



N4 Active Travel Collooney to Castlebaldwin Scheme

Public Consultation No. 2
26th February – 22nd March 2024





Project Background

Sligo County Council, through the Sligo Regional Design Office, are in the early stages of planning for the N4 Active Travel Collooney to Casltebaldwin Scheme. DBFL Consulting Engineers have been appointed by Sligo County Council to provide multi-disciplinary engineering and other specialist consultancy services to progress this Scheme through Phase 2 to 4 (Option Selection to Statutory Processes) of Transport Infrastructure Ireland's (TII) Project Management Guidelines. The overarching objective of this Scheme, which is funded by TII, is to provide continuous pedestrian and cycle (i.e., Active Travel) infrastructure from Collooney to Castlebaldwin that will improve safety and accessibility for all. It is envisaged that the Scheme will integrate with Sligo's wider active travel network to improve regional and local connectivity.

Project Specific Need

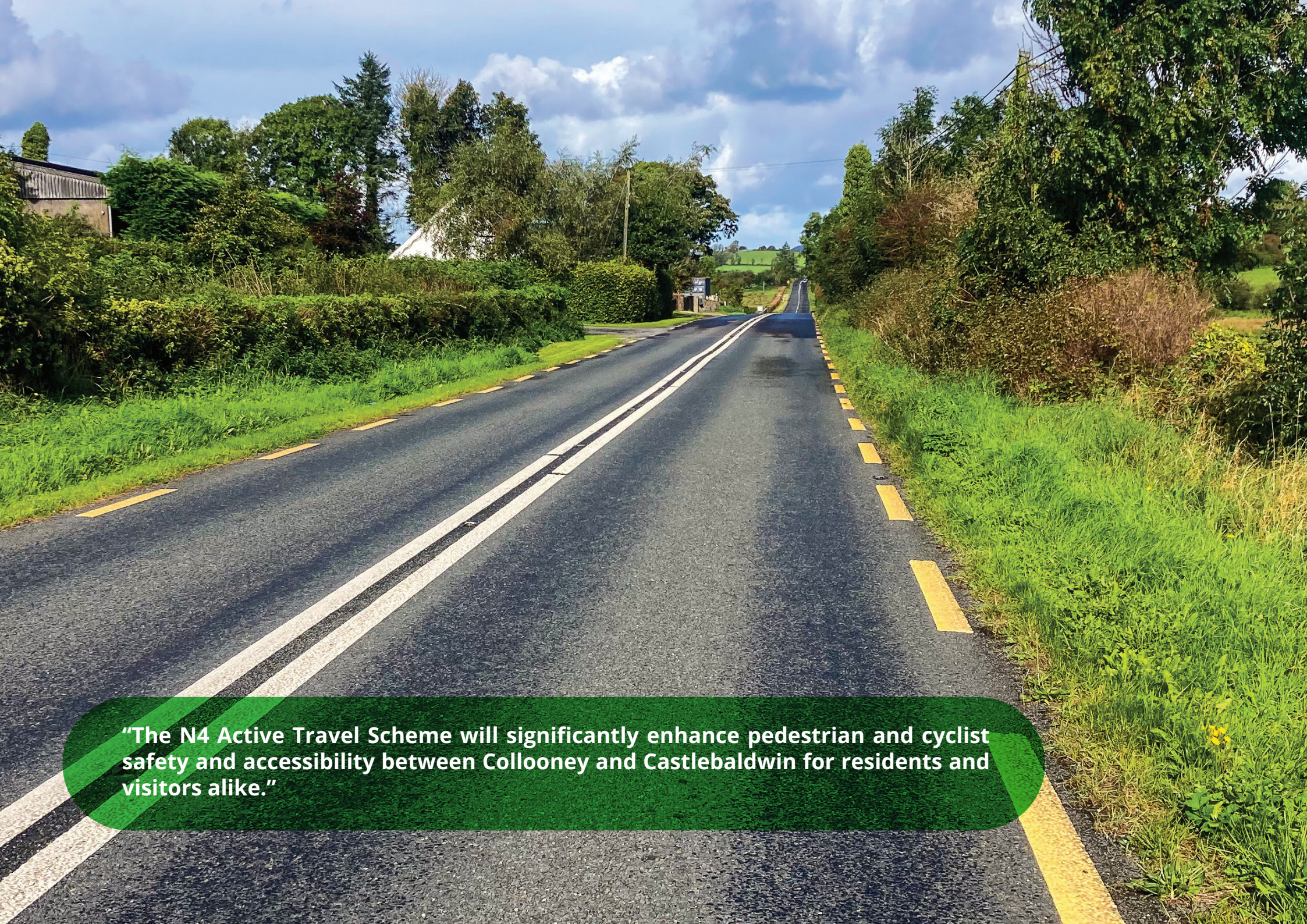
Whilst the town of Collooney is conveniently located along the Sligo-Dublin rail line, the Toberbride Business Park and Castlebaldwin is only accessible by the road network, with poor facilities for people walking and cycling between the towns, which are approximately 15km apart. This results in low levels of active travel between Collooney and Castlebaldwin and hinders activity-based tourism between Collooney and Castlebaldwin, as well as to the wider Sligo region.

