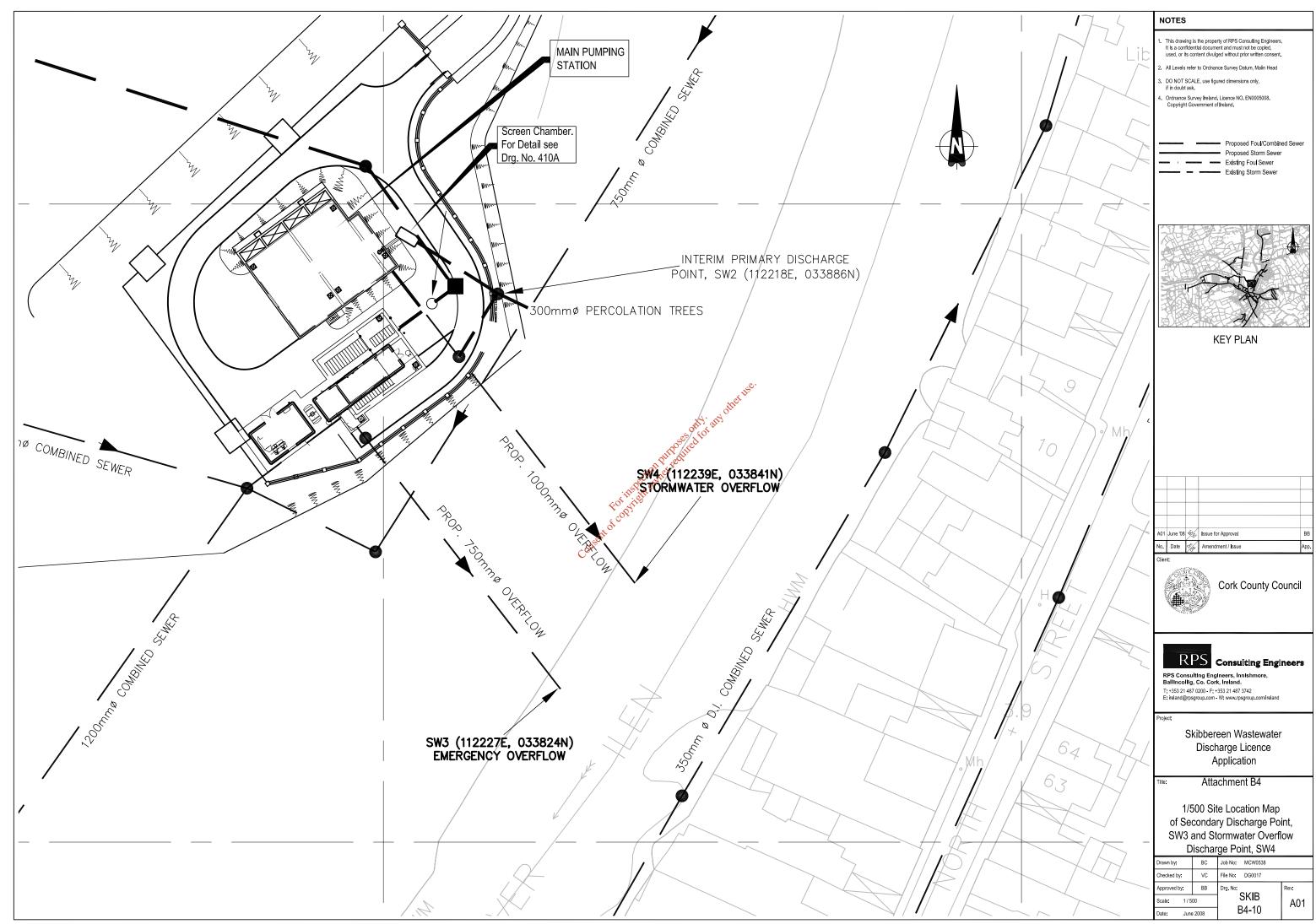


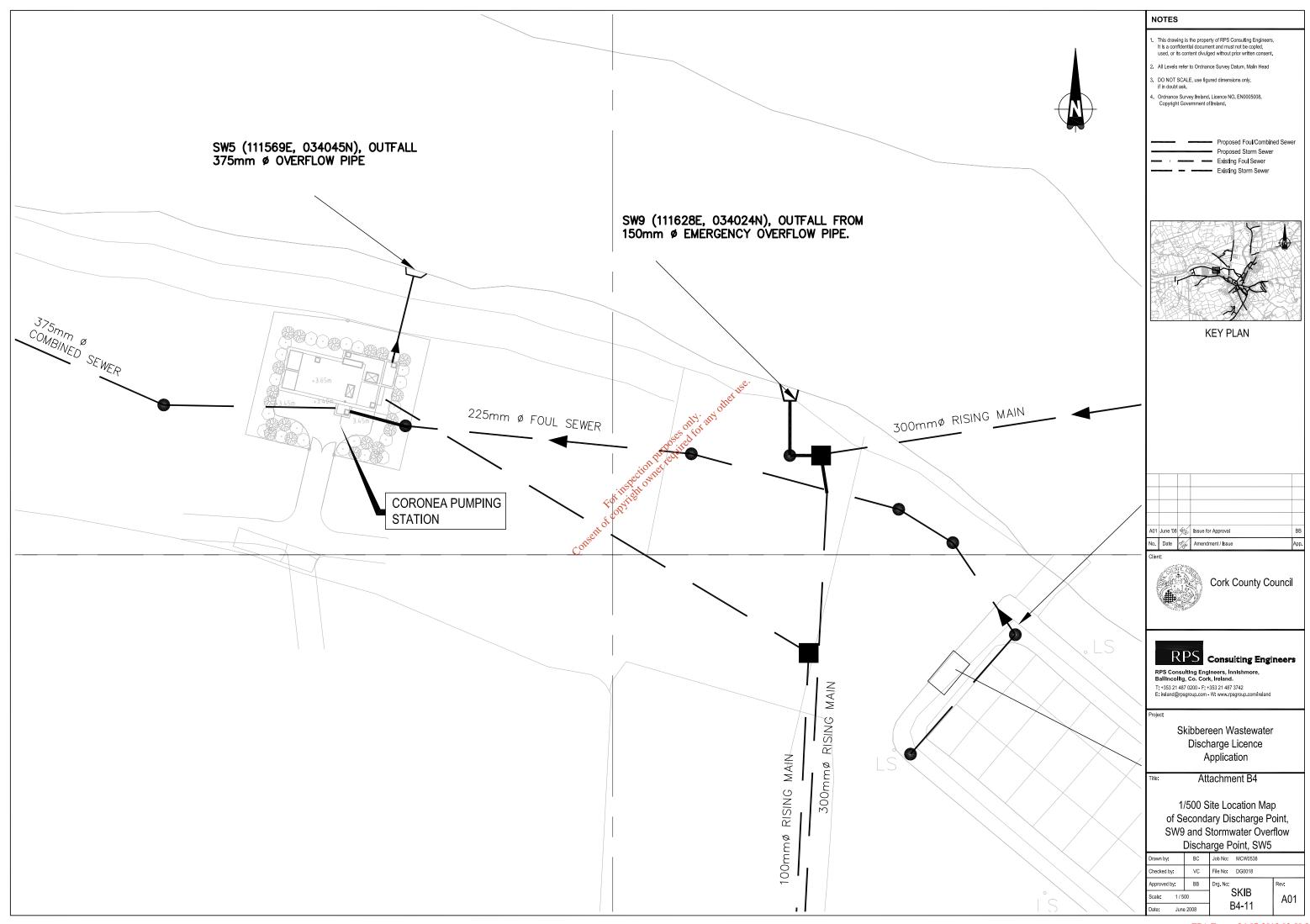
### SECTION B4: Location of Secondary Discharge Point(s)

