

## Chamberlain Greg

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**From:** O'Malley Vincent  
**Sent:** Tuesday 6 July 2021 12:05  
**To:** Chamberlain Greg  
**Cc:** Nea Christian  
**Subject:** RE: Re. MN-N02-004.00 (Blaney Bridge) [Reactive Maintenance]

Greg,  
Having reviewed the content of the Atkins email, I accept the reasoned determination as set out below.  
Sincerely  
Vincent

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**From:** Chamberlain Greg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday 6 July 2021 10:11  
**To:** O'Malley Vincent [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Nea Christian [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Re. MN-N02-004.00 (Blaney Bridge) [Reactive Maintenance]  
Vincent

Having reviewed Paul's email below and having regard to the nature of the works, I recommend that the following reasoned determination can be made:

*Having performed screening for Appropriate Assessment in respect of the proposed reactive maintenance works detailed in the email received from Paul O'Donoghue dated the 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2021, and entitled Re. MN-N02-004.00 (Blaney Bridge) [Reactive Maintenance] I accept the recommendations of Atkins that the proposed reactive maintenance works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European site in view of the best scientific knowledge and the site's conservation objectives. I determine that an Appropriate Assessment of these proposed works is not required, as it can be excluded on the basis of objective scientific information following the screening done that the proposed works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European site.*

Kind Regards

Greg

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

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**From:** [O'Donoghue, Paul](#)  
**Sent:** Monday 5 July 2021 17:04  
**To:** [Chamberlain Greg](#)  
**Cc:** [Nea Christian](#); [Gegan, John](#); [Jennings, Martin](#); [Daly, Vincent](#)  
**Subject:** Re. MN-N02-004.00 (Blaney Bridge) [Reactive Maintenance]

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Greg

Re. MN-N02-004.00 (Blaney Bridge) [Reactive Maintenance]

Blaney Bridge is on the N2 Regional road on the northern side of Emyvale, Co. Monaghan; as shown below circled in red (Source: NBDC webviewer).



**Existing Damage:**

Following vehicular impact, the north end section of the east parapet wall has been demolished from ground level with the resultant masonry debris largely lying on the adjoining northeast river embankment and roadside along the verge (next to the damaged section of wall), with some masonry debris lying in the watercourse below. Some minor vehicle crash debris was also noted along the demolished section of wall and on the adjoining river embankment. The length of demolished wall measures 2100mm in length, 1100mm high, 450mm thick. Previous repairs to a vertical stepped joint crack was evident located a further 1500mm along from the end of the demolished section of wall. The traffic face of this section of wall between the end of the demolished section of wall and the visible crack in the wall showed areas of random joint cracking 1 – 3mm wide with a notable horizontal joint crack 10mm wide under the wall capping. The section of wall immediately adjoining the demolished section of wall, extending over a length of 0.5m, is in disrepair and shows dislodged and loose masonry. Minor areas of isolated dislodged/loose masonry was noted to the spandrel wall below; i.e. above the watercourse. The base of the parapet wall shows some movement and is separated by up to 30mm from the adjoining hard verge. Photos of damage attached.

**Scope of Works:**

- Rebuild north end section of east parapet wall extending from north end of wall to beyond existing vertical stepped crack (showing previous repairs) to tie in and match existing wall construction. The extent of damage that warrants masonry repairs measures 2m<sup>3</sup> and extends 3800mm in length from the north end of the wall and includes both rebuilding the demolished section of wall and the defective section of existing wall extending from the end of the demolished section of wall to the existing vertical stepped joint cracking showing previous repairs.
- Carry out minor masonry repairs to east spandrel wall (0.1m<sup>3</sup>)
- Grout/seal open gap between base of parapet and adjoining hard verge (8m)
- Remove 1m<sup>2</sup> of resultant masonry debris from watercourse below.
- Remove metal/plastic/glass and miscellaneous stone debris from embankment/roadside of wall (5m<sup>2</sup>)
- Reinstall Structure Identification plate to wall.



The damaged wall is to be deconstructed to stable material, and then fully reconstructed using hand tools to tie in with the existing wall utilising the existing non-defective stone masonry facings salvaged from the embankment and watercourse, or if not possible, new locally sourced stone masonry to match existing wall, and lime mortars. The mortar will be mixed away from the structure to prevent contamination of the watercourse. All damaged masonry sections not suitable for re-use and other debris resulting from the damage to be disposed off-site. Measures will also be implemented to prevent materials from entering the watercourse during the works. Repairs to the spandrel wall will take place directly above the watercourse. None of the other construction works will take place directly above the watercourse but as a precautionary measure silt fencing to control and prevent any pollution of the watercourse will be erected at the edge of the works to intercept any runoff that might arise from the construction works. In order to undertake works, the Contractor will have to scaffold over the stream to carry out repairs. Scaffold will extend from bank to bank and thus will not be within the river. It will be polythene and geotextile lined to prevent material from entering the stream. Passage along the river and through the arch will not be prevented. All works will be within daylight hours and works will take 3 days to complete.

#### **Ecological Characteristics.**

Blaney Bridge crosses the Lisavary Stream, a tributary of the River Blackwater, which itself is within the Lough Neagh and Lower Bann WFD Catchment in Northern Ireland. Lough Neagh & Lough Beg SPA [UK 9020091] in Northern Ireland is greater than 50km d/s of Blaney Bridge. The bridge is not in any way within or connected to a European site in the Republic of Ireland.

Emy Lough pNHA (000558) is located immediately to the east of Emyvale. The works on the Lisavary Stream are not hydrologically linked to the pNHA.

There are no records of knotweeds, such as Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*); or Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) or Giant-rhubarb (*Gunnera* asp.) from the bridge location (Source: NBDC).

There are no records of protected species such as Otter (*Lutra lutra*) or white-clawed crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*) from this location (Source: NBDC), though it is highly probable that otter occur on the river. The river is not within a *Margaritifera* sensitive area. The bridge parapet proposed for repair is not suitable for supporting roosting bats.

#### Atkins Findings -

This Screening for Appropriate Assessment is based on the best available scientific information. It is concluded that the proposed project poses no likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites, either alone or in combination with other projects. Thus, it is recommended that it is not necessary for the proposed project to proceed to Appropriate Assessment.

#### Findings of TII Appropriate Assessment -

#### **Can you please provide a Reasoned Determination?**

Paul

**Paul O' Donoghue** BSc PhD CEnV MCIEEM

Associate Director, Ecology

Ireland  
[REDACTED]

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