



Limerick City and County Council

Planning Department

Section 5 Application

DECLARATION ON DEVELOPMENT AND EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENT

Applicant's Name: HELENA REA

Applicant's Address: BEECHFIELD
COOLEENS
CHARLEVILLE CO CORK

Telephone No. [REDACTED]

Name of Agent (if any): MAURICE STACK - SWS FORESTRY SERVICES

Address: GATE LODGE,
WEST CORK TECHNOLOGY PARK
CLONAKILTY, CO CORK

Telephone No. 087 1953383

Address for Correspondence:
SWS FORESTRY SERVICES
WEST CORK TECHNOLOGY PARK
CLONAKILTY CO CORK

Location of Proposed development (Please include **EIRCODE**):

CREGGANE, CO LIMERICK

Description of Proposed development:

TO REMOVE 11.32HA ASH DUE TO DISEASE AND REPLANT WITH

MIX OF SITKA SPRUCE AND ADDITIONAL BROADLEAVES AT

CREGGANE CO LIMERICK

Section of Exempted Development Regulations and/or section of the Act under which exemption is claimed:

SECTION 5

Is this a Protected Structure or within the curtilage of a Protected Structure.

~~YES/NO~~

Applicant's interest in site: OWNER

List of plans, drawings, etc. submitted with this application:

SPECIES MAP

REPLANTING MAP

LOCATION MAP

Have any previous extensions/structures been erected at this location ~~YES/NO~~

If Yes please provide floor areas of all existing structures:

Signature of Applicant (or Agent) Maurie Stach AGENT

NOTES: Application must be accompanied by:

- (a) Fee of €80
- (b) Site location map
- (c) Site layout plan
- (d) Dimensioned plans and elevations of the structure and any existing structures.
- (e) Where the declaration is in respect of a farm building, a layout identifying the use of each existing building together with floor area of each building.

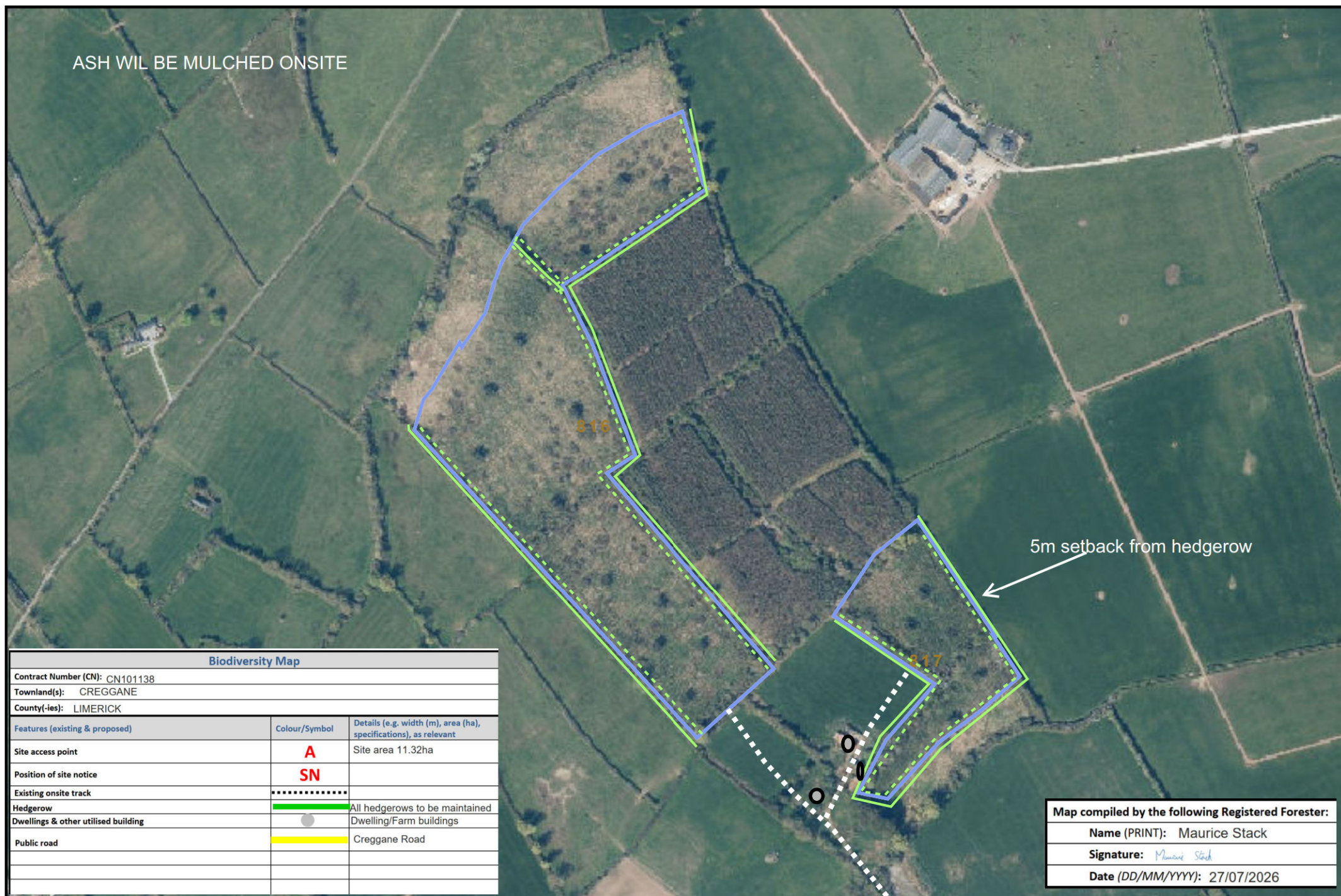
Application to be forwarded to:

