

Luxcare Limited

# Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment

Taylor's Lane, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16, Co Dublin



July 2021

# Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment

Client: Luxcare Limited

Location: Taylor's Lane, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16, Co. Dublin

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021

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## 1. Introduction

IE Consulting was requested by Luxcare Limited to undertake a Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment (SSFRA) in support of a planning application for a proposed development at Taylor's Lane, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16, Co. Dublin. The development as proposed comprises the construction of a 3 storey care home and all associated site works.

The purpose of this SSFRA is to assess the potential flood risk to the proposed development site and to assess the impact that the development as proposed may or may not have on the hydrological regime of the area.

Quoted ground levels or estimated flood levels relate to Ordnance Datum (Malin) unless stated otherwise.

This flood risk assessment study has been undertaken in consideration of the following guidance document:-

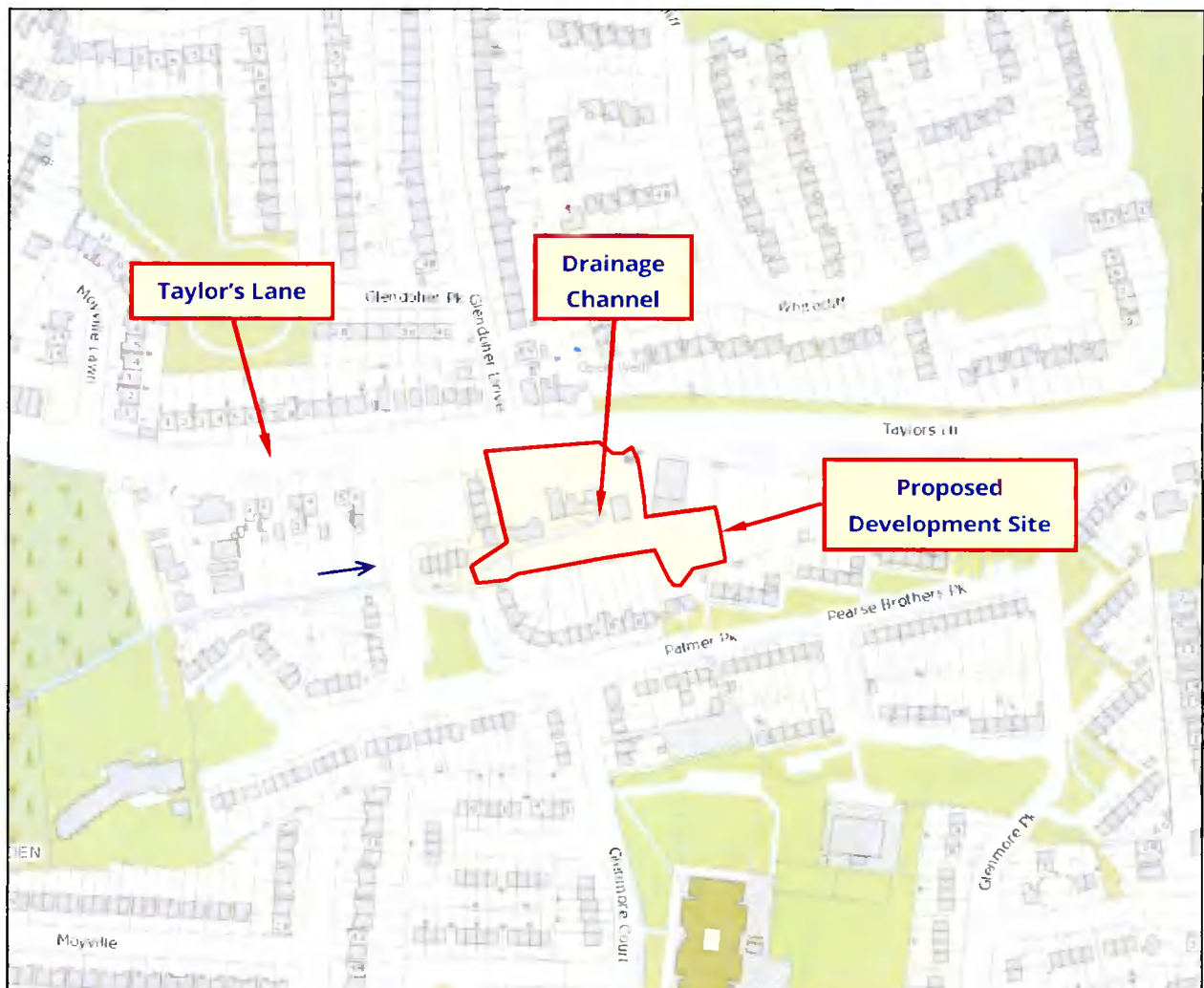
*'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management - Guidelines for Planning Authorities' DOEHLG 2009.'*

## 2. Proposed Site Description

### 2.1. General

The proposed development site is located at Taylor's Lane, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16. The site is bounded to the north by Taylor's Lane, to the west and south by existing residential properties and to the north-east and east commercial premises. The total area of the proposed development site is approximately 0.65 hectares.

The location of the proposed development site is illustrated on *Figure 1* below and shown on *Drawing Number IE2337-001-A* in *Appendix A*.



**Figure 1 - Site Location**

## 2.2. Existing Topography Levels at Site

The proposed development site slopes moderately in a south to north direction at an average gradient of approximately 5.57% (1 in 17.94).

Existing ground elevations range from approximately 79.947m OD (Malin) at the southern boundary of the site to 76.304m OD (Malin) at the northern boundary of the site.

## 2.3. Local Hydrology, Landuse & Existing Drainage

The most immediate and significant hydrological features at and in the vicinity of the proposed development site are the Owenadoher River that flows in a south to north direction approximately 451m beyond the western boundary of the site, the Kilmashogue Stream that flows in a north to south direction approximately 332m beyond the eastern boundary of the site and a drainage channel that flows in a west to east direction within the boundary of the site.

