

## Colin Murphy

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**From:** O'Donoghue, Paul <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 24 March 2026 11:16  
**To:** Colin Murphy  
**Cc:** Vincent O'Malley; Christian Nea; Keir Wilson; Schmidt, Alec; Daly, Vincent  
**Subject:** RE: Re. Glenbeigh Bridge (KY-N70-021.00) – Non routine maintenance

Colin

Hi. Thanks for sending on.

Paul

**Paul O'Donoghue** BSc MSc PhD MCIEEM CEnV  
Associate Director (Ecologist)

[REDACTED]  
Unit 2B, 2200 Cork Airport Business Park  
Cork, T12 R279, Ireland

**AtkinsRéalis**

AtkinsRéalis - Baseline / Référence

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**From:** Colin Murphy <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 24, 2026 8:01 AM  
**To:** O'Donoghue, Paul <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Vincent O'Malley <[REDACTED]>; Christian Nea <[REDACTED]> Keir Wilson  
[REDACTED]; Schmidt, Alec <[REDACTED]>; Daly, Vincent  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Re. Glenbeigh Bridge (KY-N70-021.00) – Non routine maintenance

Paul,

Please see reasoned determination for the proposed non-routine works below.

Regards,  
Colin Murphy  
Ecologist  
Transport Infrastructure Ireland

Address: [Parkgate Business Centre, Parkgate Place, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8, Ireland, D08 DK10](#)



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**From:** Vincent O'Malley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday 23 March 2026 15:43  
**To:** Colin Murphy <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Christian Nea <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: Re. Glenbeigh Bridge (KY-N70-021.00) – Non routine maintenance

Hi Colin,  
Thanks for your email.  
I have reviewed the content of the email, including the attachments and I accept the reasoned determination set out below.  
Sincerely  
Vincent

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*Dr Vincent O'Malley*  
*Head of Environmental Policy & Compliance,*  
*Transport Infrastructure Ireland*  
[www.tii.ie](http://www.tii.ie)

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**From:** Colin Murphy <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday 19 March 2026 10:13  
**To:** Vincent O'Malley <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Christian Nea <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Re. Glenbeigh Bridge (KY-N70-021.00) – Non routine maintenance

Hi Vincent,

We have received an AA screening from AtkinsRéalis for proposed non-routine maintenance at Glenbeigh Bridge (KY-N70-021.00) which is situated along the N70 to the southwest of the village of Glenbeigh, Co. Kerry. I would be grateful if you could review the information below and provide a reasoned determination.

As noted in the email below, the proposed works will involve the repair of the Glenbeigh bridge which has become damaged. The works will involve repair to the parapet wall and will involve a full rebuild. The proposed works will occur over water. A scaffold unit will be set up in the river to provide a safe working platform. The scaffold planks will be covered with polythene to stop anything falling into the river. The Contractor is expected to mobilise in late March 2026, and the proposed works are expected to take 2 days.

The Glenbeigh Bridge lies above the River Behy and is not directly within any Natura 2000 site. The Behy River flows into Castlemaine Harbour approximately 4km downstream. Within Castlemaine Harbour lie two Natura 2000 sites: Castlemaine Harbour SAC and Castlemaine Harbour SPA. Therefore, hydrological connectivity between the proposed works and these two Natura 2000 sites exists. Castlemaine Harbour SAC is designed for 19 species/habitats while designated for 17 QI species/habitats. The River Behy contains records of Atlantic salmon (connected to the Castlemaine Harbour SAC), otter (also a QI) and freshwater pearl mussel (not a QI of Castlemaine SAC but recorded approx. 1.2km downstream of the bridge). However, necessary precautions have been put in place to prevent unnecessary disturbance to the riverbed and subsequently to these species. Access to the watercourse will be limited to a scaffold unit being installed and removed across two days. Furthermore, the scaffold will have planks to prevent any materials falling into the watercourse, thus impacts to water quality and species therein is not envisaged.