**Planning Department,
Limerick City & County Council,
Dooradoyle,
Limerick,
V94 XF67**

**Enquiries:
Telephone: 061-556556
E-Mail: planning@limerick.ie**

HARVEST PLAN MAP

ASH WIL BE MULCHED ONSITE



Biodiversity Map		
Contract Number (CN): CN101138		
Townland(s): CREGGANE		
County(-ies): LIMERICK		
Features (existing & proposed)	Colour/Symbol	Details (e.g. width (m), area (ha), specifications), as relevant
Site access point	A	Site area 11.32ha
Position of site notice	SN	
Existing onsite track		
Hedgerow	=====	All hedgerows to be maintained
Dwellings & other utilised building	●	Dwelling/Farm buildings
Public road	=====	Creggane Road

Map compiled by the following Registered Forester:	
Name (PRINT):	Maurice Stack
Signature:	<i>Maurice Stack</i>
Date (DD/MM/YYYY):	27/07/2026

Harvest Plan Submitted in Support of Felling Licence Application – CN101138

Proposed Felling & Reforestation Methods	
Thinning (incl. CCF)	☐ N/A ☐ Harvester ☐ Chainsaw ☐ Forwarder ☐ Tractor/Quad ☐ Skyline ☐ Other (specify):
Clearfelling	☐ N/A ☐ Harvester ☐ Chainsaw ☐ Forwarder ☐ Tractor/Quad ☐ Skyline ☒ Other (specify): MULCHER
Reforestation	☐ N/A ☒ Windrowing ☐ Pit planting ☒ Mounding ☐ Scrap mounding ☐ Scarification ☐ Other (specify):
Site access (i.e. via forest road)	☒ Present ☐ Planned ☐ Not required ☐ Other (e.g. temporary roading/forest track):

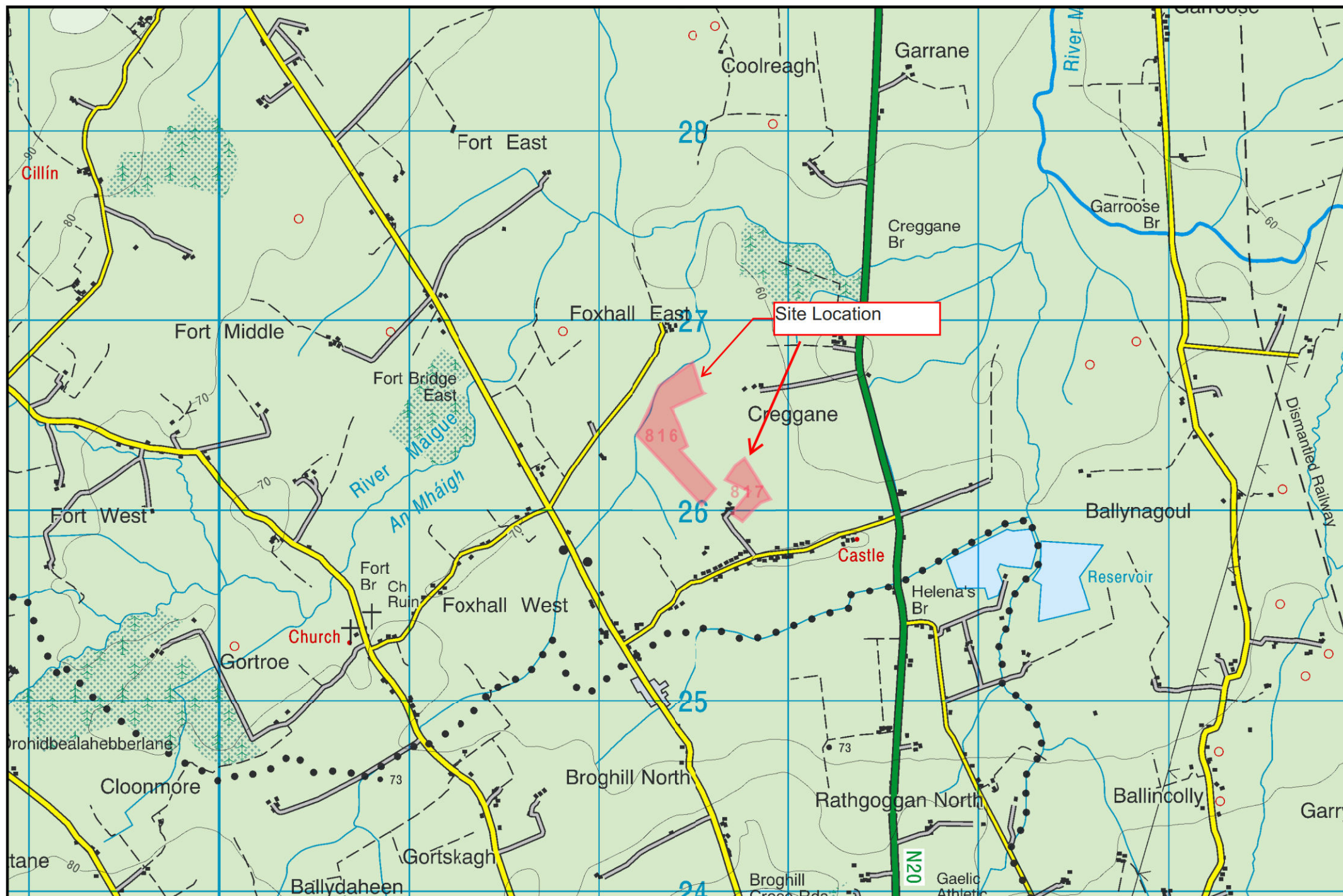
Social & Environmental Features & Considerations		
Social	Habitat & Biodiversity	Soil & Water
☐ Recreational usage	☐ Designated area (SAC, SPA, etc.)	☐ Aquatic zone(s) on/adjoining site
☒ Adjoining dwelling(s)	☒ Broadleaves/diverse conifers	☒ Relevant watercourse(s)
☐ Right(s)-of-way present	☒ Hedgerows	☐ Water-related 'hotspots'
☐ Utilities (power lines/water main)	☒ Old/veteran trees	☐ Water abstraction point
☐ Sensitive landscape	☐ Large scale deadwood	☐ Peaty or peaty/gley
☐ Important viewpoint(s)	☐ Badger sett, rookery, etc.	☐ Steep slope(s)
☐ Archaeological site(s) & feature(s)	☐ Protected fauna	☐ Water setback(s) present & intact
☐ Cultural feature(s)	☐ Protected flora	☐ Supply of brash limited
☐ Anti-social (dumping, fire, etc.)	☐ Wetland habitat	☐ Other:
☐ Other (specify):	☐ Other (specify):	☐ Other:

