of Schedule 7, commentary on impacts is provided in response to the items covered by category 3 (the third part of the table below). All comments, particularly regarding 'significance', are made in the context of the Directive and guidance. The review against the Schedule 7 criteria takes account of the environmental factors set out in of Schedule 6 (2(d)), as relevant.

Schedule 7A of the Planning and Development Regulations sets out 'Information to be provided by the Applicant or Developer for the Purposes of Screening Sub-threshold Development for Environmental Impact Assessment'. This information includes:

1. A description of the proposed development
2. A description of the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the proposed development.
3. A description of any likely significant effects, to the extent of the information available on such effects, of the proposed development on the environment
4. The compilation of the information at paragraphs 1 to 3 shall take into account, where relevant, the criteria set out in Schedule 7.

This screening report includes the relevant Schedule 7A information. This is contained in s2 above and in the commentary provided in and below the table which follows.

Schedule 7 Criteria	Commentary
1. Characteristics of Proposed Development The characteristics of proposed development, in particular:	
(a) the size and design of the whole of the proposed development	The project area is given as approx. 8.7 ha. The area of works within this is not given but can be seen to be significantly less than this.
(b) cumulation with other existing development and/or development the subject of a consent for proposed development for the purposes of section 172(1A)(b) of the Act and/or development the subject of any development consent for the purposes of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive by or under any other enactment	<p>The context of the site is largely in amenity usage. Other parts of the Park are in amenity and sporting use. The lands surrounding the Park are in various uses including residential, transportation (road and rail) and amenity use. There is a large cemetery to the south.</p> <p>The project is Phase 1 of a Masterplan that indicates that it is currently intended that other alterations will be introduced in the Park at later stages. Prior to their development, any such changes will be subject to compliance with their own planning and environmental assessment requirements, as applicable. As they are at masterplan stage, they do not affect this screening.</p>
(c) the nature of any associated demolition works	No demolition works are required.
(d) the use of natural resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity	No significant natural resources will be used.
(e) the production of waste,	Waste generated during construction and operation can be anticipated to be typical for a small scale works project. No significant waste streams will be generated.
(f) pollution and nuisances,	During construction, the proposal is likely to generate localised and short-term noise and dust. It will also generate minor traffic. Post-construction, it can be anticipated to have negligible potential to cause any pollution or nuisance.
(g) the risk of major accidents, and/or disasters which are relevant to the project concerned, including those caused by climate change, in accordance with scientific knowledge	There is no significant potential for the proposed development to give rise to significant adverse effects on the environment due to accidents and/or disasters. This applies to accidents/disasters arising from external factors as well as accidents arising from the development.

2.Location of proposed development The environmental sensitivity of geographical areas likely to be affected by the proposed development, with particular regard to—	
(a) the existing and approved land use	The site is currently in amenity usage. The surrounding lands are in various uses including residential, transportation (road and rail) and amenity use. There is a cemetery to the south of the Park.
(b) the relative abundance, availability, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources (including soil, land, water and biodiversity) in the area and its underground	Due to the scale of the proposed development and its location in a developed residential and suburban context, the impact on natural resources in the area will be minimal.
(c) the absorption capacity of the natural environment, paying particular attention to the following areas:	
(i) wetlands, riparian areas, river mouths	-
(ii) coastal zones and the marine environment	The site is approximately 400 m from the coast with the main Dublin-Wexford railway lies in between.
(iii) mountain and forest areas	-
(iv) nature reserves and parks	The existing site is a park containing sports facilities.
(v) areas classified or protected under legislation, including Natura 2000 areas designated pursuant to the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive	-
(vi) areas in which there has already been a failure to meet the environmental quality standards laid down in legislation of the European Union and relevant to the project, or in which it is considered that there is such a failure.	-
(vii) densely populated areas	The northern environs of the development are predominantly low-density suburban residential.