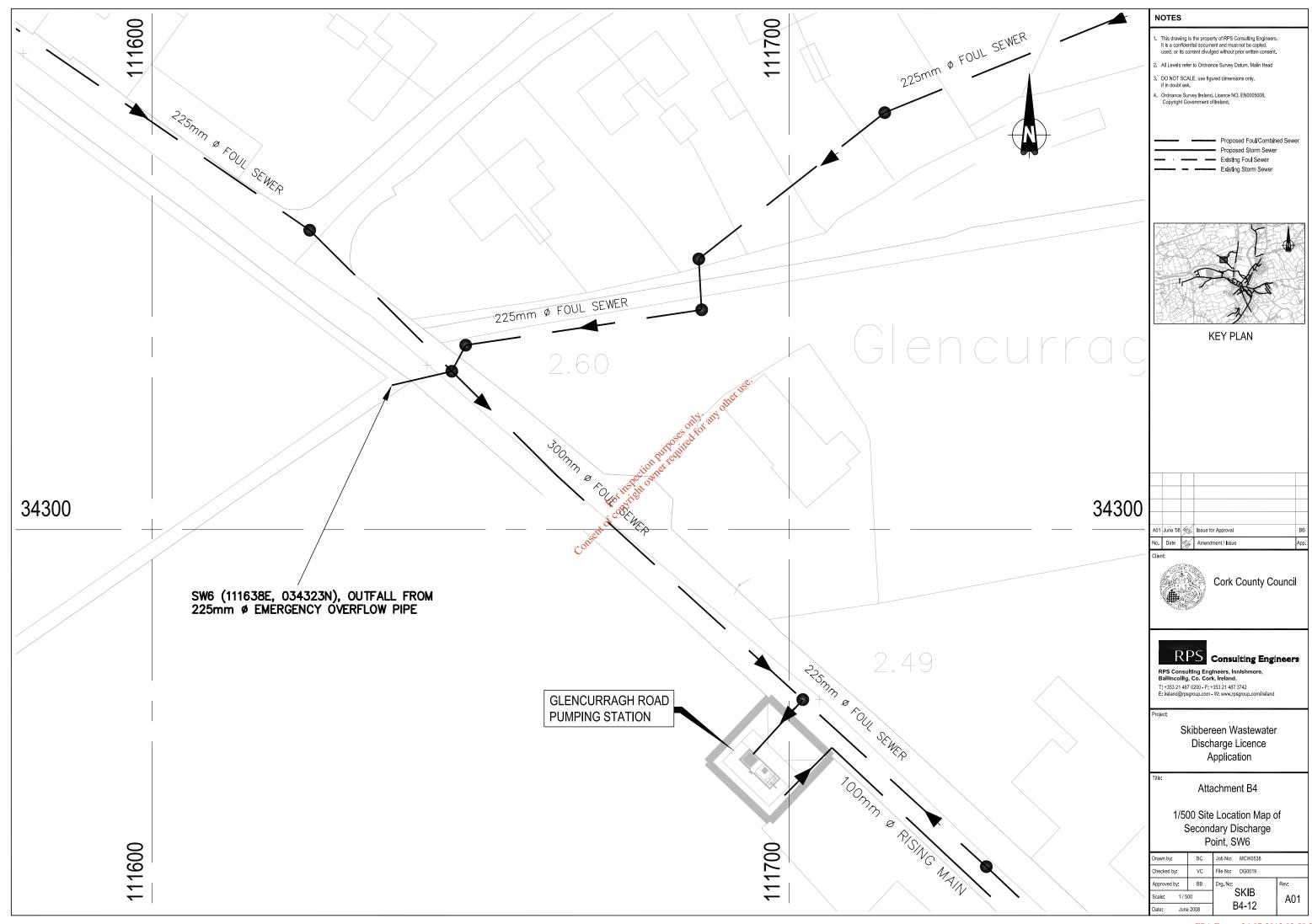
### **Table of Attachments**

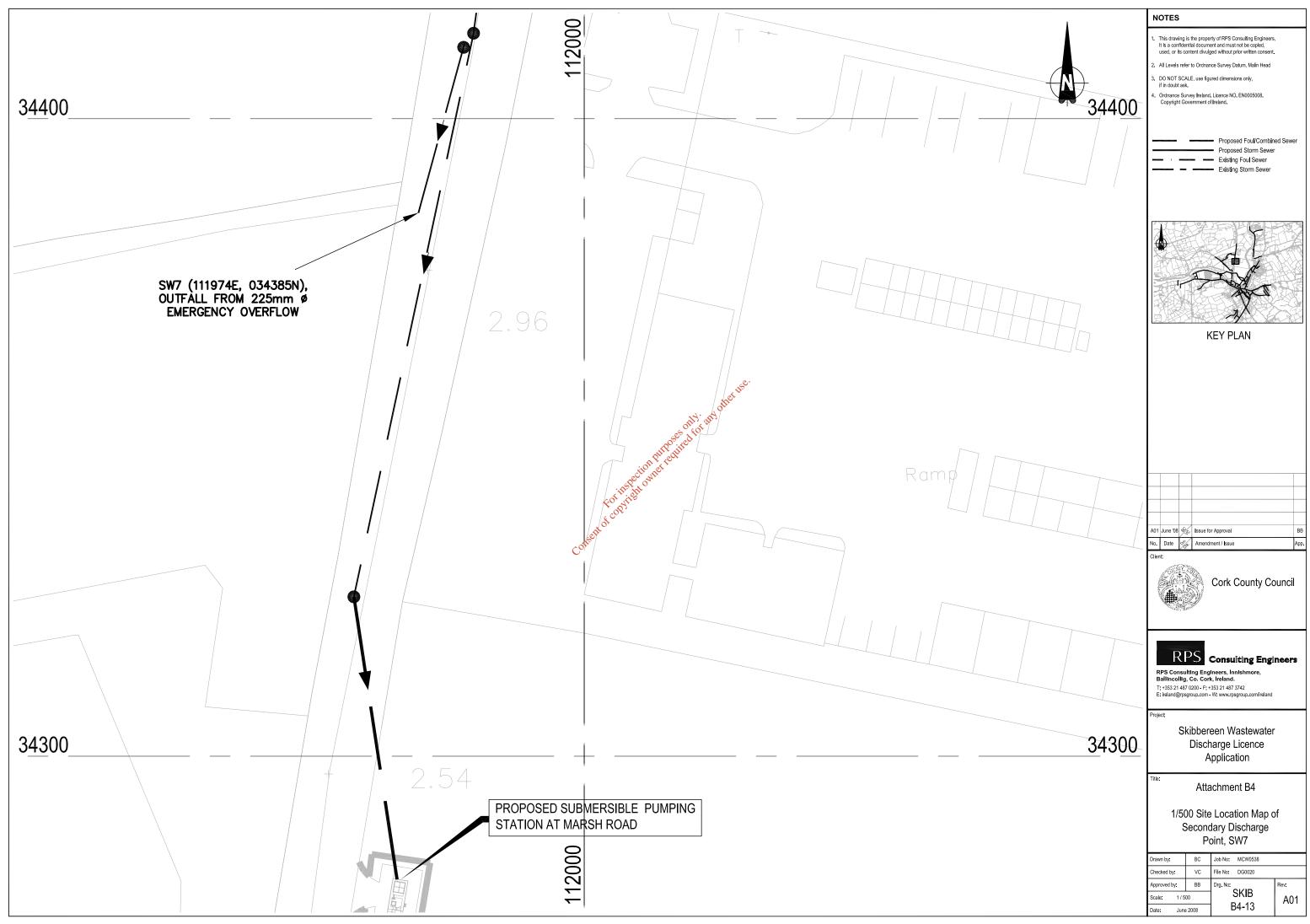
Item	Title	Drg. No.
1	1/500 Site Location Map of Secondary	Drg. No.
	Discharge Point, SW3 and Stormwater	B4-10
	Overflow Discharge Point, SW4	
2	1/500 Site Location Map of Secondary	Drg. No.
	Discharge Point, SW9 and Stormwater	B4-11
	Overflow Discharge Point, SW5	
3	1/500 Site Location Map of Secondary	Drg. No.