Proposed Measures to Protect Social & Environmental Features & Considerations	
☐ Consult with local residents	☐ Establish excl. zones around arch. sites/features
☒ Erect safety signage	☐ Temporary bridging points (TBPs) required
☒ Onsite briefing of all operators, pre-commencement	☒ Install water setback at refor.
☒ Carefully selected refuelling/repair/storage depot	☒ Install dwelling setback at refor.
☐ Measures to protect right(s)-of-way	☐ Install public road setback at refor.
☒ Measures to protect service features	☐ Install archaeological setback at refor.
☒ Measures to protect habitats & biodiversity features	☐ Install biodiversity setback at refor.
☒ Limit operations to dry weather	☐ Install landscape setback at refor.
☒ Daily visual monitoring of ground conditions	☐ Inclusion of Refor. Objective 'CCF'
☒ Daily visual monitoring of water	☐ Inclusion of Refor. Objective 'BIO'

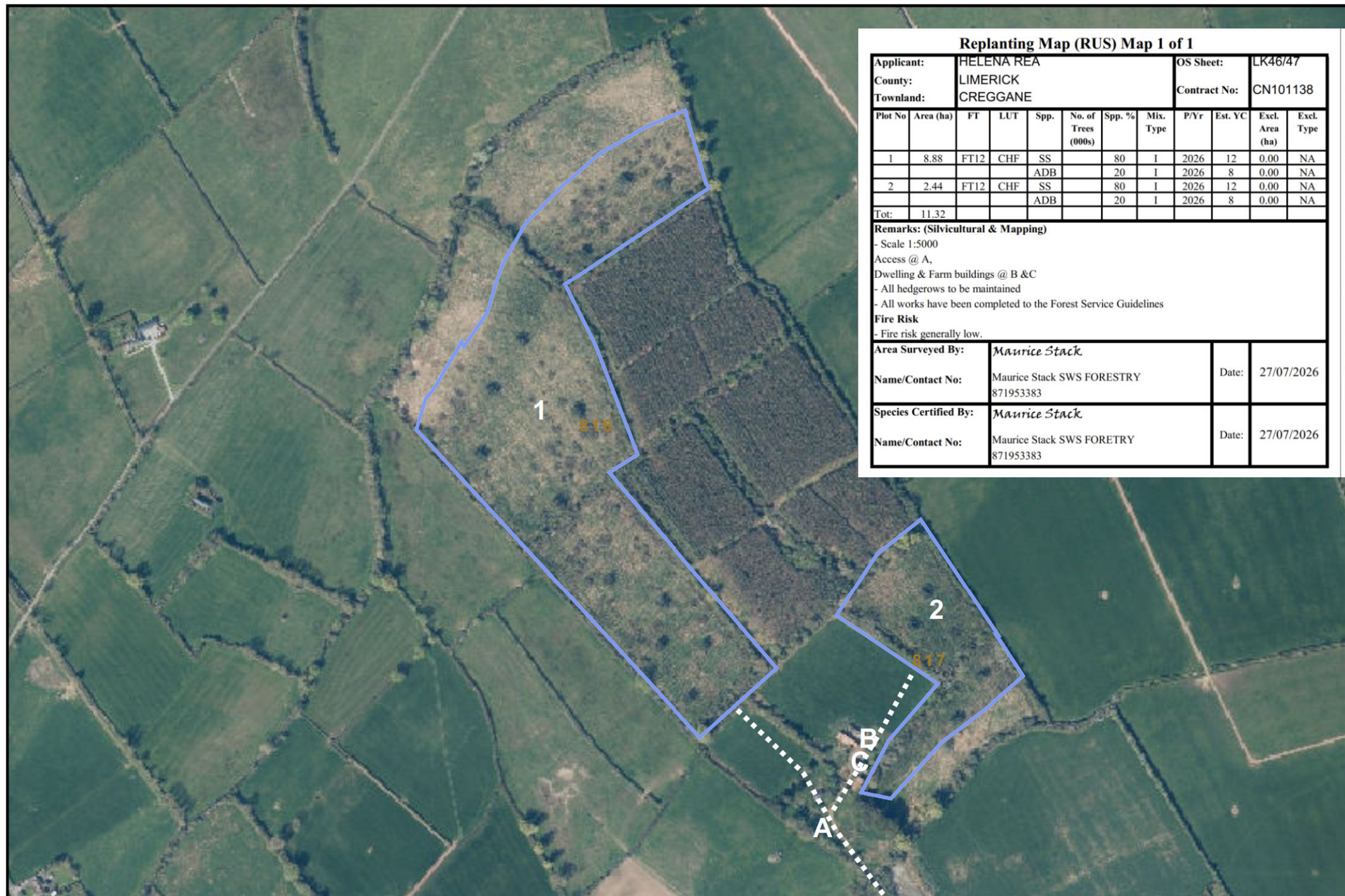
Proposed Measures to Protect Social & Environmental Features & Considerations (Cont..)	
☐ Water sampling	☒ Forest edge planting
☒ Install silt traps/barriers	☐ Environmental setback planting
☒ Drain blocking/slow-water dams	☐ Other (specify)
☒ Utilise brush mats along extraction routes	☐ Other (specify)
☒ Exclude machinery in areas adjoining aquatic zones, water abstraction points & water-related 'hotspots'	☐ Other (specify)