Utilising the OPW Flood Studies Update (FSU) Portal software, the catchment area of the Owenadoher River was delineated and found to be approximately 12.679km<sup>2</sup> to a point downstream of the proposed development site. An assessment of the Owenadoher River upstream catchment area indicates a predominately rural catchment with a significant urban fraction of 10.42% in the upstream catchment area. The catchment area of the Kilmashogue Stream was delineated and found to be approximately 7.086km<sup>2</sup> to a point downstream of the proposed development site. An assessment of the Kilmashogue Stream upstream catchment area indicates a predominately rural catchment with a significant urban fraction of 6.97% in the upstream catchment area.

The drainage channel within the boundary of the site appears to be part of a former mill race channel that was originally supplied with water via a weir on the Owenadoher River located approximately 625m south-west of the proposed development site. An inspection of the former mill race channel undertaken by a hydrological engineer from IE Consulting indicates that this channel is no longer supplied with water via the Owenadoher River and there is currently no mechanism where waters in the Owenadoher River can discharge to this channel. The drainage channel is not a natural fluvial watercourse channel and appears to have a limited upstream catchment area.



### 3. Initial Flood Risk Assessment

The flood risk assessment for the proposed development site is undertaken in three principal stages, these being 'Step 1 – Screening', 'Step 2 – Scoping' and 'Step 3 – Assessing'.

#### 3.1. Possible Flooding Mechanisms

Table 1 below summarises the possible flooding mechanisms in consideration of the site:

Source/Pathway	Significant?	Comment/Reason
<b>Tidal/Coastal</b>	No	The site is not located within a coastal or tidally influenced region.
<b>Fluvial</b>	Possible	The Owenadoher River and Kilmashogue Stream are located 451m and 332m beyond the western and eastern boundaries of the site respectively. A drainage channel flows in a west to east direction through the site.
<b>Pluvial (urban drainage)</b>	No	There is no significant drainage or water supply infrastructure located at or in the immediate vicinity of the site.
<b>Pluvial (overland flow)</b>	No	The site is not surrounded by significantly elevated lands and does not provide an important surface water discharge point to adjacent lands.
<b>Blockage</b>	No	There is no significant or restrictive hydraulic structures located at or in the immediate vicinity of the site.
<b>Groundwater</b>	No	There are no significant springs or groundwater discharges mapped or recorded in the immediate vicinity of the site.

**Table 1: Flooding Mechanisms**

The primary potential flood risk to the proposed development site can be attributed to an extreme fluvial flood event in the Owenadoher River, located 451m beyond the western boundary of the site and/or the Kilmashogue Stream located 332m beyond the eastern boundary of the site.

In accordance with 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities - DOEHLG 2009' the potential flood risk to the proposed development site is analysed in the subsequent 'Screening Assessment' and "Scoping Assessment" section of this study report.



## 4. Screening Assessment

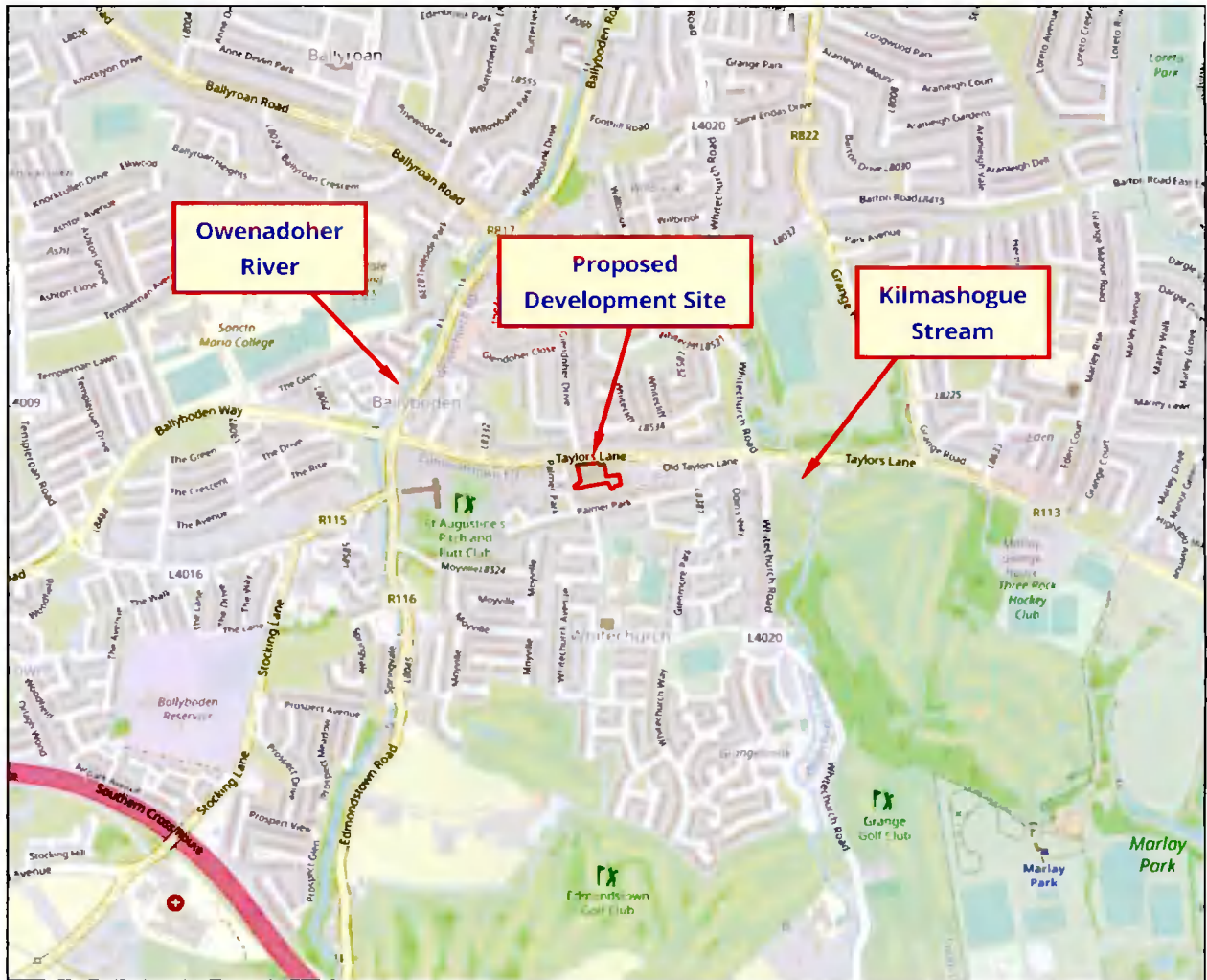
The purpose of the screening assessment is to establish the level of flooding risk that may or may not exist for a particular site and to collate and assess existing current or historical information and data which may indicate the level or extent of any flood risk.