	Discharge Point, SW6	B4-12
4	1/500 Site Location Map of Secondary	Drg. No.
	Discharge Point, SW7	B4-13
5	1/500 Site Location Map of Secondary	Drg. No.
	Discharge Point, SW8	B4-14
6	Layout Plan Showing Location of All	Drg. No.
	Secondary Discharge Points & Stormwater	B4-15
	Overflow Points	

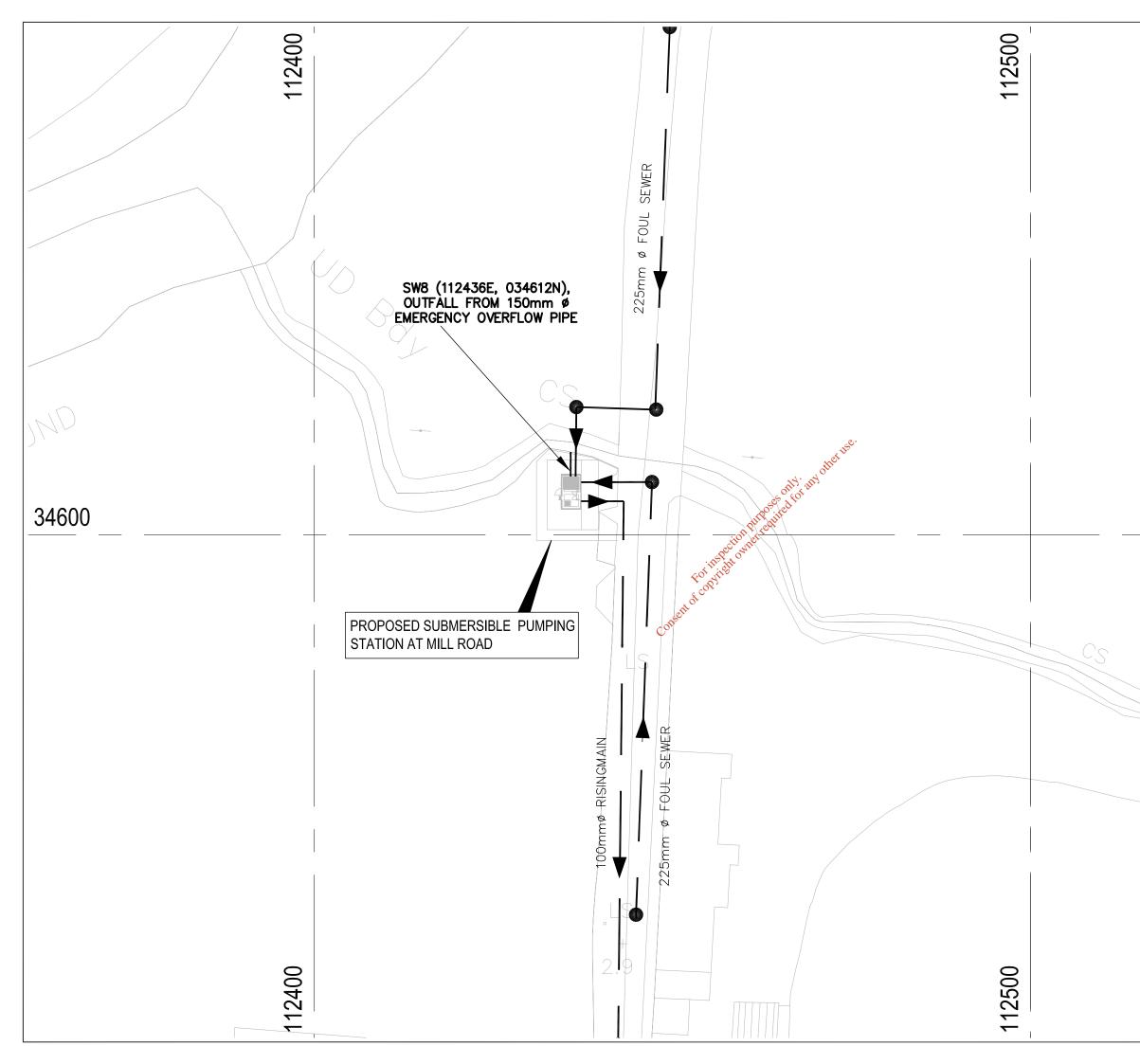
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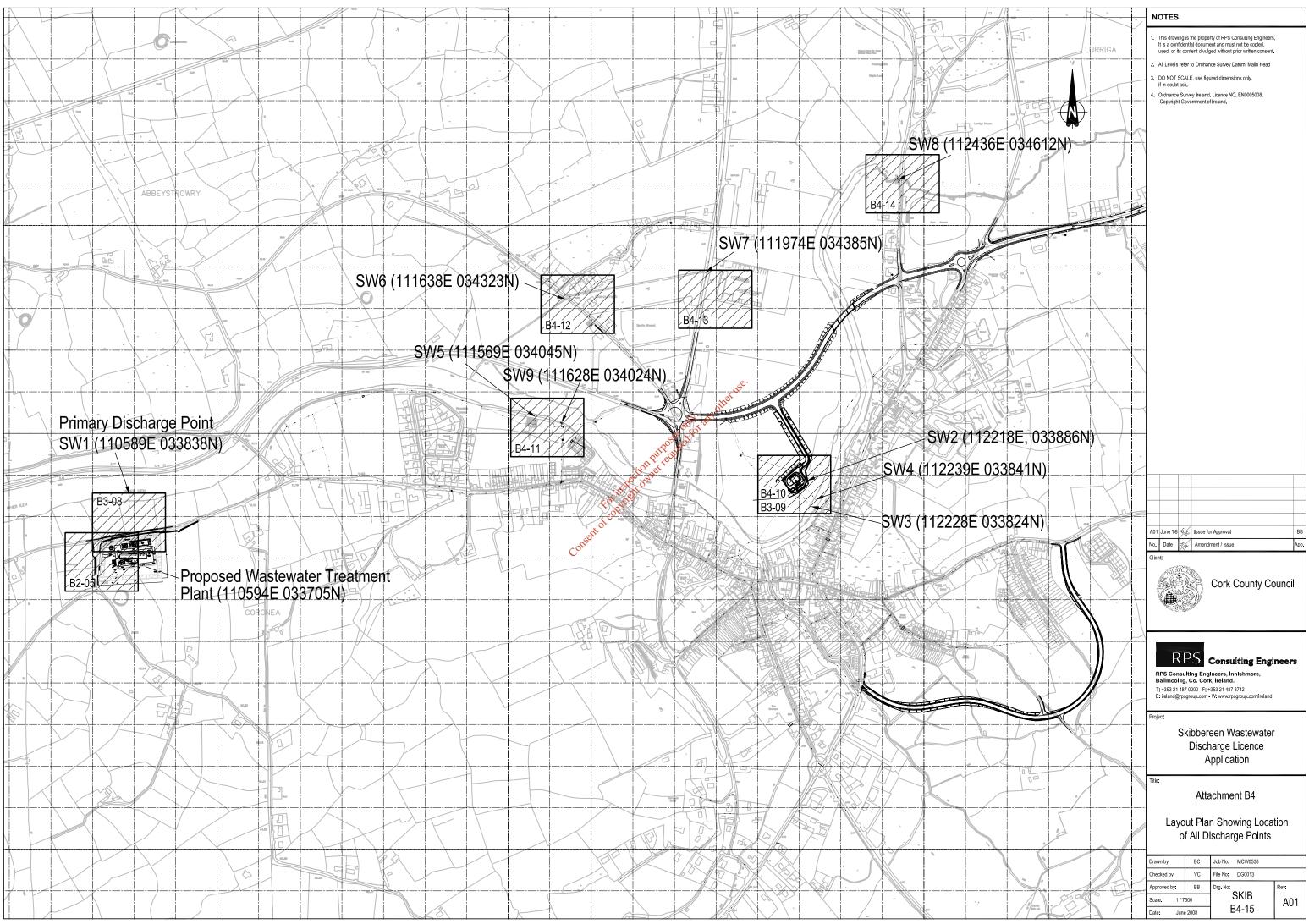