Ancillary Information (include relevant information to expand on above & to detail important aspects such as the sequencing of operations, the width of environmental setbacks & contingency planning. Ensure accurate cross-referencing and consistency with maps) * This site is situated in the townland of Creggane in Co Limerick Ash will be mulched onsite Onsite supervision will be present during operations to ensure that all operations are carried out appropriately and water protection measures area adequate A copy of the licence and harvest plan and associated maps will be retained for all machines operating on the site at all times Machine lines to always run in a direction away from RWC, and to follow the best ground conditions available onsite There should be no carrying over of soil or debris onto public roads No forwarding or ground haulage operations will take place on public or forest road surfaces Road side drains and culverts must be kept free of logs, debris or other obstructions Appropriate signs will be in place to alert the public of harvesting operations taking place, and of lorries entering and leaving the site The forester did not observe any RWC onsite, however, in the event that any area discovered while carrying out pre harvesting preparations, they will be treated correctly A few non water carrying drains were observed during the site visit, if these drains carry water during harvesting operations they will be sediment trapped and relevant exclusion zones will be installed Reforestation: Replant will consist of FT12

* See also Forest Harvesting and the Environment Guidelines for further information



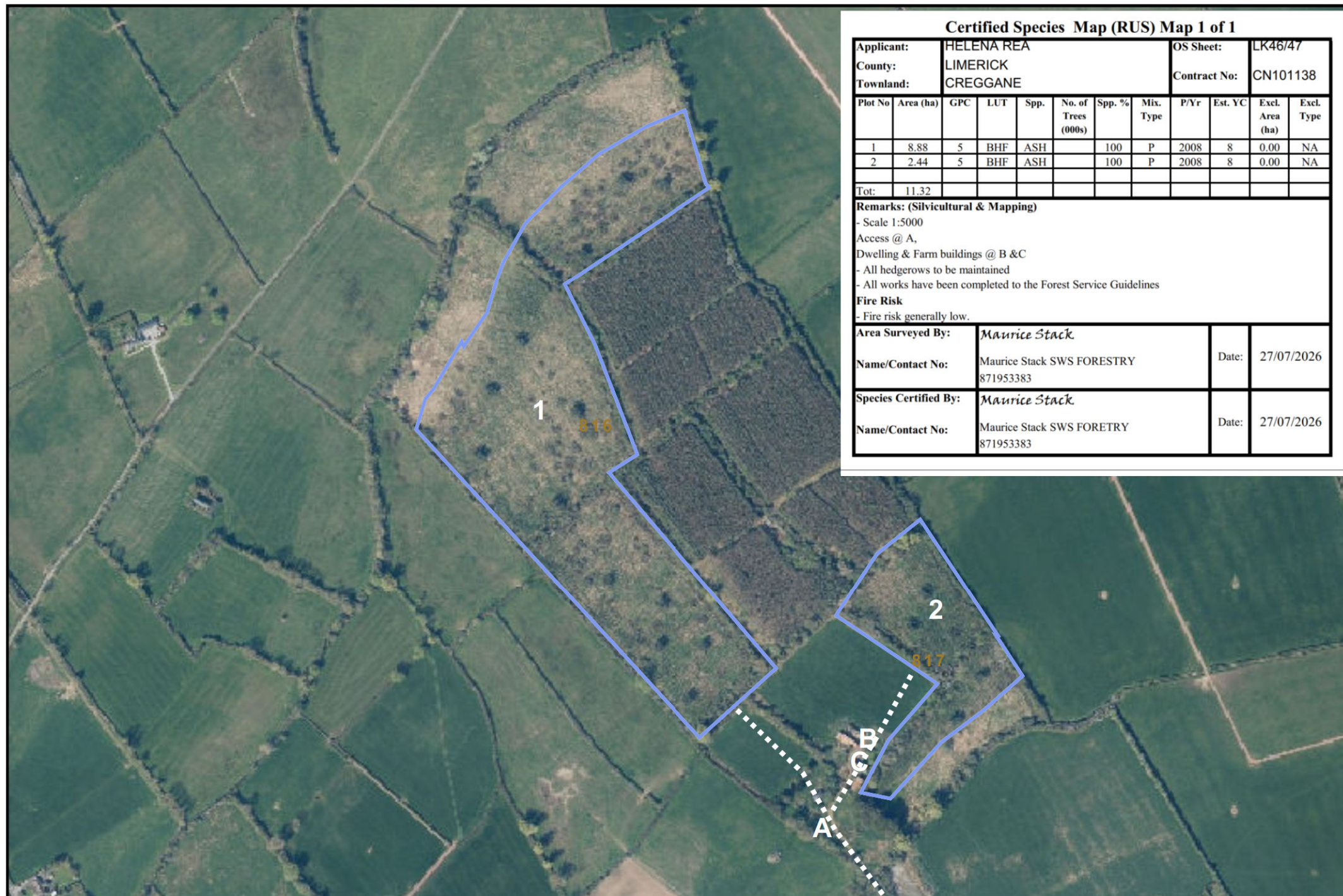
REPLANTING MAP



Replanting Map (RUS) Map 1 of 1

Applicant:		HELENA REA						OS Sheet:		LK46/47		
County:		LIMERICK						Contract No:		CN101138		
Townland:		CREGGANE										
Plot No	Area (ha)	FT	LUT	Spp.	No. of Trees (000s)	Spp. %	Mix. Type	P/Yr	Est. YC	Excl. Area (ha)	Excl. Type	
1	8.88	FT12	CHF	SS		80	I	2026	12	0.00	NA	
				ADB		20	I	2026	8	0.00	NA	
2	2.44	FT12	CHF	SS		80	I	2026	12	0.00	NA	
				ADB		20	I	2026	8	0.00	NA	
Tot:	11.32											
Remarks: (Silvicultural & Mapping)												
- Scale 1:5000												
Access @ A,												
Dwelling & Farm buildings @ B & C												
- All hedgerows to be maintained												
- All works have been completed to the Forest Service Guidelines												
Fire Risk												
- Fire risk generally low.												
Area Surveyed By:			Maurice Stack						Date:		27/07/2026	
Name/Contact No:			Maurice Stack SWS FORESTRY 871953383									
Species Certified By:			Maurice Stack						Date:		27/07/2026	
Name/Contact No:			Maurice Stack SWS FORETRY 871953383									

