

# Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme



Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
2040

Emerging Potential Options Consultation

## Environmental Constraints

Sheet 1 of 2

### Environmental Impact Assessment and Appropriate Assessment Processes

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) will fulfil the requirements set out by Directive 2014/52/EU and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the 'Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports' (EPA, 2017). The Report will also reference the 'Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment', published by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government in August 2018.

The purpose of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIAR) will be to document the environment in the vicinity of the proposed scheme in an effort to quantify the possible impacts, if any on the environment. The assessment process will serve to highlight areas where mitigation measures may be necessary in order to protect the surrounding environment from any negative impacts of the proposed scheme. The objective is to facilitate the most efficient and positive design of the proposed scheme insofar as possible and that measures are in place to ensure that any adverse impacts are avoided, reduced or remedied as appropriate.

A separate "Appropriate Assessment" (AA) screening process will also be undertaken to assess the proposed scheme with regard to impact on European Sites. European Sites are those identified as sites of European Community importance, designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) under the Habitats Directive or as Special Protection Areas (SPA) under the Birds Directive. It will identify whether the proposed scheme is likely to have significant effects on European Sites in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of the sites. Should significant effects be identified, a Natura Impact Statement will be produced.

The EIA and AA processes will be ongoing throughout the planning and design of the project. Information gathered or alternatives suggested arising from public information days, meetings with stakeholders and written representations are considered on the grounds of engineering feasibility, environmental viability, existing constraints and economics.

**(Note: For detailed Archaeological and Built Heritage constraints in the vicinity of Bridge Street, refer to separate map overleaf)**