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	Checked by: VC Approved by: BB	File No: DG0021 Drg. No:	Rev:
	Approved by: BB Scale: 1 / 500	SKIB	A01
	Date: June 2008	B4-14	



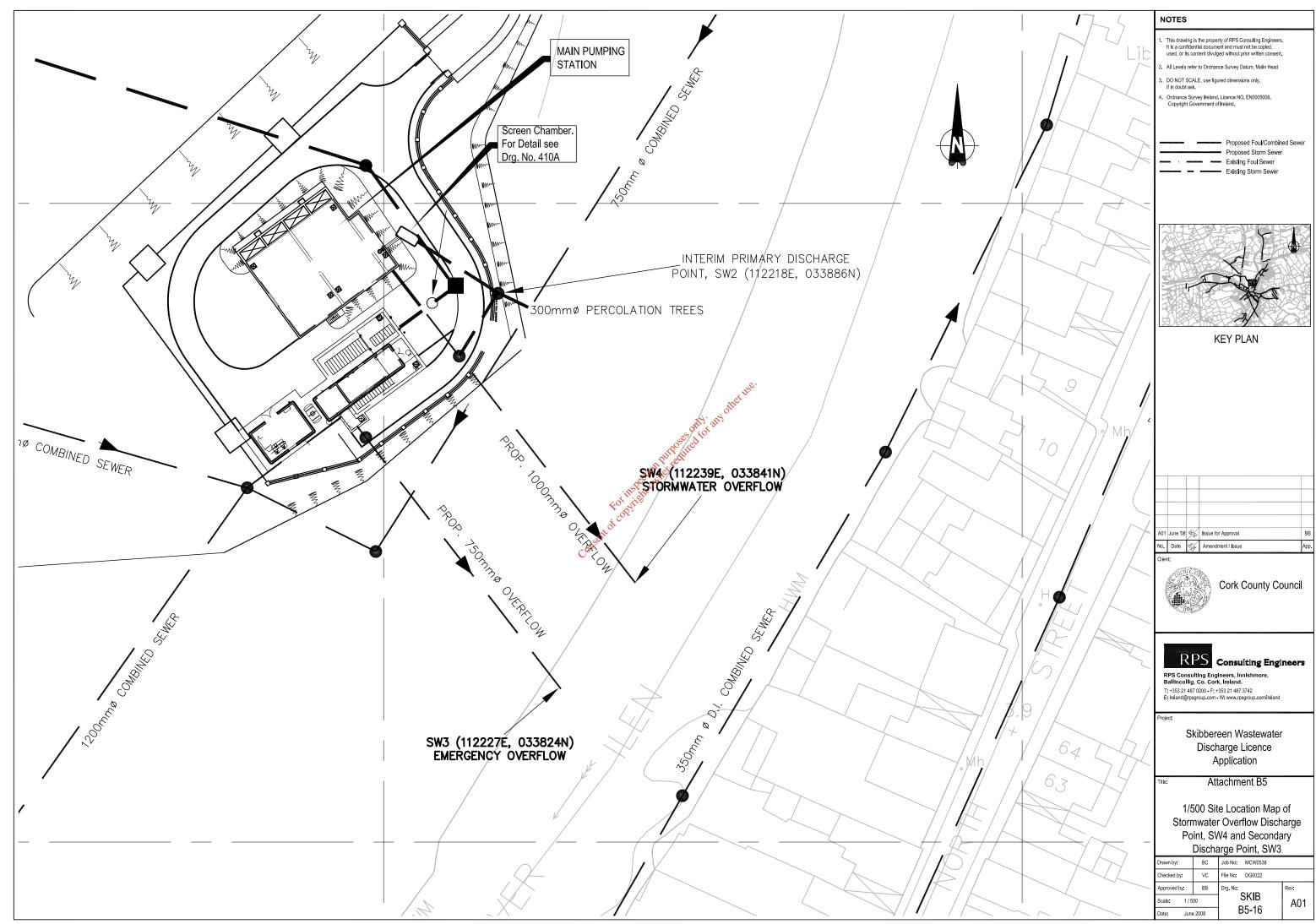


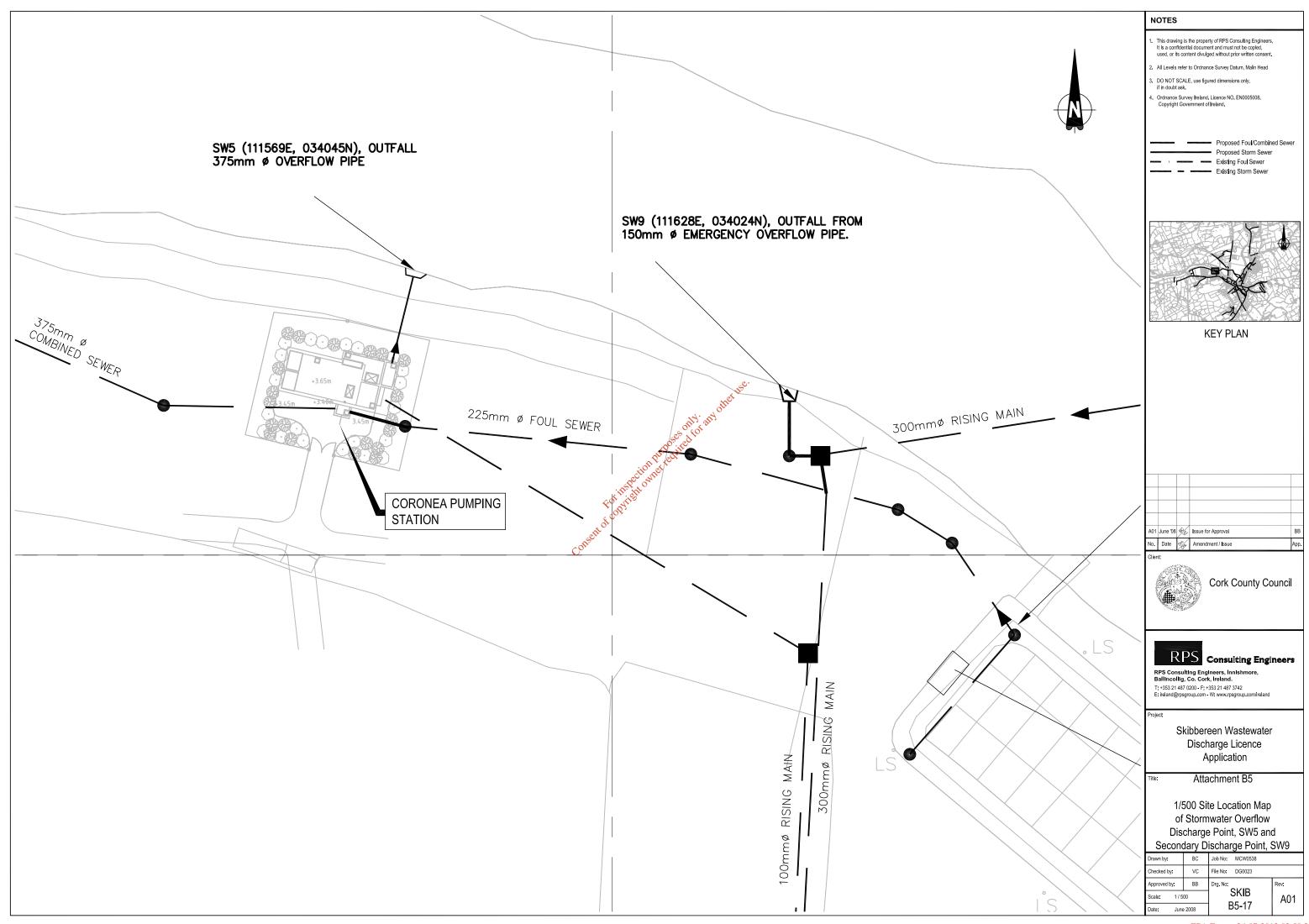
### SECTION B5: Location of Stormwater Overflow Point(s)

### **Table of Attachments**

Item	Title	Map/Photo No.
1	1/500 Site Location Map of Stormwater	Drg. No. B5-16
	Overflow Discharge Point, SW4 and Secondary Discharge Point, SW3	B2-16
2	1/500 Site Location Map of Stormwater	Drg. No.
	Overflow Discharge Point, SW5 and	B5-17
	Secondary Discharge Point, SW9	

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### SECTION B6: Planning Authority

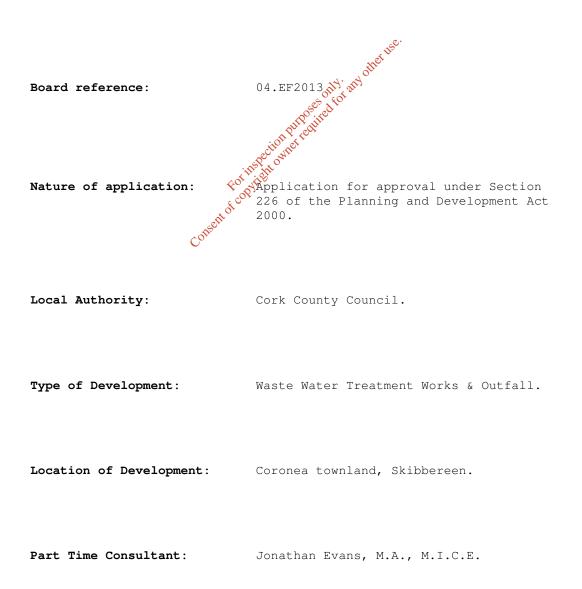
### **Table of Attachments**

Item	Title	
1	Planning Permission for Skibbereen Wastewater Treatment Plant	
	<ul><li>Inspectors Report</li><li>Board Direction</li><li>Planning Decision</li></ul>	
	An Bord Pleanála Reference: PL04 .EF2013	
2	Correspondence relating to the grant of Foreshore Licence for Skibbereen Sewerage Scheme	
	Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources Reference: MS51/8/1231	
3	EIS for Skibbereen Wastewater Freatment Plant	

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An Bord Pleanala

## PTC's Report



#### Introduction

Cork County Council applied to An Bord Pleanala for approval of a Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) for Skibbereen in accordance with Article 175 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000. Three copies of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Volumes 1, 2 & 3 were submitted, as required, together with three copies each of plans for the location of the works with a plan and section of the outfall and an indicative site outfall plan.

