



8th February 2017

To: An Cathaoirleach and Each Member of Kilkenny County Council

Re: Section 85 Local Government Act 2001 Agreement with Kildare County Council

Invasive Alien Plant Species (IAPS) have the potential to affect the native Irish biodiversity and additionally are a risk to infrastructure; to include:

- damage to roads, carriageways, footpaths, walls and foundations
- impact to road safety - blocking sightlines and road signage and
- affect plans to construct and maintain roads.

IAPS are particularly prevalent in the Western Counties and in mid 2016, the Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) established a framework of specialist contractors to manage IAPS on roads. The TII are now proposing to focus on IAPS in counties where they are less prevalent – known as Priority 2 Counties. Because of the low levels of IAPS in these counties, it is more efficient to manage these contracts by a single authority acting as the lead, using bilateral Section 85 Agreement.

In accordance with the agreement, TII will provide an allocation in respect of the full cost of management of IAPS on National Roads, and provide assistance to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport on Regional Roads (mostly surveying) to manage same. The DTTS will fund any works required on regional roads.

It is recommended to the members, to enter into a Section 85 Agreement with Kildare County Council, being the lead authority for Priority 2 Counties in respect of the treatment of IAPS, pursuant to the provisions of Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001. This agreement will permit the identification and treatment of IAPS on National Roads, funded by the TII and the identification/surveying of Regional Roads on behalf of the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.

Signed:

Tim Butler

Director of Services

Corporate, HR, Roads & Transportation, Water Services, Health & Safety
& Communications