If there is a potential flood risk issue then the flood risk assessment procedure should move to 'Step 2 - Scoping Assessment' or if no potential flood risk is identified from the screening stage then the overall flood risk assessment can end at 'Step 1'.

The following information and data was collated as part of the flood risk screening assessment for the proposed development site.

### 4.1. OPW/EPA/Local Authority Hydrometric Data

Existing sources of OPW, EPA and local authority hydrometric data were investigated. As illustrated in *Figure 2* below, this assessment has determined that there are no hydrometric gauging stations located on any watercourses in the general vicinity of the proposed development site.



**Figure 2 - Hydrometric Gauging Stations**

#### 4.2. OPW PFRA Indicative Flood Mapping

Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) Mapping for Ireland was produced by the OPW in 2011. OPW PFRA flood map number 2019/MAP/238/A illustrates indicative flood zones within this area of County Dublin.

Figure 3 below illustrates an extract from the above indicative flood map in the vicinity of the proposed development site.

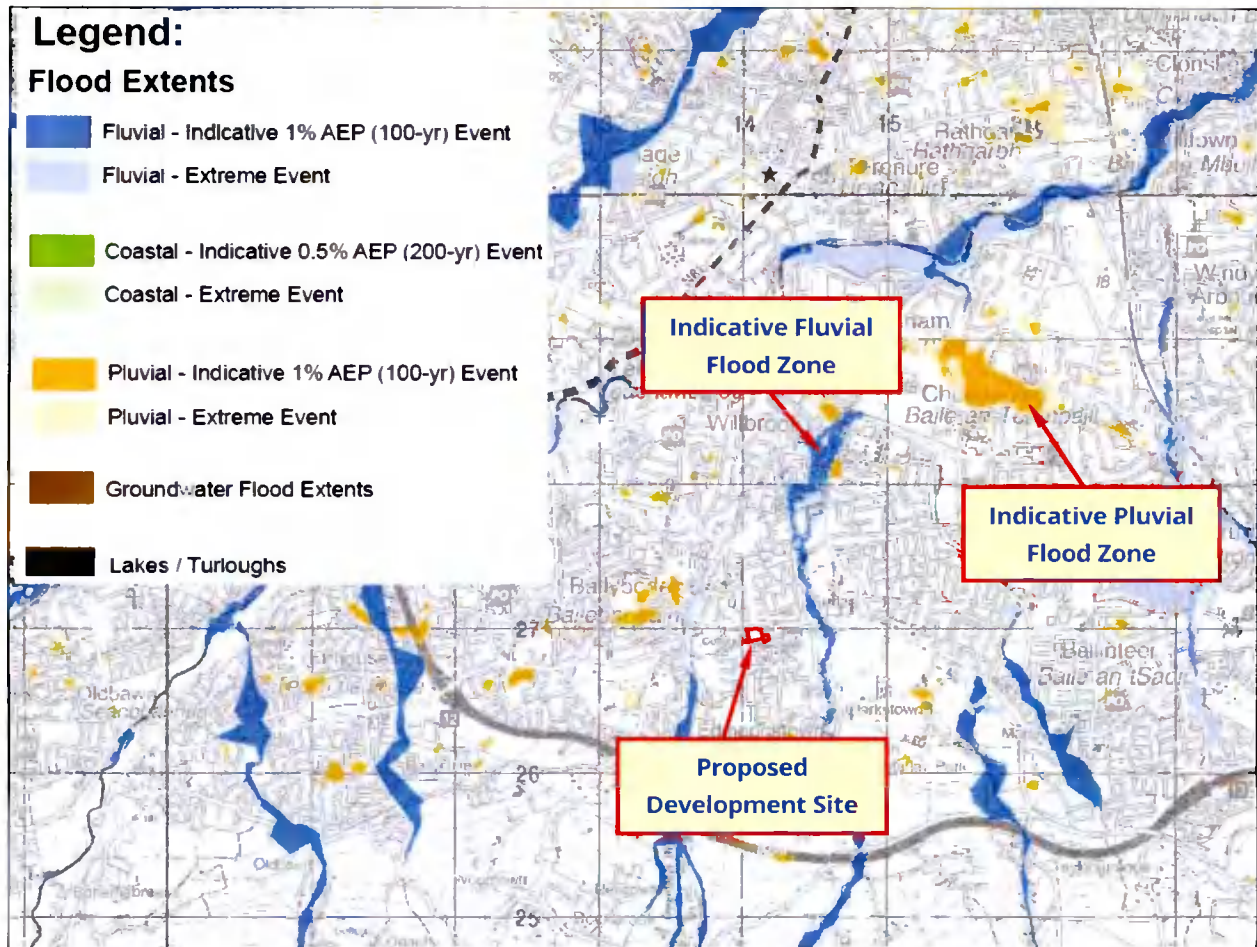


Figure 3 - OPW PFRA Mapping

The PFRA flood mapping indicates that the site does not fall within an indicative fluvial, pluvial or groundwater flood zone.

It should also be noted that the indicated extent of flooding illustrated on these maps was developed using a low resolution digital terrain model (DTM) and illustrated flood extents are intended to be indicative only. The flood extents mapped on the PFRA maps are not intended to be used on a site specific basis.

#### 4.3. OPW Flood Maps Website

The OPW Flood Maps Website ([www.floodinfo.ie](http://www.floodinfo.ie)) was consulted in relation to available historical or anecdotal information on any flooding incidences or occurrences in the vicinity of the proposed development site. *Figure 4* below illustrates mapping from the Flood Maps website in the vicinity of the site.