SPECIES MAP



Certified Species Map (RUS) Map 1 of 1

Applicant:		HELENA REA						OS Sheet:		LK46/47	
County:		LIMERICK						Contract No:		CN101138	
Townland:		CREGGANE									
Plot No	Area (ha)	GPC	LUT	Spp.	No. of Trees (000s)	Spp. %	Mix. Type	P/Yr	Est. YC	Excl. Area (ha)	Excl. Type
1	8.88	5	BHF	ASH		100	P	2008	8	0.00	NA
2	2.44	5	BHF	ASH		100	P	2008	8	0.00	NA
Tot:	11.32										
Remarks: (Silvicultural & Mapping)											
- Scale 1:5000											
Access @ A,											
Dwelling & Farm buildings @ B & C											
- All hedgerows to be maintained											
- All works have been completed to the Forest Service Guidelines											
Fire Risk											
- Fire risk generally low.											
Area Surveyed By:		Maurice Stack						Date:	27/07/2026		
Name/Contact No:		Maurice Stack SWS FORESTRY 871953383									
Species Certified By:		Maurice Stack						Date:	27/07/2026		
Name/Contact No:		Maurice Stack SWS FORETRY 871953383									

Report on application under Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

File Reference number	EC-138-26
Applicant(s)	Helena Rea
Location	Creggane. Co. Limerick

Description of Site and Surroundings:

The subject site is located in the rural townland of Creggane. It is a private wooded area which may only be accessed by foot or off-road vehicles. The main point of access to the site can be considered to be the L-8580 Creggane road. The site contains 11.32 ha. It is roughly 5 km away from Bruree.

Proposal:

This is an application requesting a Section 5 Declaration on whether the following works are or are not development or are or are not exempted development:

The applicant is proposing to remove 11.32 ha of ash due to disease and replant it with a mix of Sitka Spruce and additional Broadleaves.

This Section 5 declaration includes the following:

- Application form
- Site location map
- Harvest plan map
- Harvest plan application
- Replanting map
- Species map

Planning History:

Subject site:

None

Adjacent:

None

Enforcement History:

N/A

Relevant An Coimisiún Pleanála referrals:

N/A

Assessment:

Consideration as to whether a development constitutes exempted development or not is governed by Sections 4 and 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Is the proposal development?

Section 2(1) in this Act, except where otherwise requires –

‘works’ includes any act or operation of construction, excavation, demolition, extension, alteration, repair or renewal and, in relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, includes any act or operation involving the application or removal of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material to or from the surfaces of the interior or exterior of a structure.

‘structure’ as any building, structure, excavation, or other thing constructed or made on, in or under any land, or part of a structure so defined, and –

(b) in relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, includes—

- (i) the interior of the structure,
- (ii) the land lying within the curtilage of the structure,
- (iii) any other structures lying within that curtilage and their interiors, and
- (iv) all fixtures and features which form part of the interior or exterior of any structure or structures referred to in subparagraph (i) or (iii);

Section 3(1) defines **‘development’** as ‘the carrying out of any works on, in, over or under land or the making of any material change in the use of any structures or other land’.

The proposal concerns, to remove 11.32 ha of ash due to disease and replant it with a mix of Sitka Spruce and additional Broadleaves, **constituting ‘works’ and ‘development’**.

Is the proposal exempted development?

Class 16 of the Planning and Development Regulations concerns the replacement of broadleaf high forest by conifer species. The application proposes the replacement of Ash due to disease and its replacement with a mix of Sitka spruce and broadleaves. Ash would fall under the definition of a broadleaf species and Sitka spruce would fall under the definition of a conifer species. As such Class 16 is relevant to the proposal. The condition/limitation attached to Class 16 is the following:

The area involved shall be less than 10 hectares.

The applicant has provided a forestry map which shows two plot areas. No. 1 has an area of 8.88 ha and No.2 has an area of 2.44 ha giving a total area of 11.32 ha. The mix would however consist of 20% broadleaf and 80% Sitka spruce giving total areas of 2.26 ha and 9.06 ha respectively which is under the 10 ha threshold. The applicant has provided additional information by email where they have stated the following: They can confirm that 20% of both plots will be planted with Broadleaves with the remaining 80% to be planted with Sitka Spruce. This will mean that the combined Broadleaf area will be 2.26ha, with the Spruce area totalling 9.06ha. This is both to comply with the Forest Service Guidelines and

the County Council guidelines as an exempted development. The Broadleaves will be planted in rows around the perimeter of each plot at least 3 meters away from existing hedgerows or 5 meters from existing field drains. This will ensure that the existing Hedgerows will be protected and enhanced as well maintaining the visually aspect of each plot, while protecting any water that may be in onsite drains.

In addition to the above the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine have issued Circular 05/221 which sets out information in relation to planning permission and the Ash dieback scheme.

The circular states that in summary, planning permission from the Local Authority is required where “broadleaf high forest is replaced by conifer species”, and where one or more of the following applies:

- The area is greater than 10 hectares (in which case an EIA is also required),
- An Appropriate Assessment is required,
- The area is less than 10 hectares, and it is deemed a sub-threshold EIA is required,
- The project would be contrary to a planning condition attached to a planning permission relating to the site
- The project would interfere with the character of a landscape, view or prospect designated of special amenity value in the County Development Plan, in including any draft variation to the plan or draft new County Development Plan,
- The project would impact on archaeological sites or National Monuments,
- The project is in an area subject to a special amenity order and the order states such projects shall be prevented or limited in that area,
- The project would be likely to have an adverse impact on a Natural Heritage Area (NHA),
- The project would obstruct a public right of way,
- The project would involve the fencing or enclosure of land habitually open to or used by the public during the 10 years preceding for recreational purposes or as a means of access to any seashore, mountain, lakeshore, riverbank or other place of natural beauty or recreational utility.