(viii) landscapes and sites of historical, cultural or archaeological significance	<p>A number of protected structures are located in the vicinity of the proposed development. These include a castle, country house, monument, gates, railings and walls and gate lodge.</p> <p>The castle's registration number is DU026-054001. It is approx. 110 m from the proposed development.</p> <p>The country house registration number is 60260146. It is located approx. 110 m from the site.</p> <p>The monument's registration number is 60260147. It is situated approx. 160 m from the proposed development.</p> <p>The gates, railings and wall registration number is 60260149. They are located approx. 495 m from the proposed development.</p> <p>The gate lodge registration number is 60260148. It is located approx. 520 m from the site.</p> <p>The registration numbers for these sites was obtained from the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage Historic Environment Map Viewer</p>
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<p>3. Types and characteristics of potential impacts</p> <p>The likely significant effects on the environment of proposed development in relation to criteria set out under paragraphs 1 and 2, with regard to the impact of the project on the factors specified in paragraph (b)(i)(I) to (V) of the definition of 'environmental impact assessment report' in section 171A of the Act, taking into account—</p>	
(a) the magnitude and spatial extent of the impact (for example, geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	The site covers 8.7 ha. No significant effects are likely to extend beyond the site boundary.
(b) the nature of the impact	Temporary to short term localised construction phase impacts are likely. These are likely to be small scale and localised. These are not likely to be significant within the meaning of the Directive.
(c) the transboundary nature of the impact	-
(d) the intensity and complexity of the impact	The effects outlined at (b) above are likely to be low in intensity and complexity.

(e) the probability of the impact	The effects outlined at (b) above are likely to occur.
(f) the expected onset, duration, frequency and reversibility of the impact	Construction phase impacts will commence at start of construction, be of varying frequency and can be anticipated to be insignificant to slight and temporary to short term. Once completed, effects will be insignificant and permanent.
(g) the cumulation of the impact with the impact of other existing and/or development the subject of a consent for proposed development for the purposes of section 172(1A)(b) of the Act and/or development the subject of any development consent for the purposes of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive by or under any other enactment	On the basis of their nature and scale, when considered in-combination with the proposed development, potential for other existing and/or permitted development to cause significant cumulative impacts can be considered to be negligible.
(h) the possibility of effectively reducing the impact	Not relevant because significant effects are considered unlikely to occur.

Based on review against the Schedule 7 criteria, the environmental impacts of the proposed project can be anticipated to be localised, temporary (during construction) and permanent (after construction) and not likely to be significant within the meaning of the Directive.

Article 120 of the Regulations of 2001, as amended, states that the Schedule 7A information:

- a) 'shall be accompanied by any further relevant information on the characteristics of the proposed development and its likely significant effects on the environment, including, where relevant, information on how the available results of other relevant assessments of the effects on the environment carried out pursuant to European Union legislation other than the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive have been taken into account' and
- b) 'may be accompanied by a description of the features, if any, of the proposed development and the measures, if any, envisaged to avoid or prevent what might otherwise have been significant adverse effects on the environment of the development.'

There is no further relevant information arising from other assessments as described at (a) that needs to be taken into account.

In relation to (b) as no significant adverse effects are likely to occur on the environment, no measures are envisaged or proposed to avoid or prevent such effects.

6 Conclusions

It is considered that phase 1 of the proposed sporting facilities at Shanganagh Park, Co. Dublin does not need to be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment and no Environmental Impact Assessment Report is required for it.

This conclusion is based on an objective review of the proposed development, including its characteristics, location and the likelihood of it causing significant environmental impacts. The screening has followed the relevant legislation and has had regard to the relevant guidance.

Appendix I – Standard Descriptions of Effects

(from *Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports*, 2018 draft, EPA)

