

## **Appendix 1.1**

### **EIA Planning Authority Determination**

## A1.1 Determination by Planning Authority as to whether the proposals are likely to have significant effects on the environment.

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The project is the College Green Traffic Management Measures – which will be carried out at College Green and surrounding streets. This is the Masterplan for proposals to free up the road space which will allow for the creation of a civic plaza area in College Green from Church Lane to Lower Grafton Street with all through traffic except pedestrians and cyclists being removed.

CAAS Environmental Consultants have been engaged by Dublin City Council to review the College Green proposals in accordance with the EIA Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding sub-threshold development, 2003, DEHG to reach a conclusion on whether the proposal should be subject to EIA or not.

The review includes an assessment of the details of the proposal with reference to the relevant EIA legislation including the Planning & Development Regulations, the EIA Directive and relevant EU Guidance including Interpretation of definitions of project categories of annex I and II of the EIA Directive, 2015, EU and Guidance on EIA Screening, 2001, EC.

The Planning Authority has considered the CAAS report including an analysis of the type and extent of development involved which falls within an area of 2.5 Ha approx. It is noted that Part 10 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001-10 (Schedule 5) identifies infrastructure projects involving an area over 2.0 Ha in a business district as requiring an EIS. It is further noted that even if the area of works is less than 2.5 Ha and is considered as ‘sub threshold’ development, an EIS is still required having regard to the characteristics and location of the proposals at the heart of the City, and the likely significant alteration in the intensity of activities (increase in pedestrian and decrease of vehicular movement). The report also considers that the proposals will give rise to significant off-site, secondary and cumulative effects, which will require detailed environmental analysis.

### Planning Authority Determination

Having regard to the fact that the proposal comprises urban development over an extensive area of the core of the Central Business District, the project is of a class that requires an Environmental Impact Assessment. It is also concluded that the environmental sensitivity of the receiving environment – on account of its social, tourism, cultural and business significance means that there is a likelihood that significant environmental resources could be affected – which would warrant an Environmental Impact Assessment.

Having regard to the potential for significant environmental effects to arise relating to

- Human Beings (socio-economic, amenity, tourism and trade)
- Cultural Heritage (Context and Setting of Protected Structures)
- Air (Air Quality and Noise)
- Material Assets (Traffic and Parking)
- Health and Safety
- Interaction, Secondary and off-site effects,

it is concluded that an Environmental Impact Assessment should be carried out of the proposed College Green Traffic Management Measures.