## Past Flood Event Local Area Summary Report



**OPW** Óigheara  
eÓilneacha Poblach  
Office of Public Works

This Past Flood Event Summary Report summarises all past flood events within 2.5 kilometres of the map centre.

This report has been downloaded from [www.floodinfo.ie](http://www.floodinfo.ie) (the "Website"). The users should take account of the restrictions and limitations relating to the content and use of the Website that are explained in the Terms and Conditions. It is a condition of use of the Website that you agree to be bound by the disclaimer and other terms and conditions set out on the Website and to the privacy policy on the Website.

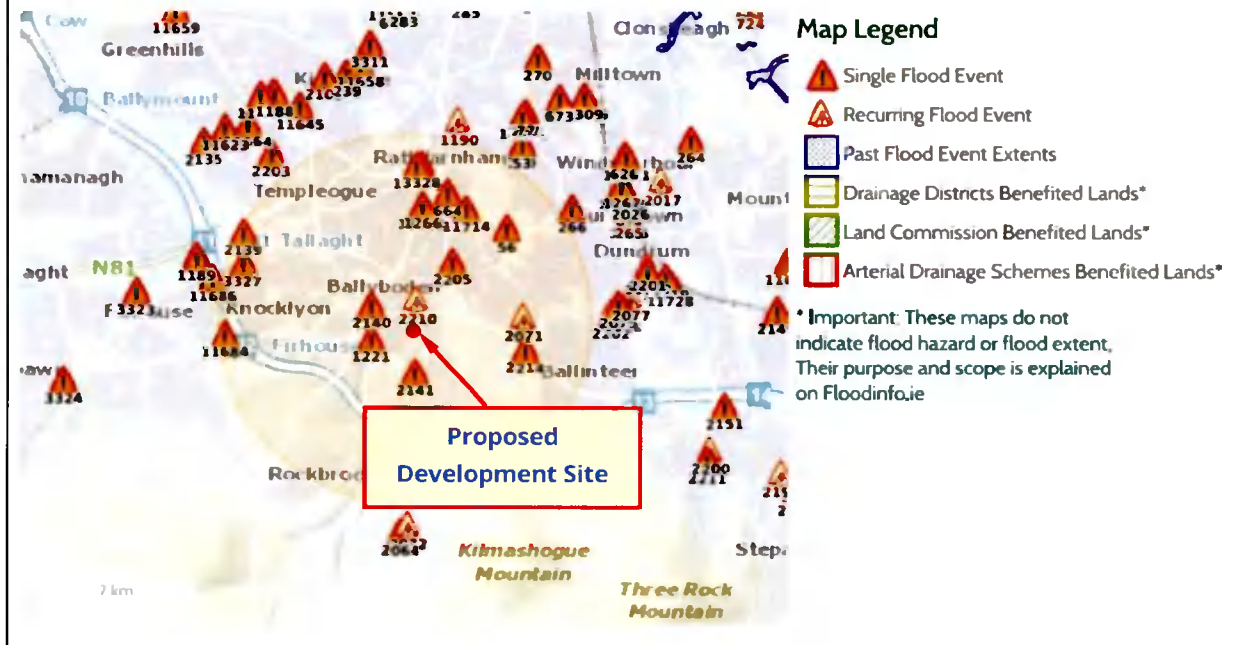


Figure 4 - OPW Flood Maps

Figure 4 above indicates three flood points mapped in the general locality of the proposed development site, which relate to the following flood events:

- Recurring flooding at Ballyboden Road and Whitecliff due to high flows in the Owenadoher River surcharging the Ballyboden Road sewer.
- 03<sup>rd</sup> February 1994 - Rear garden flooded due to stream overflow.
- 05<sup>th</sup> November 2000 - 3 properties on Edmondstown Road flooded after overflow from Owenadoher River after to heavy rainfall.

There is no recorded or anecdotal information or data available to indicate that any of the above fluvial flood events impacted the area of the proposed development site.

#### 4.4. Ordnance Survey Historic Mapping

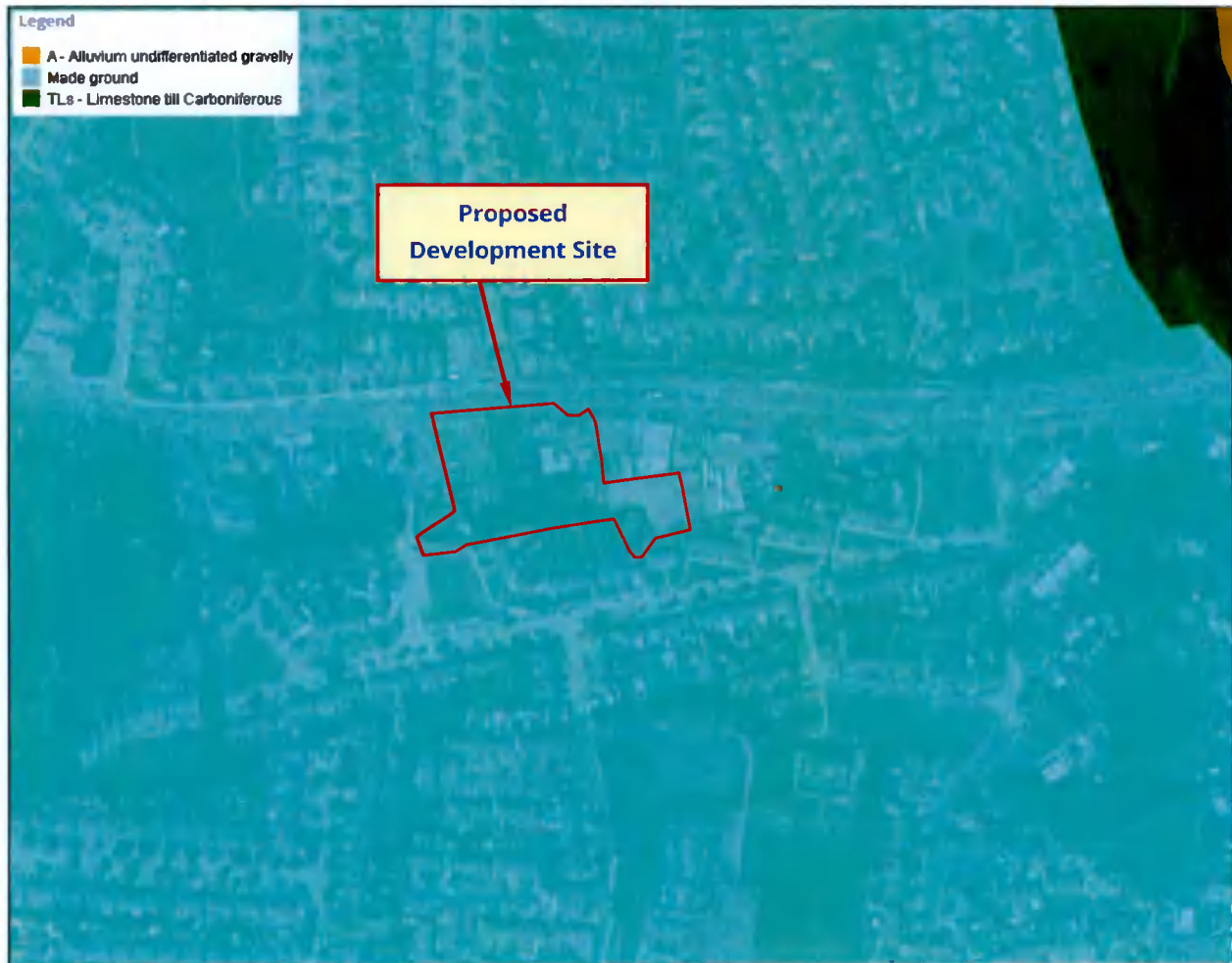
Available historic mapping for the area was consulted, as this can provide evidence of historical flooding incidences or occurrences. The maps that were consulted were the historical 6-inch maps (pre-1900), and the historic 25-inch map series. *Figure 5* and *Figure 6* below show the historic mapping for the area of the proposed development site.