OPW  
Oifig na nOibríochtaí  
Office of Public Works

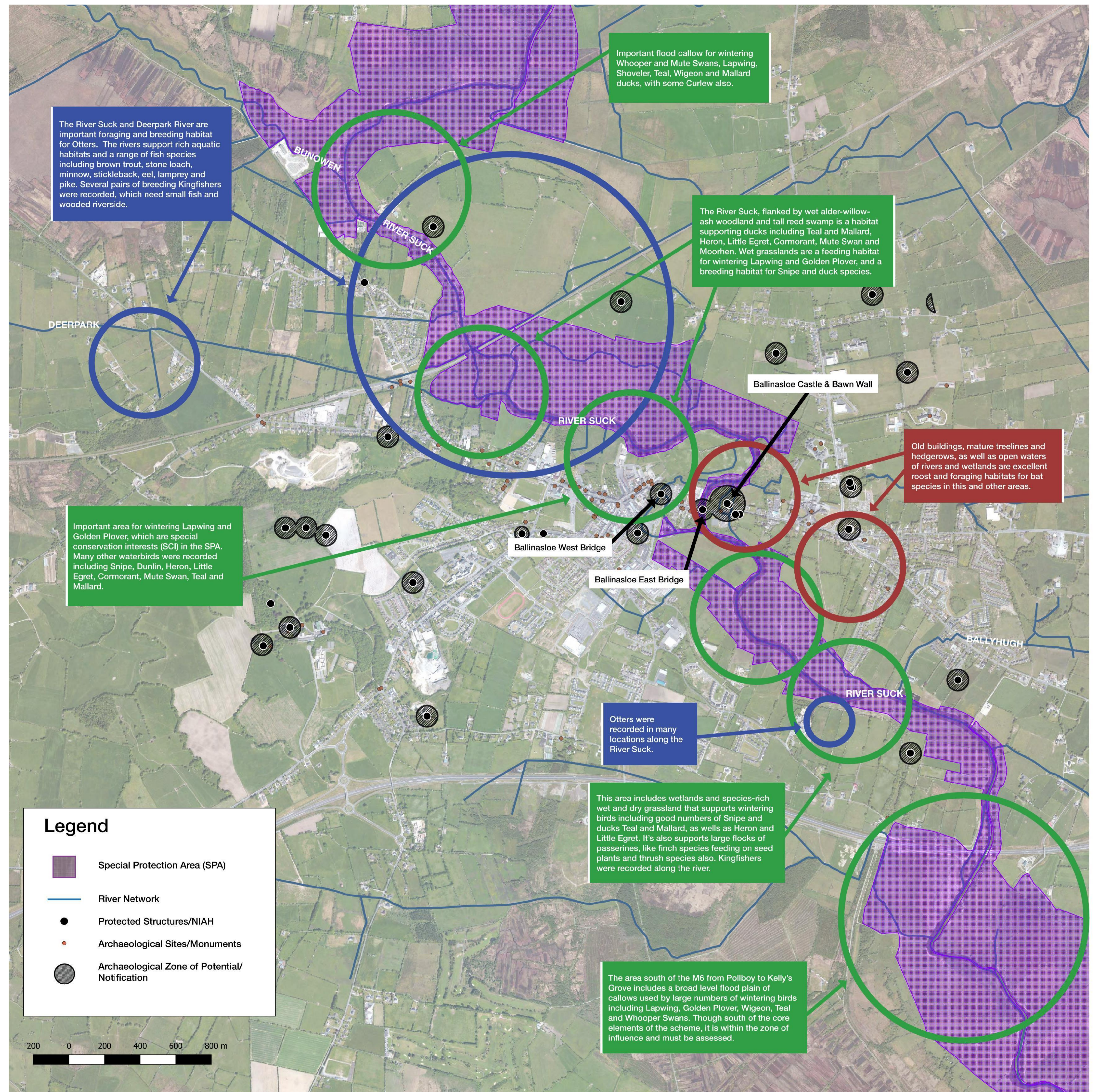


Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council

ARUP

Hydro  
Environmental Ltd

RYAN HANLEY



# Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme



Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
2040

Emerging Potential Options Consultation

## Environmental Constraints

Sheet 2 of 2

### Protections & Processes:

#### Archaeology:

All Sites & Monuments listed on the Record of Monuments & Places (RMP) are protected under the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930-2014. Each RMP site is assigned a Zone of Archaeological Potential/Notification as appropriate.