The project is sub-threshold in terms of population equivalent (pe) catered for, but the Local Authority considered that an EIS should be prepared for submission to An Bord Pleanala. The threshold pe is 10,000, but in this case is only 9,400 pe in the second stage: however, it discharges into a river, the River Ilen estuary, which runs into Roaringwater Bay, a candidate SAC (cSAC). Some areas in this bay are designated for shellfish production

An Bord Pleanala noted that the works included an outfall to the River Ilen estuary which crosses the tidal foreshore of the estuary; the application should therefore have been made under Section 226 of the Act. The Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources have, in accordance with Section 227(6) of the Act been invited by An Bord Pleanala to make observations in relation to this scheme. The invitation is dated 02 November, 2004, and the latest date for response is given as eight weeks, after the date of the letter: a response, dated 30 December, 2004, was received on 31 December, 2004, and is discussed below.

The Local Authority were informed of An Bord Pleanala's letter of 02 November, 2004, that the application should have been made under Section 226 of the Act. They confirmed by their letter of 09 November, 2004, that this was so.

I have examined the EIS documents and I inspected the site proposed on 10 February, 2005. In the EIS some alternative sites for the waste water treatment works (WWTW) were considered and brief comparisons made with the preferred site in terms of cost and practicality: these and the surroundings were all viewed on the same day.

#### Proposed development

The development proposed by the EIS comprises the construction of a WWTW to serve Skibbereen, and its associated outfall into the River Ilen estuary.

### Environmental Impact Statement

The EIS was prepared by RPSmcos, Consulting Engineers. It is in three volumes, dated September 2004. The first volume is the required Non-Technical Summary; the second volume is the Main Report and the third volume is the Technical Appendices.

The two drawings attached to the EIS of the location and indicative layout were prepared by T.J.O'Connor & Associates, Consulting Engineers, under a project called "West Cork Group WWTP's".

The EIS is said to assess potential environmental impacts in accordance with the guidelines published by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The specialist contributions were as follows:-

1.	Flora and fauna	Roger Goodwillie,B.A.,M.Sc.
2.	Visual Impact	Niall Hyde B.Arch., MLA/RPSMcHugh Ltd.
3.	Noise Impact	EOLAS,
4.	Water Quality Impact	Irish Hydrodata Ltd.,
5.	Odour Impact	AWN Consulting Limited,
6.	Archaeological Impact	Rose Cleary, M.A.,MIAI.,
7.	Underwater Archaeology	Eoghan Kieran.

The EIS describes the proposed development and its impacts and mitigation measures and contains the information required by An Bord Pleanala to reach a decision.

The EIS concerns itself, as it should, only with the WWTW and outfall.

### Submissions/observations

Submissions/observations to An Bord Pleanala by not later than Tuesday, 9 November, 2004, were invited from the relevant statutory bodies by letters dated 17 September, 2004, said to be under Section 175 of the Planning And Development Act 2000 as follows:-

- 1.
- 2. Failte Ireland,
- 3. An Taisce,
- An Chomhairle Ealaion, Failte Ireland, An Taisce, Minister for Environment, of the state and Local Government, 4.
- 5. The Heritage Council,
- 6.
- Skibbereen Town Council, South Western Port 7. South Western Regional Fisheries Board,
- 8. Minister for Communigations, Marine and Natural Resources.

Note from the above, what in the case of body 8 (Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources), they were informed that the application should have been under Section 226 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 and that the latest time for their observations was within eight weeks of the date of the An Bord Pleanala letter of 02 November, 2004.

A notice was published in the "Irish Examiner", an original of which was submitted to An Bord Pleanala; it was also stated that it was published in the "Southern Star". It was headed with the name of the Local Authority; an application to An Bord Pleanala, the name of the scheme and location. It refers to the Planning and Development Act 2000, Section 175. It states the capacities of the stages of the plant, procurement method and indicative design. It states that an EIS has been prepared and that it will be available for inspection free of charge or for purchase (no price stated) at Cork County Council's offices at Skibbereen Courthouse during office hours from 20 September, 2004, to 08 November, 2004.

The only observations received by An Bord Pleanala were from the Minister of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources by a letter dated 30 December, 2005. These consisted of three simple recommendations together with reasons for them: the first two relate to navigation in the estuary in the vicinity of the works, and as

such are outside the scope of the EIS. The third recommendation seeks to prevent blocking the path of migrating fish and the discharge of silt too the River Ilen: the EIS appears to cover this adequately.

The notice also states that submissions and observations "relating to the implications of the proposed development for the proper planning and sustainable development in the area concerned and the likely effects on the environment of the proposed area may be made in writing to An Bord Pleanala ... not later than Tuesday, 09 November, 2004".

No other European States are affected.

#### Need for the development and Do nothing situation

At present all surface water and sewage discharges are direct to the River Ilen and Caol Stream through a multiplicity of outfalls, and this is unacceptable due to non-compliance with mandatory final effluent standards set by the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive and water quality limits as set down in Regulations. Inter alia, it is stated that all conurbations with 2,000 to 15,000 persons shall have collection systems and 'secondary treatment' installed by 31 December, 2005. This waste water treatment works will provide the secondary treatment.

Due to the above requirements a do nothing policy is not an option. <u>Consultation process</u> Prior to publication of the EISton process County Council consulted with both statutory and pop-state with bodies. The full both statutory and non-statutory bodies. The following were ofcopyrie consulted:-

- 1. An Bord Pleanala
- 2. An Comhairle Ealai
- 3. An Taisce
- 4. (Bord Failte) Failte Ireland
- 5. Bord Iascaigh Mhara
- 6. Coillte Teoranta
- 7. Cork County Council, Planning Department
- 8. Department of Agriculture and Food
- Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism 9.
- 10. Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources
- 11. Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government
- 12. Eircom
- 13. Environmental Protection Agency
- 14. ESB
- 15. Irish Farming Association
- 16. Irish Landscape Institute
- 17. Irish Wildlife Federation
- 18. Local residents
- 19. National Roads Authority
- 20. Office of Public Works
- 21. River Ilen Anglers Club
- 22. Skibbereen Rowing Club
- 23. South Western Regional Fisheries Board
- 24. Teagasc
- 25. Geological Survey of Ireland
- 26. The Heritage Council

A number of the above bodies made written submissions and these were considered in preparing the EIS.

#### Planning considerations

Skibbereen is not served by a waste water treatment works at present; as noted above, secondary treatment is required by current legislation by the end of the year 2005.

Site nr 1, the preferred site, is privately owned, but most of the site is zoned for Utility/Infrastructure in the 2003 Cork County Development Plan which says that Skibbereen has no sewage treatment plant at present and that there is a proposal for a sewerage scheme. The use of the zoned site for the proposed waste water treatment plant is specifically mentioned in the Cork County Development Plan, 2003. The provision of sewerage infrastructure to accommodate planned levels of growth and to facilitate development are stated objectives of the development plan.