The circular above largely reflects the content of Article 9 of the Regs which is assessed under the relevant section below.

Article 9 Restrictions

Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2025	
Article 9(1)	

Development to which article 6 relates shall not be exempted development for the purposes of the Act— (a) if the carrying out of such development would—	
(i) contravene a condition attached to a permission under the Act or be inconsistent with any use specified in a permission under the Act,	N/A
(ii) consist of or comprise the formation, laying out or material widening of a means of access to a public road the surfaced carriageway of which exceeds 4 metres in width,	N/A
(iii) endanger public safety by reason of traffic hazard or obstruction of road users,	N/A
(iiia) endanger public safety by reason of hazardous glint and/or glare for the operation of airports, aerodromes or aircraft,	N/A
(iv) except in the case of a porch to which class 7 specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 applies and which complies with the conditions and limitations specified in column 2 of the said Part 1 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1, comprise the construction, erection, extension or renewal of a building on any street so as to bring forward the building, or any part of the building, beyond the front wall of the building on either side thereof or beyond a line determined as the building line in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,	N/A
(v) consist of or comprise the carrying out under a public road of works other than a connection to a wired broadcast relay service, sewer, water main, gas main or electricity supply line or cable, or any works to which class 25, 26 or 31 (a) specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 applies,	N/A
(vi) interfere with the character of a landscape, or a view or prospect of special amenity value or special interest, the preservation of which is an objective of a development plan for the area in which the development is proposed or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,	N/A

(vii) consist of or comprise the excavation, alteration or demolition (other than peat extraction) of places, caves, sites, features or other objects of archaeological, geological, historical, scientific or ecological interest, the preservation, conservation or protection of which is an objective of a development plan or local area plan for the area in which the development is proposed or, pending the variation of a development plan or local area plan, or the making of a new development plan or local area plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the local area plan or the draft development plan or draft local area plan,	N/A
(viiA) consist of or comprise the excavation, alteration or demolition of any archaeological monument included in the Record of Monuments and Places, pursuant to section 12 (1) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994, save that this provision shall not apply to any excavation or any works, pursuant to and in accordance with a consent granted under section 14 or a licence granted under section 26 of the National Monuments Act 1930 (No. 2 of 1930) as amended,	N/A
(viiB) comprise development in relation to which a planning authority or An Bord Pleanála is the competent authority in relation to appropriate assessment and the development would require an appropriate assessment because it would be likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of a European site,	N/A
(viiC) consist of or comprise development which would be likely to have an adverse impact on an area designated as a natural heritage area by order made under section 18 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000.	N/A
(viii) consist of or comprise the extension, alteration, repair or renewal of an unauthorised structure or a structure the use of which is an unauthorised use,	N/A
(ix) consist of the demolition or such alteration of a building or other structure as would preclude or restrict the continuance of an existing use of a building or other structure where it is an objective of the planning authority to ensure that the building or other structure would remain available for such use and such objective has been specified in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,	N/A
(x) consist of the fencing or enclosure of any land habitually open to or used by the public during the 10 years preceding such fencing or enclosure for recreational purposes or as a means of access to any	N/A

seashore, mountain, lakeshore, riverbank or other place of natural beauty or recreational utility,	
(xi) obstruct any public right of way,	N/A
(xii) further to the provisions of section 82 of the Act, consist of or comprise the carrying out of works to the exterior of a structure, where the structure concerned is located within an architectural conservation area or an area specified as an architectural conservation area in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan and the development would materially affect the character of the area,	N/A
(b) in an area to which a special amenity area order relates, if such development would be development:—	
(i) of class 1, 3, 11, 16, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 31, (other than paragraph (a) thereof), 33 (c) (including the laying out and use of land for golf or pitch and putt or sports involving the use of motor vehicles, aircraft or firearms), 39, 44 or 50(a) specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2, or	N/A
(ii) consisting of the use of a structure or other land for the exhibition of advertisements of class 1, 4, 6, 11, 16 or 17 specified in column 1 of Part 2 of the said Schedule or the erection of an advertisement structure for the exhibition of any advertisement of any of the said classes, or	N/A
(iii) of class 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13 specified in column 1 of Part 3 of the said Schedule, or	N/A
(iv) of any class of Parts 1, 2 or 3 of Schedule 2 not referred to in subparagraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) where it is stated in the order made under section 202 of the Act that such development shall be prevented or limited,	N/A
(c) if it is development to which Part 10 applies, unless the development is required by or under any statutory provision (other than the Act or these Regulations) to comply with procedures for the purpose of giving effect to the Council Directive,	N/A
(d) if it consists of the provision of, or modifications to, an establishment, and could have significant repercussions on major accident hazards.	N/A
Article 9(2) Sub-article (1)(a)(vi) shall not apply where the development consists of the construction by any electricity undertaking of an overhead line or cable not exceeding 100 metres in length for the purpose of conducting electricity from a distribution or transmission line to any premises.	N/A

Article 9 (3) For the avoidance of doubt, sub-article (1)(a)(vii) shall not apply to any operation or activity in respect of which a Minister of the Government has granted consent or approval in accordance with the requirements of regulation 31 of the Habitats Regulations 1997, and where regulation 31(5) does not apply.	N/A

Appropriate Assessment

Having regard to the nature and scale of the proposed development and the absence of proximity or connectivity to a Natura 2000 European Site, no Appropriate Assessment issues arise, and it is not considered that the proposed development would be likely to have a significant effect individually or in combination with other plans or projects, on a European Site. An appropriate assessment screening report and determination is attached to this report.

Environmental Impact Assessment

Having regard to the nature, size and location of the proposed development and to the criteria set out in Schedule 7 of the Regulations it has been concluded at preliminary examination that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development. EIA, therefore, is not required.