As noted below, AtkinsRéalis have determined that the works will result in no likely significant effects on the aforementioned Natura 2000 sites due to the short and small nature of the works, the preventative measures associated with the scaffolding and standard biosecurity practices to be in place during the proposed works.

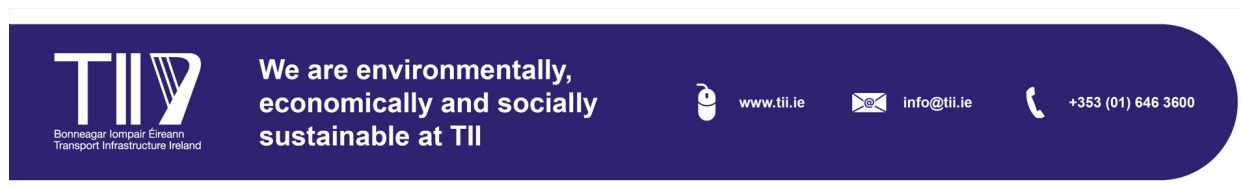
Based on the description of the proposed works and associated methodologies provided by AtkinsRéalis, I agree with the conclusion that the proposed works will not lead to likely significant effects on any Natura 2000 sites.

Having performed screening for Appropriate Assessment in respect of the proposed non-routine works detailed in the Appropriate Assessment Screening received in an email from Paul O'Donoghue on the 13th of March 2026, and entitled 'Glenbeigh Bridge (KY-N70-021.00) – Non routine maintenance', I accept the recommendation of AtkinsRéalis that the proposed works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on any Natura 2000 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 Natura 2000 site.

Regards,

Colin Murphy  
Ecologist  
Transport Infrastructure Ireland

Address: [Parkgate Business Centre, Parkgate Place, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8, Ireland, D08 DK10](#)



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**From:** O'Donoghue, Paul [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday 13 March 2026 15:27  
**To:** Christian Nea [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Colin Murphy [REDACTED]; Daly, Vincent [REDACTED]; Jennings, Martin [REDACTED]; Schmidt, Alec [REDACTED]; Keir Wilson [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re. Glenbeigh Bridge (KY-N70-021.00) – Non routine maintenance

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**Re. Glenbeigh Bridge (KY-N70-021.00) – Non routine maintenance**

AtkinsRéalis have been requested to undertake Stage 1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment in anticipation of the proposed non-routine maintenance at Glenbeigh NS Bridge (KY-N70-021.00) which is situated along the N70 to the southwest of the village of Glenbeigh (Figure 1). The proposed non-routine maintenance work involves the rebuild of the damaged northern parapet wall. The proposed works are not related to or directly associated with the management of any Natura 2000 site(s).