The primary aim of this Scheme is to provide high quality pedestrian and cycle links between the two towns of Collooney and Castlebaldwin.

The delivery of this Scheme will enable day-to-day utility and recreational trips between Collooney and Casltebaldwin and to key local services and communities living along the route corridor such as Drumfin and Tawnagh. In this way, the Scheme will offer a safe and sustainable alternative to the private car particularly for short trips. This supports key National, Regional and Local policy including the National Planning Framework 2040, Climate Action Plan 2023, National Sustainable Mobility Policy, CycleConnects and the Sligo County Development Plan 2017-2023 (extended).

County Sligo is also a popular tourist destination, and it is an aim of Sligo Council Council to create top-class visitor experiences including a range of outdoor activities. This Active Travel Scheme will support this through the delivery of a high-quality walking and cycling route which is integrated with a wider network including the Sligo and SLNCR Greenways. Combined with the N4 Active Travel Collooney to Toberbride Scheme, these routes will provide a comprehensive cycle network and outdoor leisure experience for residents and tourists alike.





“The N4 Active Travel Scheme will significantly enhance pedestrian and cyclist safety and accessibility between Collooney and Castlebaldwin for residents and visitors alike.”



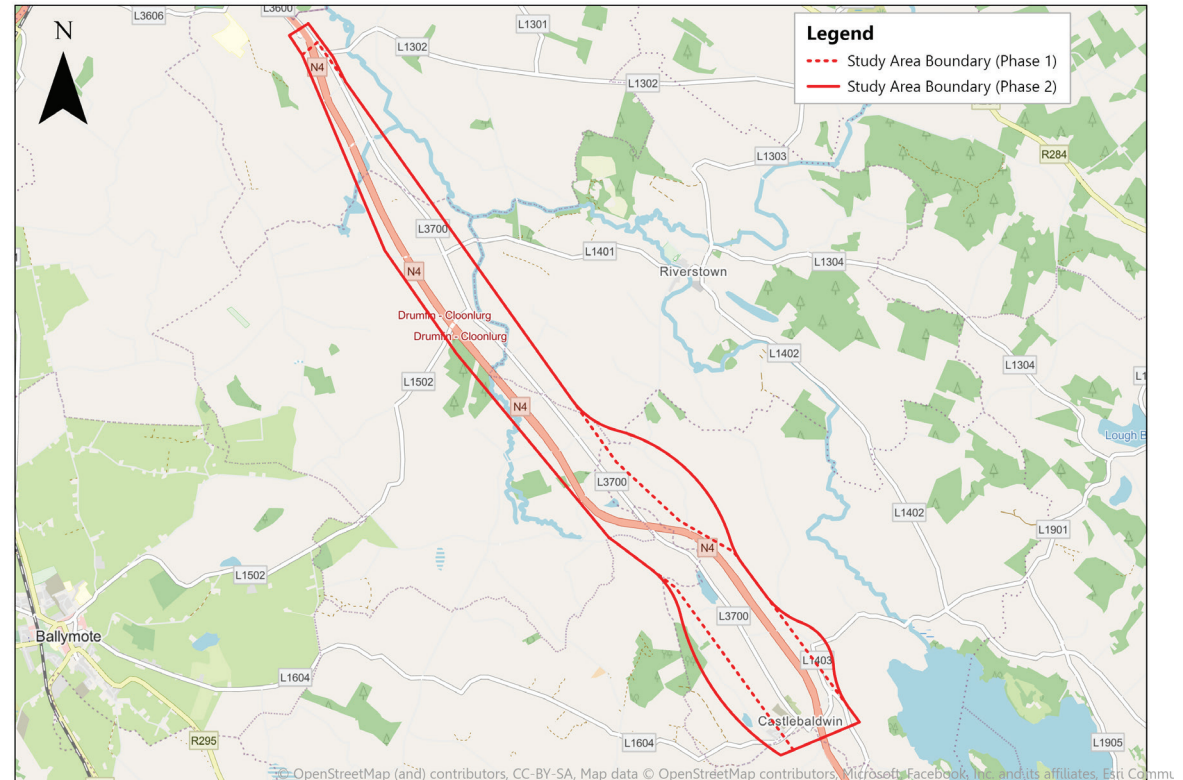
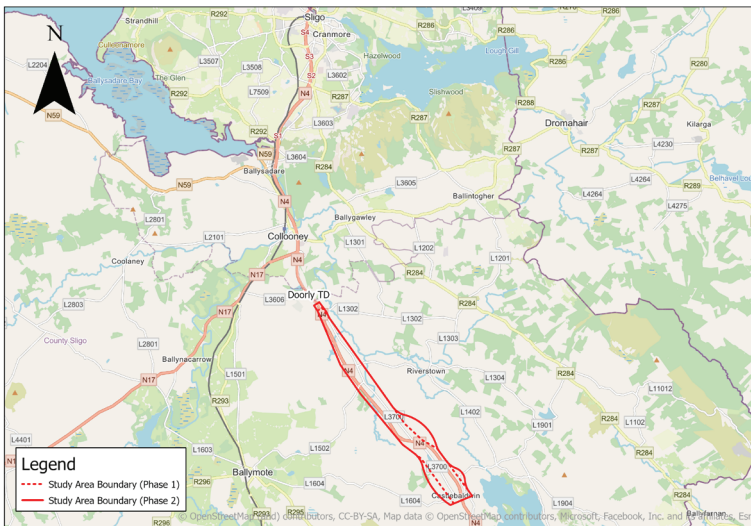
Study Area Location Map