Conclusion/Recommendation

The proposal to remove 11.32 ha of ash due to disease and replant it with a mix of Sikta Spruce and additional Broadleaves is considered development but is considered exempted development under Class 16 of Schedule 2, Part 3 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Regard has been had to –

- (a) Sections 2, 3 and 4 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended);
- (b) Article 6 & 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended);
- (c) The plans and particulars submitted with the application received on the 30th of July 2026

It is therefore considered that the said works constitute development and exempted development under Class 16 of Schedule 2, Part 3 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Student Planner	Conor Deering	Date: 10/08/2026
Signature:		
Senior Executive Planner	Barry Henn	Date: 25/05/2026

Signature	B. Ham	
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Appendix 1: AA PN01 Screening Form

STEP 1: Description of the project/proposal and local site characteristics:	
(e) File Reference No:	EC-138-26
(e) Brief description of the project or plan:	proposing to remove 11.32 ha of ash due to disease and replant it with a mix of Sikta Spruce and additional Broadleaves.
(e) Brief description of site characteristics:	The subject site is located in the rural townland of Creggane. It is a private wooded area which may only be accessed by foot or off-road vehicles. The main point of access to the site can be considered to be the L-8580 Creggane road. The site contains 11.32 ha. It is roughly 5 km away from Bruree.
(e) Relevant prescribed bodies consulted: e.g. DHLGH (NPWS), EPA, OPW	N/A
(e) Response to consultation:	N

STEP 2: Identification of relevant Natura 2000 sites using Source-Pathway-Receptor model and compilation of information on Qualifying Interests and conservation objectives.				
European Site (code)	List of Qualifying Interest/Special Conservation Interest ¹	Distance from proposed development ² (km)	Connections (Source-Pathway-Receptors)	Considered further in screening Y/N
002170 Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC	https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/002170	7.8 km	N/A	N

STEP 3: Assessment of Likely Significant Effects	
(a) Identify all potential direct and indirect impacts that may have an effect on the conservation objectives of a European site, taking into account the size and scale of the project under the following headings:	
Impacts:	Possible Significance of Impacts: (duration/Magnitude etc)
Construction phase e.g - Vegetation clearance - Demolition - Surface water runoff from soil excavation/infill/landscaping (including borrow pits) - Dust, noise, vibration - Lighting disturbance - Impact on groundwater/dewatering	None. No direct encroachment or hydrological connection.

- Storage of excavated/construction materials - Access to site - Pests	
Operation phase e.g. - Direct emission to air and water - Surface water runoff containing contaminant or sediment - Lighting disturbance - Noise/vibration - Changes to water/groundwater due to drainage or abstraction - Presence of people, vehicles and activities - Physical presence of structures (e.g collision risk) - Potential for accidents or incidents	None. No direct encroachment or hydrological connection
In-combination/Other	N/A.

(a) Describe any likely changes to the European site:	
Examples of the type of changes to give consideration to include: - Reduction or fragmentation of habitat area - Disturbance to QI species - Habitat or species fragmentation - Reduction or fragmentation in species density - Changes in key indicators of conservation status value (water or air quality etc) - Changes to areas of sensitivity or threats to QI - Interference with the key relationships that define the structure or ecological function of the site	None. No direct encroachment or hydrological connection.

(a) (Are 'mitigation' measures necessary to reach a conclusion that likely significant effects can be ruled out at screening?)	
☐ Yes	☒ No

STEP 4: Screening Determination Statement
The assessment of significance of effects: Describe how the proposed development alone or in-combination is/is not likely to have significant effects on European site (s) in view of its conservation objectives.

Given the sites size, no hydrological connection to any SAC/SPA, no encroachment on any SAC/SPA and the limited scale of the development proposed, an AA is not required.		
Conclusion: AA is not required.		
	Tick as appropriate:	Recommendation:
i. It is clear that there is no likelihood of significant effects on a European Site	☒	The proposal can be screened out: Appropriate Assessment not required.
ii. It is uncertain whether the proposal will have a significant effect on a European Site	☐	☐ Request further information to complete screening ☐ Request NIS ☐ Refuse planning permission
iii. Significant effects are likely	☐	☐ Request NIS ☐ Refuse planning permission
Signature and Date of Recommending Officer:	 _____ 10/08/2026	
Signature and Date of the Decision Maker:	 _____ 25/08/2026	

Appendix 2: EIA Screening

Establishing if the proposal is a 'sub-threshold development':		
Planning Register Reference:	EC-138-26	
Development Summary:	proposing to remove 11.32 ha of ash due to disease and replant it with a mix of Sikta Spruce and additional Broadleaves.	
Was a Screening Determination carried out under Section 176A-C?	Yes. no further action required No. Proceed to Part A	
A. Schedule 5 Part 1 - Does the development comprise a project listed in Schedule 5, Part 1 , of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)? (Tick as appropriate)		
☐ Yes. specify class: [insert here] _		EIA is mandatory No Screening required
☒ No		Proceed to Part B
B. Schedule 5 Part 2 - Does the development comprise a project listed in Schedule 5, Part 2 , of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and does it meet/exceed the thresholds? (Tick as appropriate)		
☐ No. the development is not a project listed in Schedule 5, Part 2		No Screening required
☐ Yes the project is listed in Schedule 5, Part 2 and meets/exceeds the threshold, specify class (including threshold): __[specify class & threshold here]__		EIA is mandatory No Screening required
☒	Yes the project is of a type listed but is <i>sub-threshold</i> : 1. Agriculture, Silviculture and Aquaculture (d) Replacement of broadleaf high forest by conifer species, where the area involved would be greater than 10 hectares	Proceed to Part C

c. If Yes, has Schedule 7A information/screening report been submitted?	
Yes, Schedule 7A information/screening report has been submitted by the applicant	Screening Determination required
X - No, Schedule 7A information/screening report has not been submitted by the applicant	Preliminary Examination required