**Figure 5 - Historic 6 Inch Mapping**







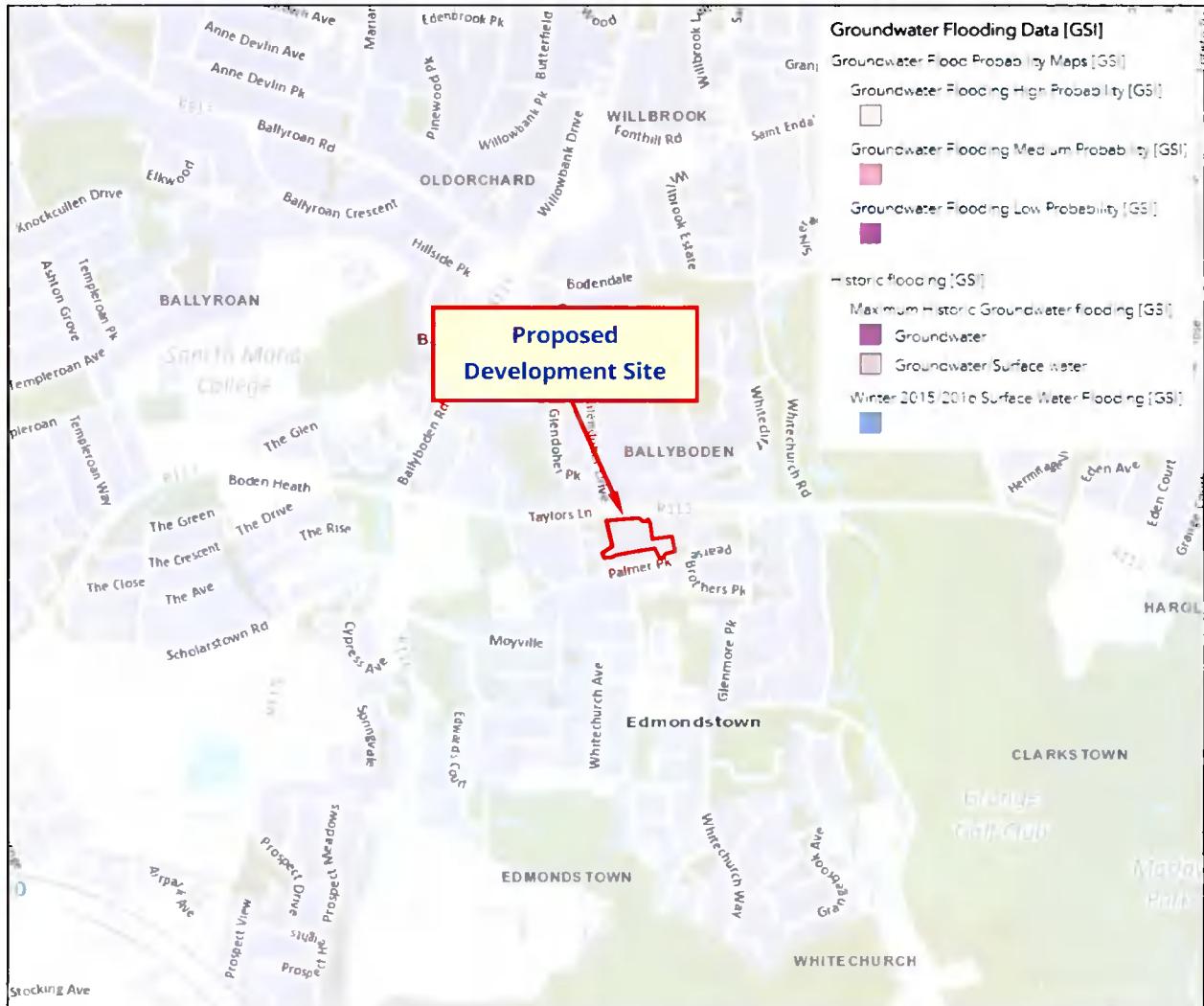
**Figure 7 - GSI Subsoil Mapping**

Figure 7 above indicates that the proposed development site is entirely underlain by Made Ground. There are no Alluvium deposits mapped within or in the vicinity of the site.