Site nr 1 is outside the boundaries of Skibbereen Town Council. Apart from the site itself and land to the west of the cemetery needed for expansion of the latter, none of the land closer than the town boundary is zoned for development; the closest of this is zoned residential and for playing fields. This is slowing that 1 km away.

The land will have to be acquired and the witilities' zoning expanded to the required area. Cork County Council has a Sludge Management Plan: sludge from the

Cork County Council has a Sludge Management Plan: sludge from the works will be dewatered and transported to an hub centre for further treatment. Support of the Sludge Management Plan is also a stated objective of the development plan.

The development plan referse in a general way to problems of nitrate pollution and river basis management without specifically mentioning Skibbereen or the River Ilen: however, the EIS states that nutrient removal will be included in the treatment process.

Separation of surface water flows from sewage flows sent forward for treatment is also in the objectives of the development plan.

See also under Alternative sites and Landscape below.

#### Works to be constructed

#### Procurement process

Current policy of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government is for the procurement of works of this type to be by Public Private Partnership (PPP). Of the several PPPs, the one favoured is the Design, Build, Operate (DBO) approach. This involves a private company designing, building and operating the works: typically the operating concession would be for twenty years. For the DBO process to work correctly it is important that the Tenderers are not too rigidly confined in their options. Therefore the EIS is structured in such a way as to allow various process options:

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however, the quality of emissions and mitigation of visual impact to be achieved are set out in the EIS.

#### Treatment process

At this stage the detailed specifications of the WWTW and outfall are not fully known due to the intention to invite tenders on a DBO basis. Thus it is for bidders to submit their preferred design for consideration. See also Procurement process above.

The scheme is expected to be in two stages. Stage 1 will be for 4,700 pe and Stage 2 doubling this to 9,400 pe. The inlet works and outfall will be designed for 9,400 pe from the start.

There will be a tidal holding tank to release treated effluent on ebb tides from high water plus 0.5 h to plus 4.5 hours. In Stage 1 the tank will be 1,081 m3 (= 3 \* dry weather flow (dwf)), duplicated in Stage 2. The outfall pipe will be along the field edge and discharge in mid-channel of the river, i.e., always below water.

The works includes sludge thickening and dewatering, the treated sludge being forwarded to an hub centre for final treatment in accordance with the Cork County Sludge Management Plan. otheruse

The works will include nutrient removal.

Odour producing areas will be covered, where enclosed air scrubbed for odour removal before release to the atmosphere.

An indicative design which can meeting in the ETS An indicative design which can meet with all the requirements is described in the EIS. Alternative sites Many alternative sites where said to have been considered, but five

sites were considered in detail and described in the EIS. The chosen site, Site nr 1, is considered under Planning considerations above and Landscape below. It is in Coronea Townland and was considered the most suitable; it is also the site earmarked in the County Development Plan.

Site nr 2, in the Marsh area is already owned by Cork County Council, but has been suggested for other uses. Its proximity to the town is balanced by the need to pump treated effluent downstream.

Site nr 3 is overlooked by a house from the north-west from which it probably can not be screened. There are 61 houses within 300 m, and the site is zoned residential.

Site nr 4 is in many ways similar to the chosen site, but is further away, adding to the cost of pipework to reach it.

Site nr 5 is yet further away and requires pumping all the way to it. There are five houses within 300m, the nearest being approximately 180 m distant. During my visit I noted that houses on the other side of the river valley were inter-visible from it.

#### Significant impacts

Human beings

The proposed waste water treatment works will generally have a positive impact. Specific headings are discussed below. It will cater for new and existing residential developments, new and existing employment zones, future leisure development, create additional employment opportunities both during construction and operation and will protect and improve public health and the aquatic environment.

All of the impacts in the EIS can be ameliorated or mitigated satisfactorily and thus the mitigation measures, where proposed, are adequate.

Under most of the headings below there are direct or indirect impacts on human beings; the impacts under the various headings are discussed there.

Fauna and flora

The waste water treatment plant site is reseeded pasture and the works layout does not impinge on any interesting terrestrial habitat. It attracts wading birds at high tide and there are likely to be visiting redwings and fieldfares in winter. The site is not by any other means unique in the area.

The outfall pipe route is through a less intensively managed field.

The removal of untreated effluent from the river will encourage a more diverse fauna than at present the fiver will encourage a Soil There are no soils or geofognical features of note in this area and

the impact of the proposed  $\widetilde{WW}TW$  and outfall on soils and geology is considered to be minor. 🔊

The greatest potential for impact is hydrocarbon spillages during construction. Potentially polluting liquids should be stored in double-skinned containers on pallets or in bunded areas. Refuelling and other on site repairs will, where possible, be undertaken in a designated area.

Water

The proposed WWTW and outfall will have a positive impact on the overall quality of the water in the river. The discharge regime through a tidal holding tank will maximise dispersion of the treated effluent in the river.

The River Ilen is not designated as a 'Salmonid Water' under the Regulations, nor is it designated under the 'Shellfish' or 'Bathing Water' Regulations. However, as noted above, Roaringwater Bay downstream is designated as a Shellfish Area.

There are no large public groundwater sources in this area which is relatively poor in groundwater resources. Isolated supplies to rural dwellings are unlikely to be affected by the WWTW and outfall.

#### Air/odour

Any potentially odour producing treatment units will be covered and the enclosed air extracted from under the covers will be scrubbed. The EIS proposes that the odour level at the nearest sensitive receptors due to the WWTW does not exceed 4 odour units per cubic metre (ou/m3) as a 98 percentile. In my recommendation I have proposed that this should be reduced to 3 ou/m3. It is for the DBO Contractor to show by odour modelling that the plant chosen by him can keep odour levels below the set limit.

#### Noise/Vibration/Dust

Existing noise levels are typical of a rural environment.

The WWTW when operating should not exceed 35 dB(A) at night nor 45 dB(A) during the day at any nearby residence; nor should there be any significant pure tones or impulsive elements in the noise spectrum. There are a number of ways of ensuring this if necessary.

During construction, higher noise levels may be unavoidable at times. However, construction will be limited to normal working days and hours, where possible. The Contractor will have to take specific noise abatement measures and comply with the recommendations of BS 5228 (1997) "Noise Control on Construction and Demolition Sites".

Operation of the WWTW will not cause any state significant vibration. During construction the Contractor MM be required to limit vibrations, measured as peak particle methods, to less than 3 mm/s.

The EIS includes provisions for liniteting dust nuisance. *Climate* Consumption of electricity to the burning of fossil fuels to generate it, which increases greenhouse gas emissions in general terms. The same can be said of anaerobic digestion unless the methane produced is used, e.g. for electricity generation on site, rather than being released t $\delta$  the atmosphere.

However, negative local impacts from operation of the WWTW on the climate are not expected.