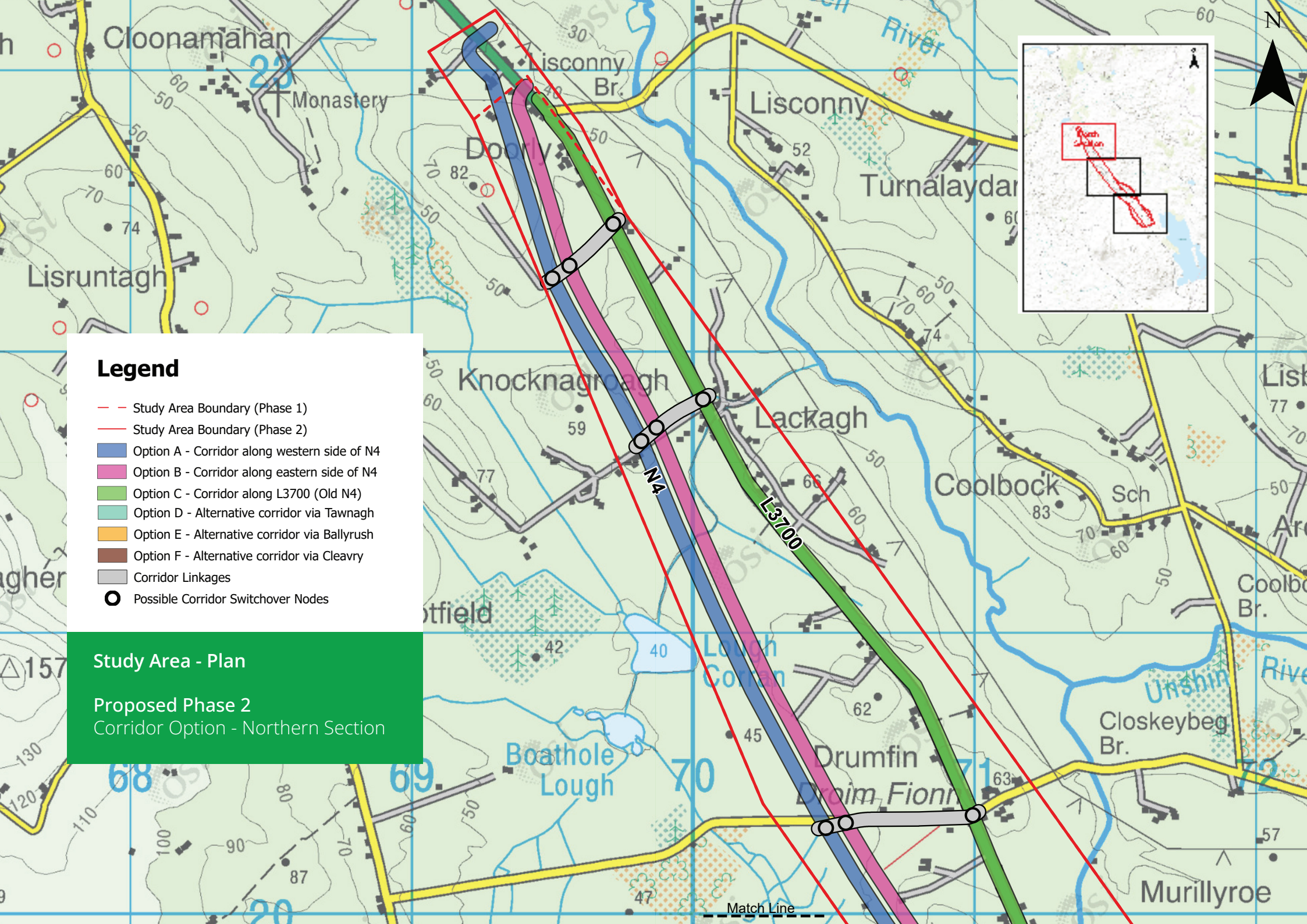
The below map illustrates the proposed Study Area for the N4 Active Travel Collooney to Castlebaldwin Scheme which comprises the N4 Corridor, both the new road (N4 National Road) and the old road (since redesignated as the L3700 Local Road) in the south east of County Sligo. A number of route alignment options within this Study Area have been developed to connect the two towns of Collooney and Castlebaldwin.

The project involves the provision of pedestrian and cycle facilities linking the two towns, of which 3km has been constructed, between Toberbride and Doorly Td. In total, the distance between the two towns is approximately 15km.

We are seeking your feedback on these Options to identify a Preferred Route that will be brought forward for more detailed assessment and design. Maps of these route options are available to view online on Sligo County Council's consultation portal at: <https://consult.slilococo.ie>.

The project Study Area presented as part of Public Consultation No 1 has been updated slightly to include a buffer from the proposed route corridor centrelines. This has been included to accommodate the environmental appraisal of the proposed route corridors. This has resulted in the project Study Area increasing. The changes will be presented as part of Public Consultation No.2 and will be available to view on the public consultation portal.