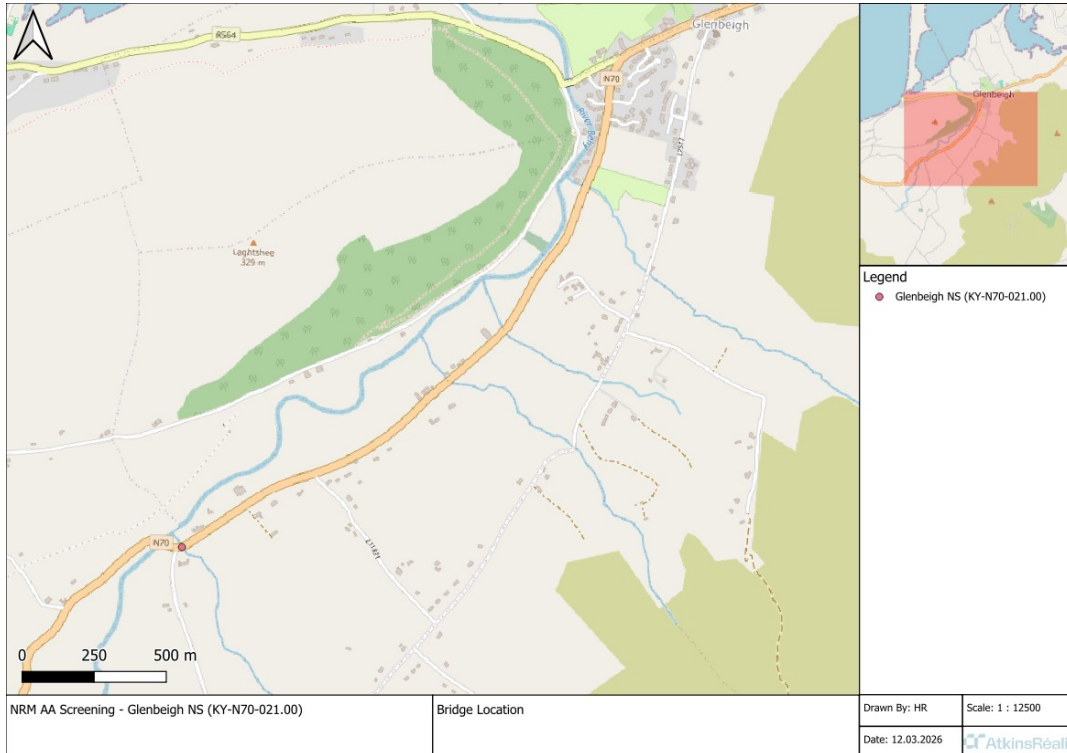


**Figure 1:** Location of Glenbeigh NS (KY-N70-021.00) on the N70 southwest of Glenbeigh, Co. Kerry.



**Figure 2:** The damaged parapet wall on the roadside of the bridge.



**Figure 3:** The damaged parapet wall on the water-side of the bridge.

### **Proposed Works**

The northern parapet wall of the Glenbeigh NS (KY-N70-021.00) bridge has been damaged. The bridge is a single-span stone bridge that carries the N70 over the Behy River. The Contractor (Cumnor Construction) has been commissioned by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to carry out the repairs to the parapet wall (see Figure 2 and 3, above). The full scope of works is as follows:

- A full rebuild of the damaged parapet is required over a length of 1.2m x 1.05m high x 0.4m wide,
- A partial rebuild is required over a length of 2m x 0.4m high x 0.4m wide.

The proposed works will partially occur over water. The Contractor is expected to mobilise in late March 2026, and the proposed works are expected to take 2 days. Access to the bridge will be from the N70 road, where one lane of traffic will be closed to facilitate the works. All plant and materials will be removed from the site upon the conclusion of the works.

### **Methodology**

#### **Temporary Traffic Management (TTM)**

1. Before any works commence, the TTM will be set up as per the approved drawing (Page 3 of RAMS).
2. The lane adjacent to the proposed works will be closed for the duration of the works.
3. All materials will be stored with the TTM set up.
4. Safety barriers will be placed around the works area.

#### **Parapet Wall Repairs**

1. A scaffold unit will be set up in the river to provide a safe working platform. The scaffold planks will be covered with polythene to stop anything falling into the river.
2. The damaged sections of the parapet will be demolished using a kango and hand tools.
  - a. The power will be supplied via an on-site diesel generator.
3. Existing stone will be salvaged where possible and new material will be brought on site as required.
  - a. New material will match existing stone.
  - b. Stone will be stored on site in tonne bags.
4. The damaged section of the wall will be reinstated.

5. Stonemasons will ensure the coursing and alignment match the adjacent undamaged sections.
6. Pointing finish will be carried out to match the existing style of the undamaged sections.
7. De-mobilisation will begin once repointing has been completed.
  - a. Materials will be removed off site.
  - b. TTM will be removed.
  - c. Site cleanup will occur.

### **Ecological Constraints**

The Glenbeigh NS Bridge lies above the River Behy and is not directly within any Natura 2000 site. The Behy River flows into Castlemaine Harbour approximately 4km downstream. Within Castlemaine Harbour lie two Natura 2000 sites: Castlemaine Harbour SAC and Castlemaine Harbour SPA. Therefore, hydrological connectivity between the proposed works and these two Natura 2000 sites exists.