#### 4.6. Geological Survey of Ireland Groundwater Flood Mapping

Historic and Predictive Groundwater Mapping for Ireland was prepared by the GSI Department of Communication, Climate Action and Environment in collaboration with Trinity College Dublin and the Institute of Technology Carlow.

Figure 8 below illustrates an extract from the above groundwater flood mapping in the vicinity of the proposed development site.



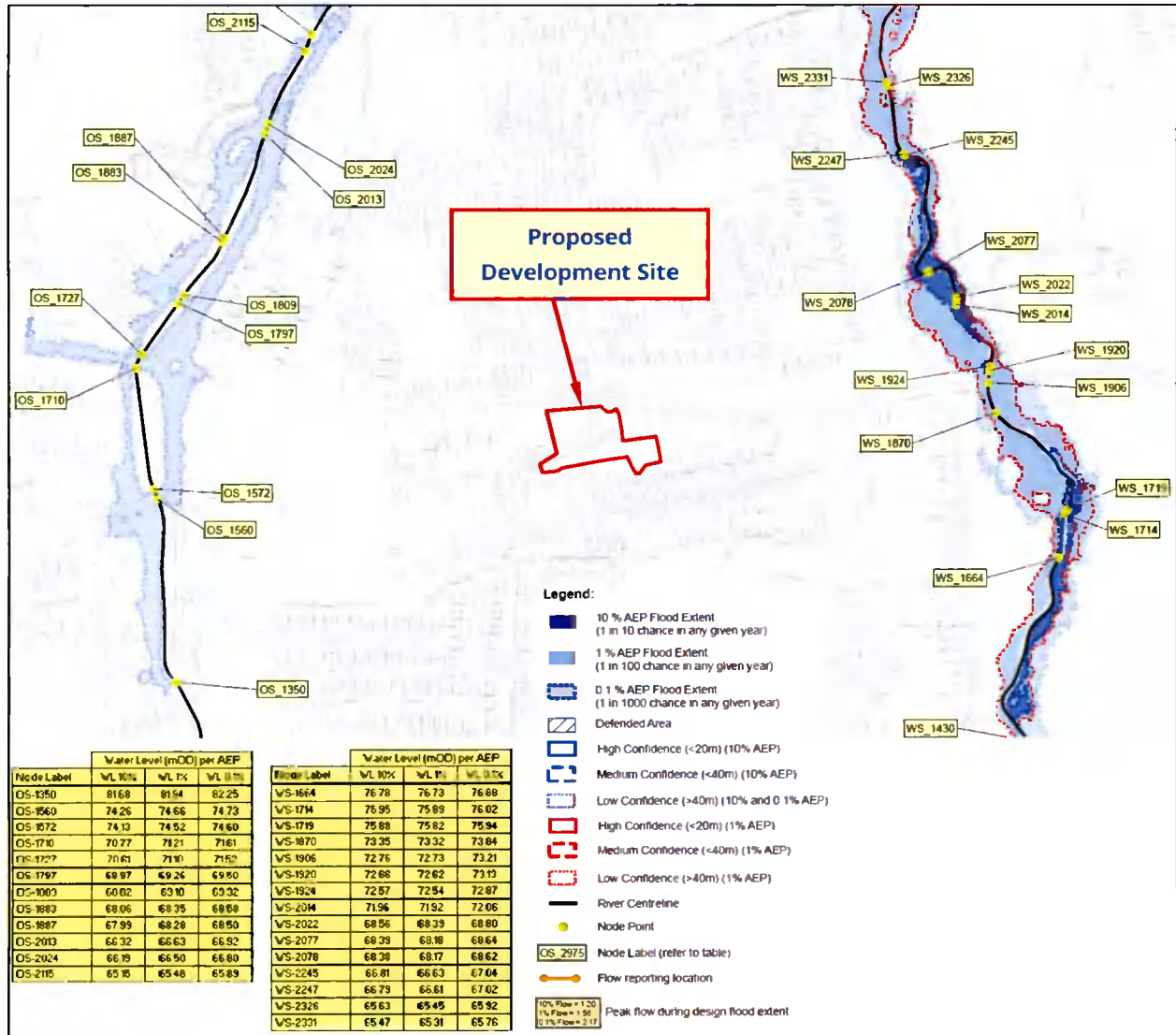
**Figure 8 - GSI Groundwater Flood Mapping**

The above GSI Groundwater Mapping indicates no areas of predictive or historical groundwater or surface water flooding located within or in the vicinity of the proposed development site.

#### 4.7. Dodder CFRAM Study

The Dodder Catchment Flood Risk & Management Study (CFRAMS) has been undertaken by the OPW and the final version of the flood maps were issued in November 2010. Flood risk extent and depth maps for further assessment areas within County Dublin have also been produced. OPW CFRAMS flood map number *OSW/EXT/UA/CURS/103* illustrates predictive extreme fluvial flood extent zones associated with the Owenadoher River and Kilmashogue Stream in the general vicinity of the proposed development site.

Figure 9 below (extracted from CFRAMS flood map OSW/EXT/UA/CURS/103) illustrates the predicted extreme 10% AEP (1 in 10 year), 1% AEP (1 in 100 year) and 0.1% AEP (1 in 1000 year) flood extents in the vicinity of the proposed development site.



**Figure 9 – CFRAMS Flood Extent Mapping**

Figure 9 above indicates that the proposed development site does not fall within a predictive current scenario fluvial flood zone.

The Dodder CFRAMS flood map also provides information on predicted water levels and flows for 10% AEP (1 in 10 year), 1% AEP (1 in 100 year) and 0.1% AEP (1 in 1000 year) fluvial flood events at various node points along the Owenadoher River and Kilmashogue Stream.

The node points most applicable to the proposed development site are referenced as node point OS\_1572 & WS\_1870, both located adjacent to the upstream boundary of the site as illustrated in Figure 9 above. Details of the predicted fluvial flood levels for the Dodder CFRAMS node points in the general vicinity of the proposed development site are listed in Table 2 below, which has been extracted from the Dodder CFRAMS flood map reference OSW/EXT/UA/CURS/103.