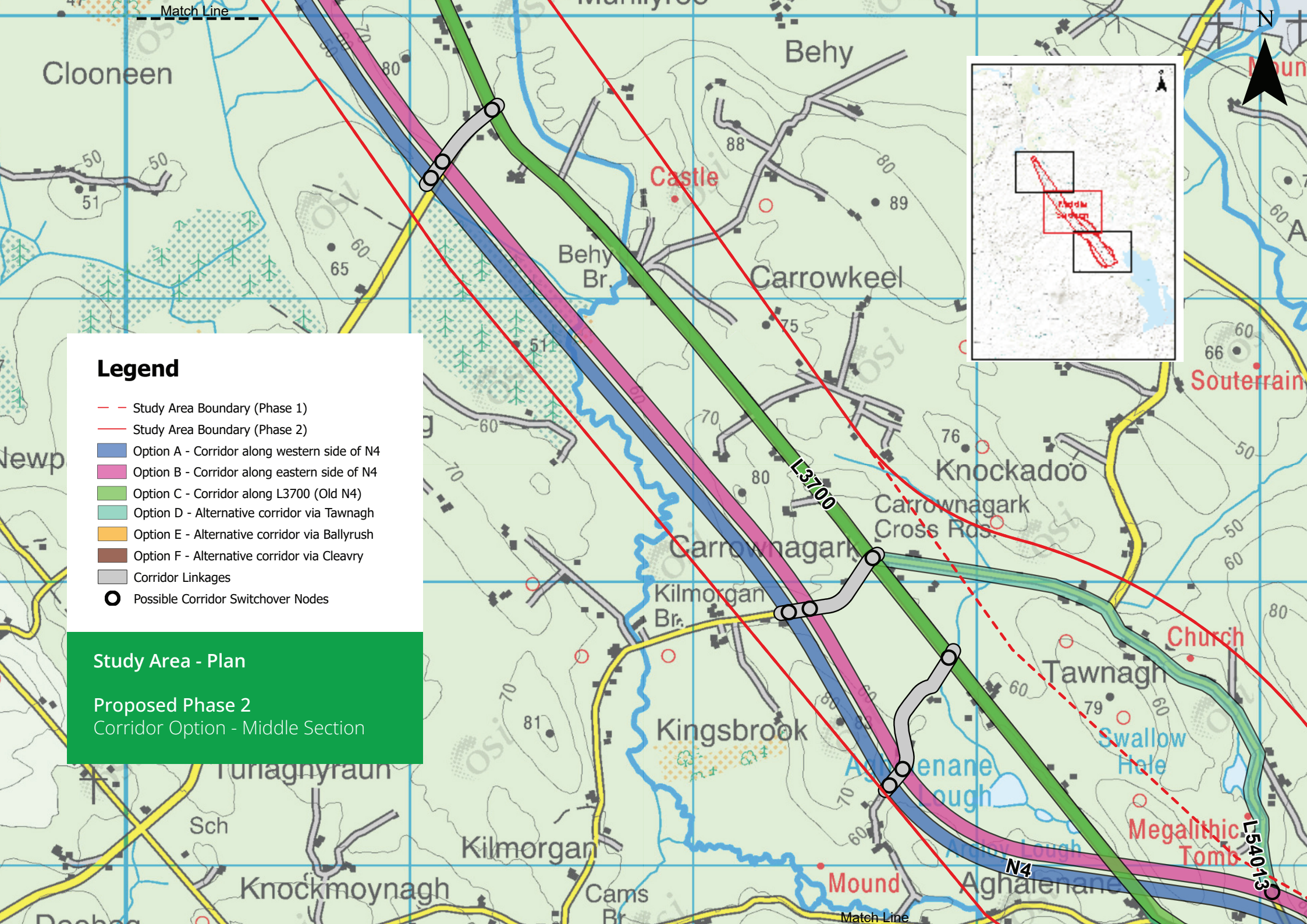
Legend

- - - Study Area Boundary (Phase 1)
- - - Study Area Boundary (Phase 2)
- █ Option A - Corridor along western side of N4
- █ Option B - Corridor along eastern side of N4
- █ Option C - Corridor along L3700 (Old N4)
- █ Option D - Alternative corridor via Tawnagh
- █ Option E - Alternative corridor via Ballyrush
- █ Option F - Alternative corridor via Cleavry
- ▬ Corridor Linkages
- Possible Corridor Switchover Nodes