Preliminary Examination: The planning authority shall carry out a preliminary examination of, at the least, the nature, size or location of the development.		
	Comment:	Yes/No/Uncertain:
Nature of the development: <i>Is the nature of the proposed development exceptional in the context of the existing environment?</i> <i>Will the development result in the production of any significant waste, or result in significant emissions or pollutants?</i>	The site is located in a rural area where there is evidence of existing forestry already taking place. The proposal would result in the removal of ash trees due to the presence of disease and replanting the area with a mixture of broadleaf species and Sitka Spruce. The ash trees that are proposed to be removed would be mulched on site therefore no significant waste would be produced, and any works would be temporary. Given the nature of the works including planting no significant emissions of pollutants would be produced.	
Size of the development: <i>Is the size of the proposed development exceptional in the context of the existing environment?</i> <i>Are there cumulative considerations having regard to other existing and/or permitted projects?</i>	The size of the development is not exceptional in the context of the existing rural area. There are no significant existing or permitted projects in the immediate area other than agricultural buildings.	
Location: <i>Is the proposed development located on, in, adjoining or does it have the potential to impact on an ecologically sensitive site or location?^[1]</i> <i>Does the proposed development have the potential to affect other significant environmental sensitivities in the area?</i>	There are no ecologically sensitive locations in the vicinity of the site. The nearest European site is located approximately 7.6 km to the south but is not hydrologically connected to this site. There is a stream located to the north of the site but given the separation distances involved it is not considered that it would have a material impact.	

	There are no other environmental sensitivities in the area.	
Preliminary Examination Conclusion:		
Based on a preliminary examination of the nature, size or location of the development. (Tick as appropriate)		
X There is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment. EIA is not required.	There is real likelihood of significant effects on the environment. An EIAR is required.	There is significant and realistic doubt regarding the likelihood of significant effects on the environment. Request the applicant to submit the Information specified in Schedule 7A for the purposes of a screening determination. Proceed to Screening Determination.

[1] Sensitive locations or features includes European sites, NHA/pNHA, Designated Nature Reserves, land designated as a refuge for flora and fauna, and any other ecological site which is the objective of a CDP/LAP (including draft plans).

Signature and Date of Recommending Officer:	 _____ 10/08/2026
Signature and Date of the Decision Maker:	 _____ 25/08/2026

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT, PLANNING

REG POST:

Helena Rea
c/o Maurice Stack – SWS Forestry Service
Gate Lodge,
West Cork Technology Park,
Clonakilty,
Co. Cork.

EC/138/26

25 August 2026

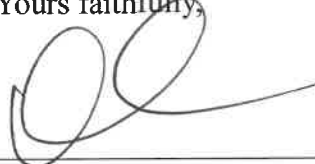
Re: Declaration under Section 5

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the above application for Section 5 Declaration on Development and Exempted Development.

Please find herewith a copy of Council's decision on same.

Yours faithfully,



(for) Senior Planner,
Development Management

LIMERICK CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL

APPROVED OFFICER'S ORDER

SECTION 5 – DECLARATION ON DEVELOPMENT AND EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENT

No. AOO/DC/2026/1072

File Ref No. EC/138/26

SUBJECT: Declaration under Section 5.
Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended
Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended

RE: Removal of 11.32 ha of ash due to disease and replant it with a mix of Sikta Spruce and additional Broadleaves at Creggane, Co. Limerick

ORDER: Whereas by Director General's Order No. DG/2026/056 dated 25th May 2026, Dr. Pat Daly, Director General, Limerick City & County Council did, pursuant to the powers conferred on him by Section 154 of the Local Government Act, 2001, (as amended by the Local Government Reform Act, 2014 and the Local Government (Mayor of Limerick) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 2024), delegate unto Barry Henn, Senior Executive Planner the functions as defined in the Local Government Acts, 1925 to 2024.

Now therefore pursuant to the delegation of the functions aforesaid, I, Barry Henn, Senior Executive Planner, having considered the report and recommendation of Conor Deering, Student Planner dated 10/08/2026, hereby order that a Declaration under Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) be issued to Helena Rea, c/o Maurice Stack – SWS Forestry Service, Gate Lodge, West Cork Technology Park, Clonakilty, Co. Cork to state that the works as described above is

Development and is Exempt Development.

Signed

B. Henn

SENIOR EXECUTIVE PLANNER, DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT,
PLANNING

Date

25/09/2026



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City
& County Council

An Roinn Pleanála
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh
Bóthar Thuar an Dail
Tuar an Dail
Luimneach
V94 WV78

Planning Department
Limerick City & County Council
Dooradoyle Road
Dooradoyle
Limerick
V94 WV78

t: 061 556 000

SECTION 5 – DECLARATION ON DEVELOPMENT AND EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENT

DECLARATION NO.

EC/138/26

Name and Address of Applicant: Helena Rea, Beechfield, Cooleens, Charleville, Co. Cork

Agent: Maurice Stack – SWS Forestry Service, Gate Lodge, West Cork
Technology Park, Clonakilty, Co. Cork

Whether the removal of 11.32 ha of ash due to disease and replant it with a mix of Sikta Spruce and additional Broadleaves at Creggane, Co. Limerick is or is not Development or is or is not Exempted Development. The works as described on the plans submitted with the application on the 30th day of July 2026.

AND WHEREAS the Planning Authority has concluded that the removal of 11.32 ha of ash due to disease and replant it with a mix of Sikta Spruce and additional Broadleaves at Creggane, Co. Limerick **DOES** come within the scope of exempted development under Class 16 of Schedule 2, Part 3 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended). See Report attached.

NOW THEREFORE the Planning Authority in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5(2) (a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) hereby decides that the said development as described above is **Development and is Exempted Development.**

Signed on behalf of the said Council

Date: 25/08/2026

NOTE: A Declaration on Development or Exemption issued by Limerick City & County Council may be referred to An Coimisiún Pleanála on payment of €220 for review within 4 weeks after the issuing of the declaration.