Node Label	Water Level (mOD) 10% AEP	Water Level (mOD) 1% AEP	Water Level (mOD) 0.1% AEP
OS_1572	74.13	74.52	74.60
WS_1870	73.35	73.32	73.84

**Table 2 -CFRAMS Fluvial Map - Predicted Flood Levels**

It is noted that the highest predicted water level of 74.60 mOD in the Owenadoher River for the 0.1% AEP (1 in 1000 year) flood event is approximately 1.704m lower than the lowest topographical level within the proposed development site.



## 5. Scoping Assessment

The purpose of the scoping stage is to identify possible flood risks and to implement the necessary level of detail and assessment to assess these possible risks, and to ensure these can be adequately addressed in the flood risk assessment. The scoping exercise should also identify that sufficient quantitative information is already available to complete a flood risk assessment appropriate to the scale and nature of the development proposed.

The above screening assessment indicates that the site is not at direct risk of fluvial, pluvial or groundwater flooding.

In consideration of the information collated as part of the screening exercise, and the availability of other information and data specific to the proposed development site, it is considered that sufficient quantitative information to complete an appropriate flood risk assessment can be derived from the information collated as part of the screening exercise alone.

In particular, the final flood extent maps produced as part of the Dodder CFRAM study are based on the results of detailed hydraulic modelling undertaken along the Owenadoher River and Kilmashogue Stream, and therefore provide a reasonably accurate delineation of flood zones and information on extreme flood levels at and in the general vicinity of the proposed development site.

## 6. Discussion

The screening assessment undertaken as part of this Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment, in conjunction with on-site inspection and assessment work, indicates no primary or direct fluvial or pluvial flood risk to the area of the proposed development site.

The drainage channel within the boundary of the site appears to be part of a former mill race channel that was originally supplied with water via a weir on the Owenadoher River located approximately 625m south-west of the proposed development site. An inspection of the former mill race channel undertaken by a hydrological engineer from IE Consulting indicates that this channel is no longer supplied with water via the Owenadoher River and there is currently no mechanism where waters in the Owenadoher River can discharge to this channel. The drainage channel is not a natural fluvial watercourse channel and has a limited upstream catchment area. A detailed inspection of this drainage channel undertaken by a hydrological engineer from IE Consulting indicates that the channel is significantly overgrown and no discernible flow conveyance was observed within the channel. There was no evidence to suggest any more significant flow conveyance has occurred within the channel in the past.

As part of the drainage and stormwater management strategy for the development it is proposed to part divert and part culvert the drainage channel within the boundary of the site, the details of which are illustrated on *Drawing Number J3406-C-01-Rev D, Appendix A*, prepared by Cowal Design Consultants.

As illustrated on the above drawing the existing drainage channel shall be part diverted via a 1m x 1m open precast concrete channel and part culverted via a 1200mm diameter pipe. The maximum hydraulic conveyance capacity of the proposed open channel and 1200mm diameter pipe exceeds the maximum hydraulic capacity of the existing drainage channel through the site. Therefore the proposed part diverted and part culverted drainage channel is not expected to result in an adverse impact to the existing hydrological regime of the area.

*Drawing Number J3406-C-01-Rev D, Appendix A*, prepared by Cowal Design Consultants also provides details of the stormwater management strategy for the proposed development site, which is in accordance with the requirements of the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study. In this regard the development as proposed is not expected to result in an increased pluvial flood risk elsewhere.



## 7. Development in the Context of the Guidelines

In the context of the 'Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines, DOEHLG, 2009' three flood zones are designated in consideration of flood risk to a particular development site.

Flood Zone 'A' – where the probability of flooding from rivers and watercourses is the highest (greater than 1% or 1 in 100 year for river and watercourse flooding and 0.5% or 1 on 200 for coastal or tidal flooding).

Flood Zone 'B' – where the probability of flooding from rivers and watercourses is moderate (between 0.1% or 1 in 1000 year for river and watercourse flooding and 0.5% or 1 on 200 for coastal or tidal flooding).

Flood Zone 'C' – where the probability of flooding from rivers and watercourses is low or negligible (less than 0.1% of 1 in 1000 year for both river and watercourse and coastal flooding). Flood Zone 'C' covers all areas that are not in Zones 'A' or 'B'.

The 'Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines' list the planning implications for each flood zone, as summarised below:-

**Zone A – High Probability of Flooding.** Most types of development would not be considered in this zone. Development in this zone should be only be considered in exceptional circumstances, such as in city and town centres, or in the case of essential infrastructure that cannot be located elsewhere, and where the 'Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines' justification test has been applied. Only water-compatible development, such as docks and marinas, dockside activities that require a waterside location, amenity open space and outdoor sports and recreation would be considered appropriate in this zone.

**Zone B – Moderate Probability of Flooding.** Highly vulnerable development such as hospitals, residential care homes, Garda, fire and ambulance stations, dwelling houses, strategic transport and essential utilities infrastructure would generally be considered inappropriate in this zone, unless the requirements of the justification test can be met. Less vulnerable development such as retail, commercial and industrial uses and recreational facilities might be considered appropriate in this zone. In general however, less vulnerable development should only be considered in this zone if adequate lands or sites are not available in Zone 'C' and subject to a flood risk assessment to the appropriate level of detail to demonstrate that flood risk to the development can be adequately managed and that development in this zone will not adversely affect adjacent lands and properties.

**Zone C - Low to Negligible Probability of Flooding.** Development in this zone is appropriate from a flood risk perspective. Developments in this zone are generally not considered at risk of fluvial flooding and would not adversely affect adjacent lands and properties from a flood risk perspective.

The assessment and analysis undertaken as part of this Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment indicates that the area of the proposed development site falls within Flood Zone 'C'.

In accordance with the *'Planning System & Flood Risk Management Guidelines, DOEGLG, 2009'* the development as proposed is therefore not subject to the requirements of The Justification Test.