Study Area - Plan

Proposed Phase 2
Corridor Option - Northern Section

Match Line

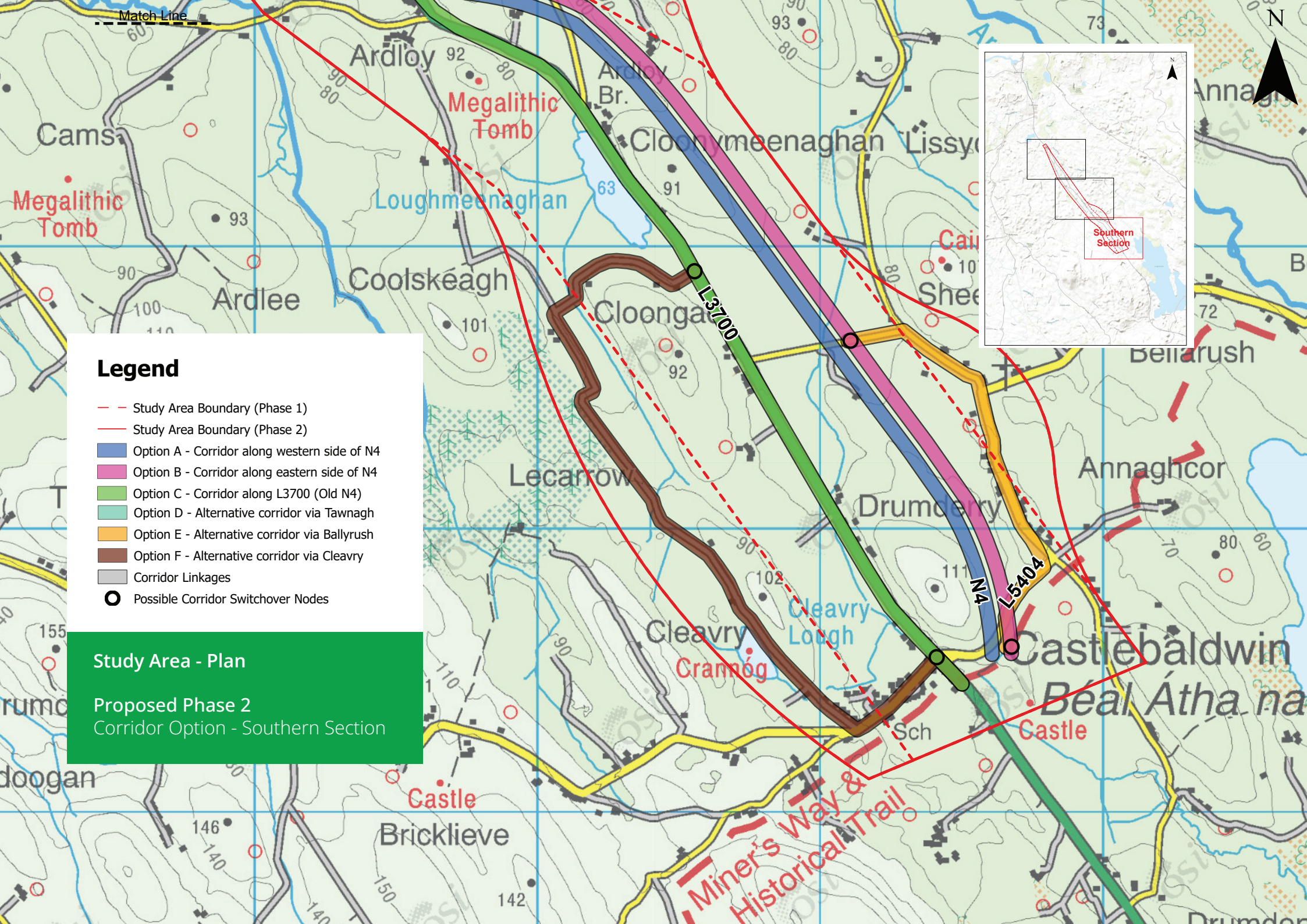


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Study Area - Plan

Proposed Phase 2
Corridor Option - Middle Section

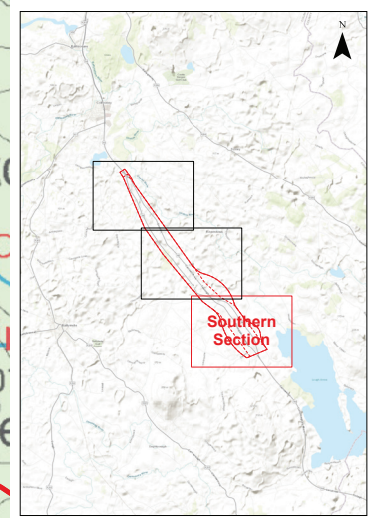


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- Option F - Alternative corridor via Cleavry
- Corridor Linkages
- Possible Corridor Switchover Nodes

Study Area - Plan

Proposed Phase 2
Corridor Option - Southern Section





Project Phasing & Timelines

This Schematic presents the overall project programme, including key steps and approval points, as well as projected timelines.

The Collooney to Castlebaldwin Scheme is currently at Phase 2 'Option Selection', according to TII's Project Management Guidelines – specifically Public Consultation No. 2.