Castlemaine Harbour SPA extends into Dingle Bay and is designated for 17 QI species/habitats, namely Red-throated Diver (*Gavia stellata*) [A001], Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) [A017], Light-bellied Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla hrota*) [A046], Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) [A053], Pintail (*Anas acuta*) [A054], Scaup (*Aythya marila*) [A062], Common Scoter (*Melanitta nigra*) [A065], Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*) [A130], Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*) [A137], Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) [A144], Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) [A157], Redshank (*Tringa totanus*) [A162], Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) [A164], Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) [A169], Chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*) [A346], Wigeon (*Mareca penelope*) [A855] and Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]. More information is available at <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/spa/004029>.

Castlemaine Harbour SAC is designated for 19 QI species/habitats, namely Estuaries [1130], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230], *Salicornia* and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Atlantic salt meadows (*Glaucopuccinellietalia maritima*) [1330], Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*) [1410], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes) [2120], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130], Dunes with *Salix repens* ssp. *argentea* (*Salicion arenariae*) [2170], Humid dune slacks [2190], Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion*, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*) [91E0], *Petromyzon marinus* (Sea Lamprey) [1095], *Lampetra fluviatilis* (River Lamprey) [1099], *Salmo salar* (Salmon) [1106], *Lutra lutra* (Otter) [1355] and *Petalophyllum ralfsii* (Petalwort) [1395]. More information is available at <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/000343>.

The section of the River Behy which Glenbeigh NS Bridge lies above has a WFD status of 'Moderate' and is 'At Risk' of deteriorating due to pollution. The downstream section of the river is 'Good' and 'Not at Risk'. Castlemaine Harbour is 'Poor' and 'Not at Risk'.

The River Behy contains records of Atlantic salmon (connected to the Castlemaine Harbour SAC), otter (also a QI) and freshwater pearl mussel (not a QI but recorded approx. 1.2km downstream of the bridge). However, necessary precautions have been put in place to prevent unnecessary disturbance to the riverbed and subsequently to these species. Access to the watercourse will be limited to a scaffold unit being installed and removed across two days. Furthermore, the scaffold will have planks to prevent any materials falling into the watercourse, thus impacts to water quality and species therein is not envisaged. The area immediately surrounding the bridge is not suitable habitat for freshwater pearl mussel. Atlantic salmon and Otter are likely to use the watercourse. In the case of otter, all works will take place in daylight hours. The type and short duration of works will only result in temporary disturbance. Apart from the short duration when it is necessary to break out the damage parapet, disturbance from noise is not anticipated.

The bridge does not represent suitable habitat for any bird species associated with the SPA and given the short and small nature of the works, and the distance between the SPA and the proposed works, there is no potential for disturbance to the QI bird species associated with the SPA.

Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) has been recorded within 2km of the bridge. Standard biosecurity best practice with respect to preventing the spread of invasive plant species is to be implemented.

### **Screening Determination**

Hydrological connectivity exists between the proposed works and two Natura 2000 sites; Castlemaine Harbour SPA and Castlemaine Harbour SAC. The in-stream works involve the placing and removal of the mobile scaffold unit. The scaffold unit implementation includes measures to prevent any pollutants falling into the watercourse. Otter, freshwater pearl mussel and Atlantic salmon are all present in the downstream waters. Given the short and small nature of the works, the preventative measures associated with the scaffolding and standard biosecurity practices to be in place during the proposed works, no impacts to these species, and thus the SPA and SAC are envisaged.

This Stage 1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment is based on the best available scientific information. If the scope of the proposed works changes, a new screening determination may be required. It is concluded that the works, as currently proposed, will result in no likely significant effects on the aforementioned 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.

**Note:** - Freshwater pearl mussel (not a QI) has been recorded approx. 1.2km downstream of the bridge. All appropriate precautions are to be taken to prevent any negative instream impacts. Contractor's ecologist to advise as appropriate

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

Associate Director (Ecologist)



Unit 2B, 2200 Cork Airport Business Park  
Cork, T12 R279, Ireland

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