## 8. Summary Conclusions

In consideration of the findings of this Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment and analysis the following conclusions are made in respect of the proposed development site:-

- *A Site Specific Flood Risk (SSFRA) assessment, appropriate to the type and scale of development proposed and in accordance with 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines – DoEHLG-2009' has been undertaken.*
- *The area of the proposed development site has been screened, scoped and assessed for flood risk in accordance with the above guidelines.*
- *The screening assessment undertaken as part of this SSFRA indicates that the site is not at risk of fluvial, pluvial or groundwater flooding.*
- *In accordance with the above guidelines, the area of the proposed development site falls within Flood Zone 'C'.*
- *The development as proposed includes for a stormwater management system in accordance with the requirements of the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study.*
- *In consideration of the assessment and analysis undertaken as part of this Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment, overall, the development as proposed is not expected to result in an adverse impact to the existing hydrological regime of the area or increase flood risk elsewhere. In this regard the development as proposed is considered to be appropriate from a flood risk perspective.*

# Appendices

## Appendix A. Drawings

IE2337-001-A Site Location Map

J3406-C-01-Rev D Proposed Drainage Layout





**SITE LOCATION**

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Project Title:		FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT			
Project Address:		TAYLOR'S LANE, RATHFARNHAM, DUBLIN 16			
Client:		BEER AND ASSOCIATES			
Drg. Title:		SITE LOCATION MAP			
Dwg. Scale:	Date:	Dwg. No.:	Job No.:	Revision:	Dwg. By:
1:50,000	03/08/21	IE2337-001	IE2337	A	LMc



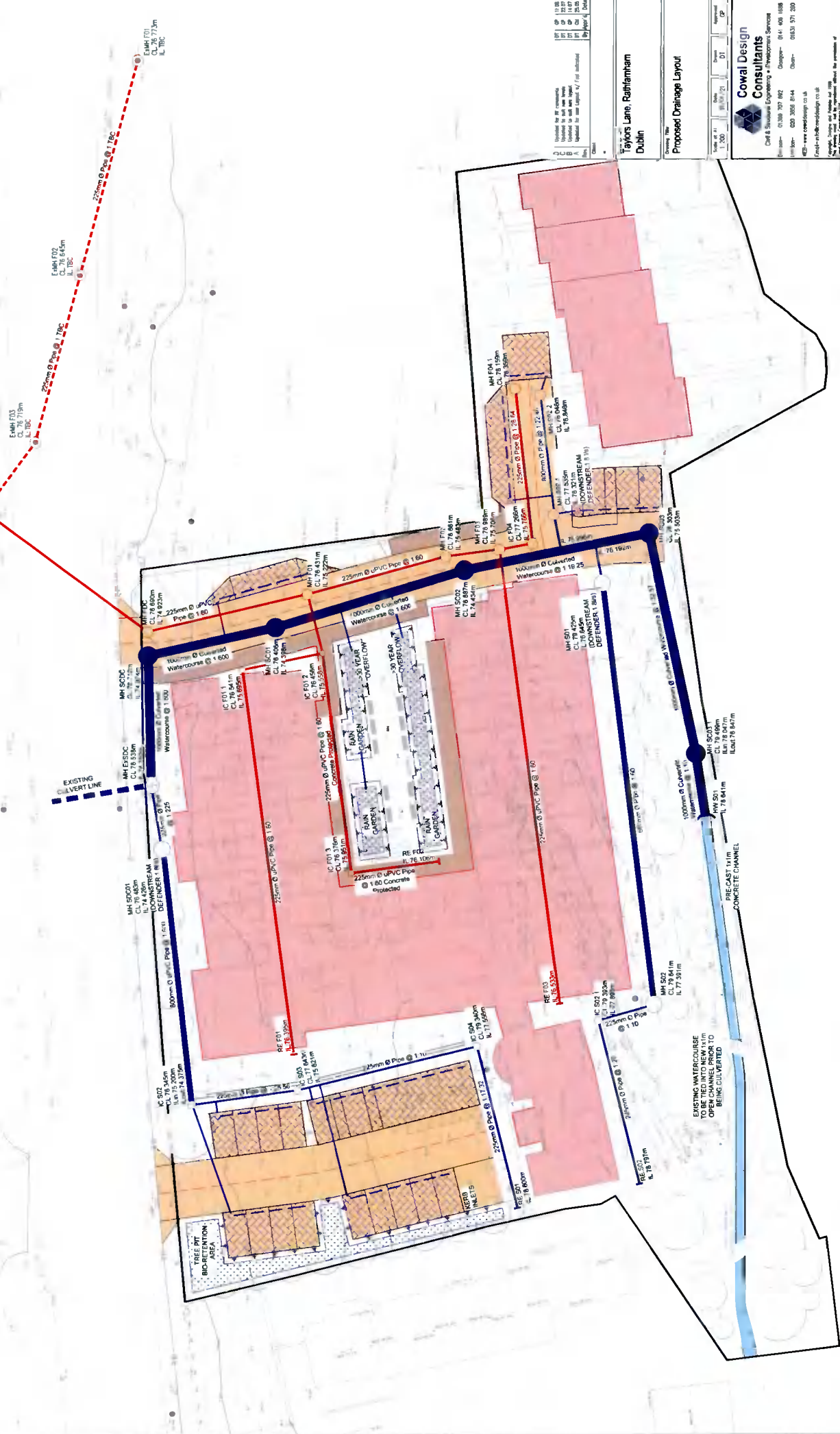
PROPOSED SURFACE DRAIN AND MARKLE

PROPOSED TOLL DRAIN AND MARKLE

EXISTING TOLL DRAIN AND MARKLE

PROPOSED FORMABLE PAVING

ALL PIPES TO BE RIGID UPVC



1	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments
2	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments
3	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments
4	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments
5	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments
6	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments
7	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments
8	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments
9	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments
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16	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments
17	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments
18	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments
19	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments
20	11/08/21	Issued for R.C. comments

Taylor Lane, Rathfernham  
Dublin

Proposed Drainage Layout

Scale: 1:200

Drawn: [Name]

Checked: [Name]

Approved: [Name]

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FOR APPROVAL

J3406-C-01

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