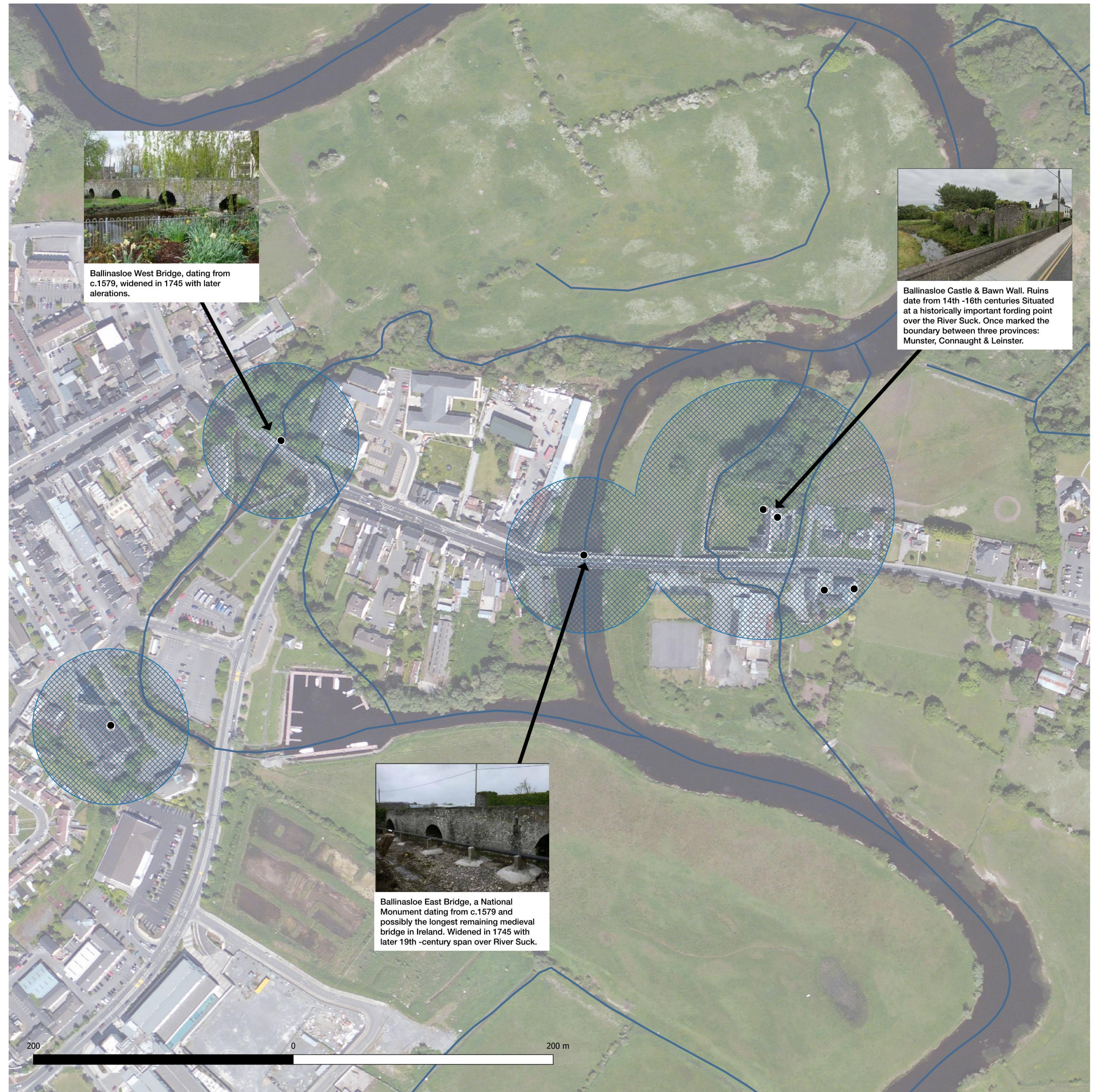
The statutory and administrative framework of development control within zones of archaeological potential or in proximity to recorded monuments has two main elements:

- (a) Archaeological preservation and licensing under the National Monuments Acts.
- (b) Development plans and planning applications under the Planning Acts.

Where works are proposed in the vicinity of a site/monument listed in the RMP, notification must be submitted to the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage under Section 12(3) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994. Such works may be subject to archaeological interventions including preservation in-situ (avoidance by design), preservation by record (Excavation), advance testing and/or monitoring during construction. These are carried out under licence or Ministerial Consent (in the case of National Monuments).

#### Built Heritage:

The Planning and Development Acts 2000 affords protection to buildings and groups of buildings, including streetscapes and townscapes, of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, scientific, social or technical interest. Protecting architectural heritage is a function of the planning authority through its Development Plan and the primary means of achieving this is to include a Record of Protected Structures (RPS) for the functional area within the plan. A planning authority is obliged to consider for inclusion in its Record of Protected Structures any buildings rated as being of Regional, National or International importance by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) and give consideration to structures rated of local importance.



Ballinasloe West Bridge, dating from c.1579, widened in 1745 with later alterations.



Ballinasloe Castle & Bawn Wall. Ruins date from 14th -16th centuries. Situated at a historically important fording point over the River Suck. Once marked the boundary between three provinces: Munster, Connaught & Leinster.



Ballinasloe East Bridge, a National Monument dating from c.1579 and possibly the longest remaining medieval bridge in Ireland. Widened in 1745 with later 19th -century span over River Suck.



OPW  
Oifig na hOibreacha Poblaithe  
Office of Public Works



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council

ARUP

Hydro  
Environmental Ltd

RYAN PHANLEY