#### Landscape

The proposed WWTW is located on land that is at present in agricultural use, in the townland of Coronea, approximately 1.3 km west of Skibbereen. The site is elevated and slopes gently from south to north. A minor road runs along the northern boundary: the road level is about 1.5 m below the site from which it is separated by a hedge. There is a very minor road to the west beyond which is Skibbereen's main cemetery, Coronea. This has two entrances facing the WWTW site. From the south, where there are six houses, the lower part of the site is not visible; one house 210 m away can see the upper part of the site. A ring fort to the south provides some screening. The site is not visible from houses to the west of the cemetery, but is visible in varying degrees from the cemetery itself. There are houses to the east, one of which has restricted views of the site through vegetation. Houses to the north of the river, above Abbeystrowry Cemetery, can see the site, and there are views of it from vehicles travelling west along the N71 road.

In mitigation many trees and shrubs of native species will be planted to reinforce or create hedges. These will minimize visibility of the site, conceal the palisade fencing (necessary to secure the site) and break up unnatural straight lines resulting from the works. The western boundary will be moved to provide more parking space for the cemetery: banking and planting along this boundary will minimize views into the site also. The entrance gate will be recessed and arranged to prevent direct views of the works and will be between the opposing two gates of the cemetery so that there are no views of the WWTW from the main pathways there. The ring fort adjacent to the south of the site will not be compromised and there will also be screening along the southern boundary.

The treatment units will mainly be at or below ground level. The control and inlet works buildings will be single storey with plastered finish with stone faced panels and natural tile ridged roofs. They will be residential or agricultural in scale. The largest building, for sludge dewatering, will be agricultural in scale and appearance, with finishes so as to minimize visual impacts.

It is forecast that the proposed WWTW will have little visual impact on the surrounding landscape if it is appropriately and adequately screened.

The EIS says that lighting should be by low devel down lighters on matt black columns. In my recommendation L have added to this that lighting should only be used, both during construction and operation, Material assets A short term positive implayer is the increase in construction

ofcopy employment.

impacts Permanent positive are the potential for increased residential, commercial and industrial development.

There will be a short term negative impact from construction, both visual, from traffic and possibly from noise.

Cultural heritage

The area is presumed to be rich in archaeological significance. Part of the site falls within the 'circle of constraint' around the ring fort to the south. The land for the WWTW and the outfall were archaeologically examined. Also metal detection and diving surveys were carried out in the river. Nothing of note was found, but it remains possible that archaeological remains will be found.

In mitigation it is recommended that all topsoil removal and works in the riverine area down to bedrock, should be monitored by a licensed, suitably qualified archaeologist who has the power to halt the works. Financial provision should be made to facilitate and resolve any archaeological finds.

There is no mention in the EIS of architectural heritage, but from my inspection of the area there does not appear to be anything that would be affected.

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#### Inter-relationships

Although many of the impacts under the above headings are inter-related, particularly in relation to human beings, there do not appear to be any synergistic effects. Thus the mitigation measures for each impact should prove satisfactory.

### Conclusion

The EIS presents a detailed and comprehensive account of the positive and negative impacts of the proposed new WWTW and outfall for Skibbereen.

The main positive impact is the treatment of all sewage produced in the town by a new treatment works, to a high standard in accordance with legislation, and the controlled discharge of the treated effluent to the estuary of the River Ilen on an ebb tide. At present sewage discharges from the town untreated through a multiplicity of outfalls into the River Ilen and the Caol Stream.

The negative impacts are short term construction traffic and possibly noise, but these will be kept to a minimum.

Although the EIS makes proposals to mitigate the intrusion of lighting at night, I have added to my recommendation to strengthen

Recommendation I recommend approval by An Board Recanala of the proposed Skibbereen WWTW and outfall because:-a) the development would obtain in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area

- and sustainable development of the area,
- b) the development would facilitate future development in Skibbereen,
- the development  $\mathcal{C}_{would}$  not have significant adverse effects on C) the environment,

subject to the following conditions:-

- to prevent nuisance, odour calculated from measured emissions i) at the WWTW shall not be equivalent to more than 3 ou/m3 at the nearest sensitive receptor,
- ii) to prevent visual nuisance, lighting at night shall be restricted to that necessary for security or essential work.

Jonathan Evans. Part Time Consultant. 03 March, 2005.



# **Board Direction**

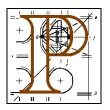
### Ref: 04.EF2013

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 21/04/05.

The Board decided to approve the proposed development generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation.

	purposes	only, any other use.
Board Member John O	For inspection purposed	_ Date 21/04/05

## An Bord Pleanála



### PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000 TO 2004

### **Cork County Council**

**APPLICATION** by Cork County Council for approval under section 226 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 in accordance with plans and particulars, including an environmental impact statement, lodged with the Board on the 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2004.

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT:** Wastewater, streatment plant at Coronea, Skibbereen, County Cork.

DECISION

GRANT approval for the above proposed development in accordance with the said plans and particulars based on the reasons and considerations under and subject to the conditions set out below.

### **REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS**

Having regard to the provisions of the current County Cork and Skibbereen Town Development Plans, the current absence of an effluent treatment plant for the town of Skibbereen, the design criteria for the proposed plant as set out in the environmental impact statement (in particular tables 3.1 and 5.17) and to the location and times of the effluent discharge it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out in this order, the proposed development would facilitate the future development of the Skibbereen area, would be consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area and would not result in significant adverse affects on the environment.

### Conditions

1. The plant shall be designed and operated so as to ensure that odours emanating therefrom shall not exceed a level in excess of 3OU/cubic metre at any occupied odour sensitive receptor on a 98 percentile basis.

**Reason:** To protect the amenities of occupied properties in the area.

2. Night time lighting shall be limited to the minimum required for operational, maintenance and security purposes in temporal and spatial terms.

**Reason:** To protect the amenities of properties in the vicinity.

Person of any other use. Member of An Bord Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate V the seal of the Board. Consent of copy Dated this day of 2005.

## An Roinn Cumarsáide, Mara agus Acmhainní Nádúrtha Baile Átha Cliath 2.



Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources Dublin 2.

10th August 2005

Mr Niall O'Mahony Senior Engineer Cork County Council Courthouse Skibbereen Co Cork

# Our Ref: MS51/8/1231

Foreshore Licence Application for Skibbereen Sewerage Scheme – Cork County Council

Dear Mr O'Mahony

As you know the Minister of State at the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources has now approved the grant of a Foreshore Licence, under Section 3 of the Foreshore Act 1933, for a period of 35 years for the above project.

Details will be forwarded to the Office of the Chief State Solicitor with a request to draft the appropriate deeds.

I trust that the above is satisfactory

Con

Yours sincerely

Sharon Šexton Coastal Zone Management Division



Leeson Lane Dublin 2 Lana Chill Mochargan Baile Atha Cliath 2

Telephone + 353 1 678 2000 LoCall 1890 44 99 00 Fax + 353 1 678 2449

email: contact@dcmnr.gov.ie. GTN +1 18