

Public

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	Irish Community Nursing PPP
Project Number:	2019-0618
Country:	Ireland
Project Description:	The project comprises the design, build, finance and maintenance of seven new Community Nursing Units (CNU) in different locations across Ireland using a PPP framework.
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The Project comprises the design, build, finance and maintenance of seven new Community Nursing Units in different locations across Ireland (Ardee, Athlone, Clonmel, Killarney, Midelton, St. Finbarrs and Thomastown) using a PPP framework.

The new CNUs will replace existing facilities, which do not meet the regulatory requirements due aging infrastructure, which is not fit for purpose. The new facilities will be designed according to the “*The National Standards for Residential Care Settings for Older People in Ireland in Ireland —HIQA 2016*”.

The new CNUs will be designed and built according to the Irish nearly zero energy buildings (NZEB) standard.

Long-term care facilities are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU, though the project falls under Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development, leaving it at the discretion of the responsible competent authority. According to the Promoter, none of the projects are covered by the factors that meet the requirements for an EIA.

Biodiversity:

In Killarney, a Natura Impact Assessment was required due to the presence of the lesser horseshoe bat. The assessment concluded that the bats’ habitat would be preserved by incorporating measures including rehousing bats under licence, and maintaining and/or infilling tree lines to provide foraging areas.

Luxembourg, 23rd April 2020

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

Historical and Cultural heritage:

Where needed, conservation (architectural heritage) impact assessments were undertaken, concluding that there will be minimal impact on the protected structures from the proposed developments.

In Thomastown and St. Finbarr's the competent authority has requested further assessments on the impact related to cultural heritage that once concluded will be submitted to the Bank.

Overall, these new facilities will improve quality of care and safety. Due to the reduced footprint and the use of new materials and technologies, the new buildings will increase the overall energy efficiency of the promoter's nursing care infrastructure.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Project comprises the design, build, finance and maintenance of seven new Community Nursing Units in different locations across Ireland using a PPP framework.

The new CNU's will be designed and built according to the Irish nearly zero energy buildings (NZEB) standard.

The promoter has stated that no environmental impact assessment will be needed for any of the construction sites; however, this will be confirmed at Stage II of the EIB's appraisal process.

If successful, the project will improve the delivery of care within e.g. elderly population and other people in need of care affecting hundreds of people in the designated regions in Ireland and includes beneficial elements in terms of social cohesion and protection. As such, the project presents high potential health and social benefits for the society. In light of the above, the project is considered acceptable for financing by the Bank.

PJ/SQM/ECSO 18.03.2020