Quality of Effects It is important to inform the non-specialist reader whether an effect is positive, negative or neutral	Positive Effects A change which improves the quality of the environment (for example, by increasing species diversity; or the improving reproductive capacity of an ecosystem, or by removing nuisances or improving amenities).
	Neutral Effects No effects or effects that are imperceptible, within normal bounds of variation or within the margin of forecasting error.
	Negative/adverse Effects A change which reduces the quality of the environment (for example, lessening species diversity or diminishing the reproductive capacity of an ecosystem; or damaging health or property or by causing nuisance).
Describing the Significance of Effects "Significance" is a concept that can have different meanings for different topics – in the absence of specific definitions for different topics the following definitions may be useful (also see <i>Determining Significance</i> below.).	Imperceptible An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences.
	Not significant An effect which causes noticeable ² changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.
	Slight Effects An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.
	Moderate Effects An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner that is consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.
	Significant Effects An effect which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.
	Very Significant An effect which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity significantly alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment.
	Profound Effects An effect which obliterates sensitive characteristics
Describing the Extent and Context of Effects Context can affect the perception of significance. It is important to establish if the effect is unique or, perhaps, commonly or increasingly experienced.	Extent Describe the size of the area, the number of sites, and the proportion of a population affected by an effect.
	Context Describe whether the extent, duration, or frequency will conform or contrast with established (baseline) conditions (is it the biggest, longest effect ever?)

Describing the Probability of Effects Descriptions of effects should establish how likely it is that the predicted effects will occur – so that the CA can take a view of the balance of risk over advantage when making a decision.	Likely Effects The effects that can reasonably be expected to occur because of the planned project if all mitigation measures are properly implemented.
	Unlikely Effects The effects that can reasonably be expected not to occur because of the planned project if all mitigation measures are properly implemented.
Describing the Duration and Frequency of Effects 'Duration' is a concept that can have different meanings for different topics – in the absence of specific definitions for different topics the following definitions may be useful.	Momentary Effects Effects lasting from seconds to minutes
	Brief Effects Effects lasting less than a day
	Temporary Effects Effects lasting less than a year
	Short-term Effects Effects lasting one to seven years.
	Medium-term Effects Effects lasting seven to fifteen years.
	Long-term Effects Effects lasting fifteen to sixty years.
	Permanent Effects Effects lasting over sixty years
	Reversible Effects Effects that can be undone, for example through remediation or restoration
	Frequency of Effects Describe how often the effect will occur. (once, rarely, occasionally, frequently, constantly – or hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, annually)
Describing the Types of Effects	Indirect Effects (a.k.a. Secondary Effects) Impacts on the environment, which are not a direct result of the project, often produced away from the project site or because of a complex pathway.
	Cumulative Effects The addition of many minor or significant effects, including effects of other projects, to create larger, more significant effects.
	'Do-Nothing Effects' The environment as it would be in the future should the subject project not be carried out.
	'Worst case' Effects The effects arising from a project in the case where mitigation measures substantially fail.
	Indeterminable Effects When the full consequences of a change in the environment cannot be described.

	Irreversible Effects When the character, distinctiveness, diversity or reproductive capacity of an environment is permanently lost.
	Residual Effects The degree of environmental change that will occur after the proposed mitigation measures have taken effect.
	Synergistic Effects Where the resultant effect is of greater significance than the sum of its constituents, (e.g. combination of SOx and NOx to produce smog).

Appendix II - Competency of Authors

Paul Fingleton, the lead author, has an MSc in Rural and Regional Resources Planning (with specialisation in EIA) from the University of Aberdeen. Paul is a member of the International Association for Impact Assessment as well as the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment. He has over twenty-five years' experience working in the area of Environmental Assessment. Over this period, he has been involved in a diverse range of projects including contributions to, and co-ordination of, numerous complex EIARs and EIA screening reports. He has also contributed to and supervised the preparation of numerous AAs and AA screenings.

Paul is the lead author of the current EPA Guidelines³ and accompanying Advice Notes⁴ on EIARs. He has been involved in all previous editions of these statutory guidelines. He also provides a range of other EIA related consultancy services to the EPA. Paul is regularly engaged by various planning authorities and other consent authorities to provide specialised EIA advice.

Clodagh Ryan, Environmental Assistant has a BSc in Environmental Management, Dublin Institute of Technology, 2021. Clodagh liaises with various government agencies and local authorities in order to assimilate the environmental baseline information that is used in EIAs and AAs and assists in the preparation of the various EIA and AA related documentation.

³ *Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports*, EPA, 2017 (Draft)

⁴ *Advice notes on current practice in the preparation of Environmental Impact Assessment Reports*, EPA, 2003