The purpose of this public consultation is to get feedback from the public on the potential route options that have been developed for the Scheme.



Phase 2

Options Selection

We will identify key constraints and opportunities of the Scheme and its Study Area in order to develop and assess Options. We will determine a Preferred Option that is feasible and supports the Scheme Objectives.

Phase 3

Design & Environmental Evaluation

We will develop the design of the Preferred solution to a sufficient level of detail to establish land take requirements and undertake environmental evaluation so as to identify and mitigate impacts.

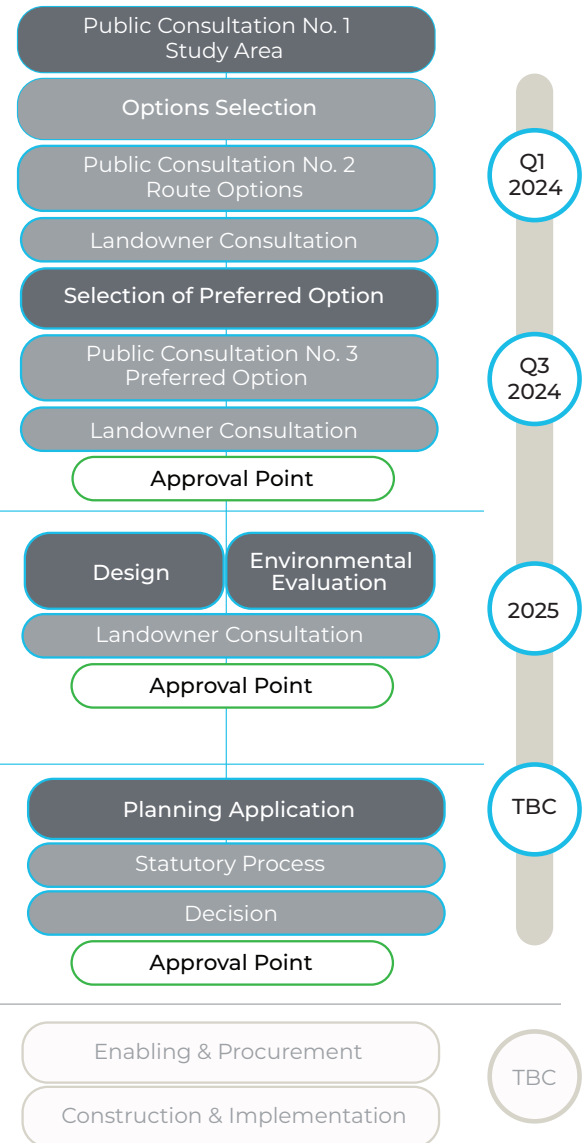
Phase 4

Statutory Process

We will advance the project through the Statutory Process to ensure that the project is developed in accordance with planning, environmental and other relevant legislation.

Phase 5 & 6

Phases 5 & 6 will be subject to planning approval and funding for the project to proceed.







What's Happening Now?

The Project Team are currently at Phase 2 of the process entitled 'Options Selection'. The purpose of Phase 2 is to examine alternative route options for the Collooney to Castlebaldwin Scheme in order to determine a Preferred Option.

To inform this process, Sligo County Council are seeking your input. Your feedback will provide invaluable insight into local constraints and opportunities.

Public consultation for this project will take place from **Monday 26th February to Friday 22nd March 2024**.

In-Person Consultation Event

Tuesday, 05th March 2024
14:00 - 20:00

Taylor's Art Gallery
Castlebaldwin, Co. Sligo
F52 K586

How to Get Involved

There are a number of ways to learn more about the project and to engage in the process. This second round of consultation is being held online through Sligo County Council's consultation portal, which is accessible at the following website: <https://consult.sligococo.ie/browse>.

The consultation portal will display all the relevant maps and materials.

There is also an opportunity to attend an in-person event where information will be on display and members of the Project Team will be present.

Feedback Forms can be submitted to the Sligo Regional Design Office in the following ways:

 consult.sligococo.ie/browse

 projectoffice@sligococo.ie

 Freepost FSG7627,
Sligo Regional Design Office,
Sligo County Council,
Unit 1, The Embankment,
Castle Street,
Sligo, F91 E4XY



**WE WANT
YOUR
FEEDBACK**