



UPDATE ON MAJOR ROAD PROJECTS

M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme – Main Works – Design & Build Contract

M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme is funded by the National Development Plan 2000-2006 and part-funded by the European Union under Trans European Transport Infrastructure Networks (TEN-T)

1. **Appointment of Contractor:** On the recommendation of Kilkenny County Council as lead authority in association with South Tipperary, North Tipperary and Laois County Councils, SRB Civil Engineering Ltd (a Roadbridge Sisk Joint Venture) has been approved by the National Roads Authority to undertake the Main Works Contract for the M8/N8 Cullahill to Cashel Road Improvement Scheme. The Contract was signed following the Sod Turning ceremony carried out by the Minister for Transport, Mr Martin Cullen TD, on the 5th October 2006. Construction of the scheme commenced on the 9th October 2006.
2. **Scope of the Works:** The scheme will include the construction of 29.5km of High Quality Dual Carriageway; 10km of Motorway; 4 Grade separated Junctions; 18 side road overbridges; 6 side road underbridges; 3 river bridges; 1 railway bridge; 15 farm underpasses and 2 farm overbridges. In addition, the project will provide realignment of various single carriageway local roads and farm accesses at various locations.
3. **Archaeological Resolution of the Scheme:** A contract for the provision of archaeological excavation of 57 areas within the landtake required for the project was awarded to Valerie J. Keeley Ltd, Archaeological Consultancy, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny in May 2006. The majority of the fifty seven sites have been resolved. The remaining sites will be resolved by early 2007.
4. **Commencement of Project and Establishment of Project Site Office:** SRB Civil Engineering Ltd is mobilising on site and is currently erecting site offices to the north of Urlingford. Kilkenny County Council will shortly be appointing a Project Engineer Construction, who will be based at the site office, to liaise with affected property owners, landowners and general public.
5. **Further Information:** Full details of the location and contact details for the Site Office will be publicised as soon as possible. Regular information bulletins will be issued from the site office dealing with progress on the project and traffic management matters.

Issued By Kilkenny County Council, Roads Project Office, 1 Dean Street, Kilkenny. Tel: 056 7794300