



GALWAY BRIDGE REHABILITATIONS SALMON WEIR BRIDGE



Preliminary Safety & Health Plan

Tender Issue | April 2026



Client:
Galway City Council
City Hall
College Road
Galway

Galway Bridge Rehabilitations Salmon Weir Bridge

Preliminary Safety & Health Plan

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[Prepared in Accordance with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations
2013]

Galway Bridge Rehabilitations Salmon Weir Bridge

Preliminary Safety & Health Plan

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1. GENERAL

1.1 Project Supervisor for the Design Process

Roughan & O'Donovan Consulting Engineers (ROD) have been appointed by Galway City Council to act as Project Supervisor for the Design Process [PSDP] for the rehabilitation of Salmon Weir Bridge in Galway Bridge. The project comprises undertaking site inspection, stage 1 structural assessment, the preliminary and detail design of bridge remediation/maintenance works, and preparation of the contract documentation. This PS&H Plan relates to the structural remediation works associated with the project.

The contact within ROD is Peter King (Tel: 01 294 0800, Email: peter.king@rod.ie).

1.2 Scope and Purpose of Preliminary Safety and Health Plan

For the purposes of Galway Bridge Rehabilitation – Salmon Weir Bridge project, this document shall constitute the Preliminary Safety and Health Plan as required by regulation 12 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2013 (hereinafter referred to as the Construction Regulations)

This document has been prepared for the purpose of providing information to the Project Supervisor for the Construction Stage [PSCS] who will further develop it for the Safety and Health Plan for the construction site, as required by Regulation 16 of the Construction Regulations.

1.3 Client

The Client for this project is
Galway City Council
City Hall
College Road
Co. Galway
Galway

The contact within the Client organisation is Siobhán Fallon.
E-mail: siobhan.fallon@galwaycity.ie

1.4 Designers

The Designers for the project are:

Roughan & Donovan
Arena House, Arena Road, Sandyford, Dublin 18
Tel: +353 1 294 0800
Fax: +353 1 294 0820

The contact within the Designer's organisation is:
Project Engineer: Peter King

1.5 Requirement for Notification by the PSCS

The project is of such a scale and duration that written notice (Form AF2) is to be sent to the HSA by the PSCS before work begins as required by Regulation 22 of the Construction Regulations.

1.6 Related Documents

This Preliminary Safety and Health Plan should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- i) Volume A: Works Requirements - Part 1 Drawings
- ii) Volume A: Works Requirements - Part 2 Specification
- iii) Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005;

- iv) S.I. No. 291 Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2013;
- v) S.I. No. 299 Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations 2007;
- vi) Guidelines and Codes of Practice as published from time to time by the HSA.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Roughan & O'Donovan Consulting Engineers (ROD) have been engaged by Galway City Council (GCC) to design refurbishment works for the Salmon Weir Bridge in Galway. This Preliminary Safety & Health Plan aims to identify risks arising from the design of the remedial measures. A brief description of each structure is given below:

(i) Salmon Weir Bridge

Salmon Weir Bridge an 8No. span masonry arch bridge on University Road which forms part of the R863 Regional Road. The overall bridge spans approximately 90m over three watercourses. The most westerly span spans over the Distillery Mill Race, the 2No. easterly most spans span over Friar's River Canal, and the remaining 5No. spans span over the River Corrib. Salmon Weir Bridge carries two lanes of traffic with 2No. footpaths on both the southern and northern side of the bridge. The bridge is trafficked by vehicular, pedestrian, and cyclist traffic.

2.1 Location of the Works

The Figure 2.1 illustrates the location of each structure.

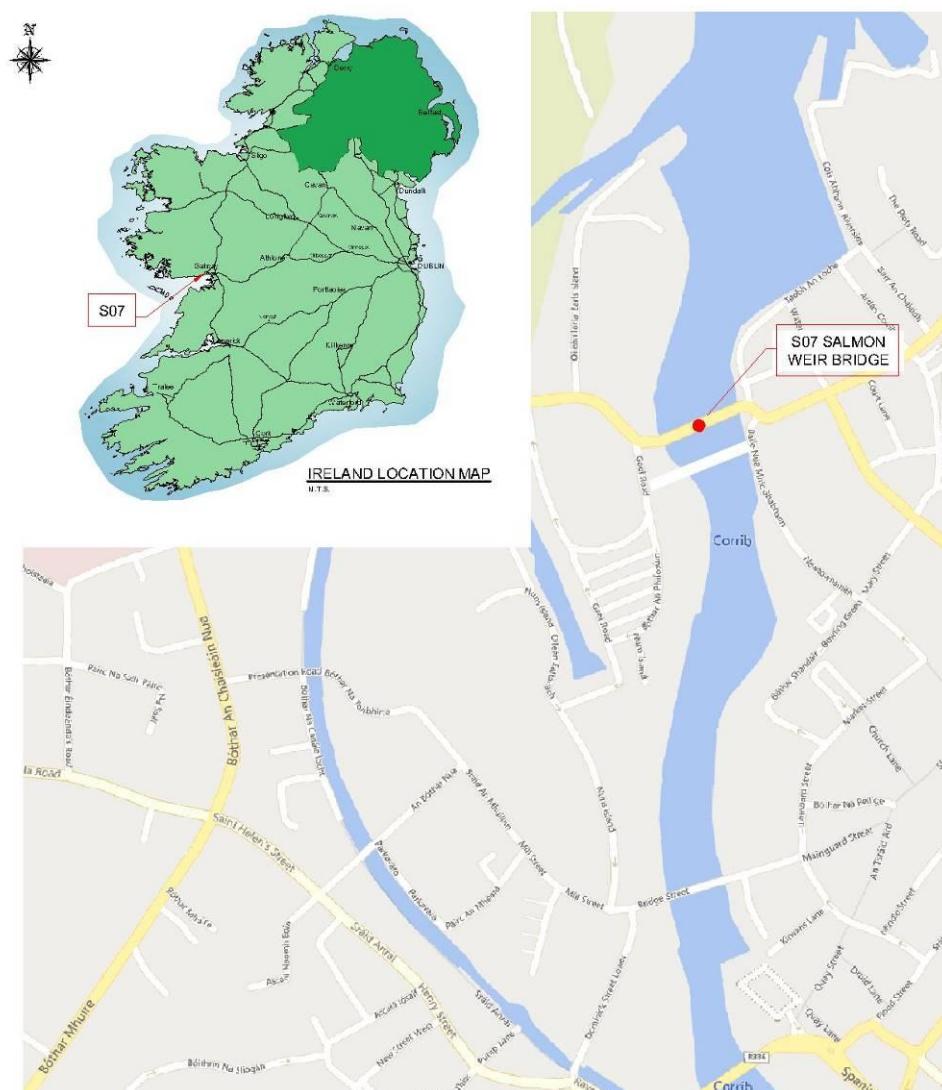


Figure 2.1 Bridge Locations

2.2 The Existing Environment

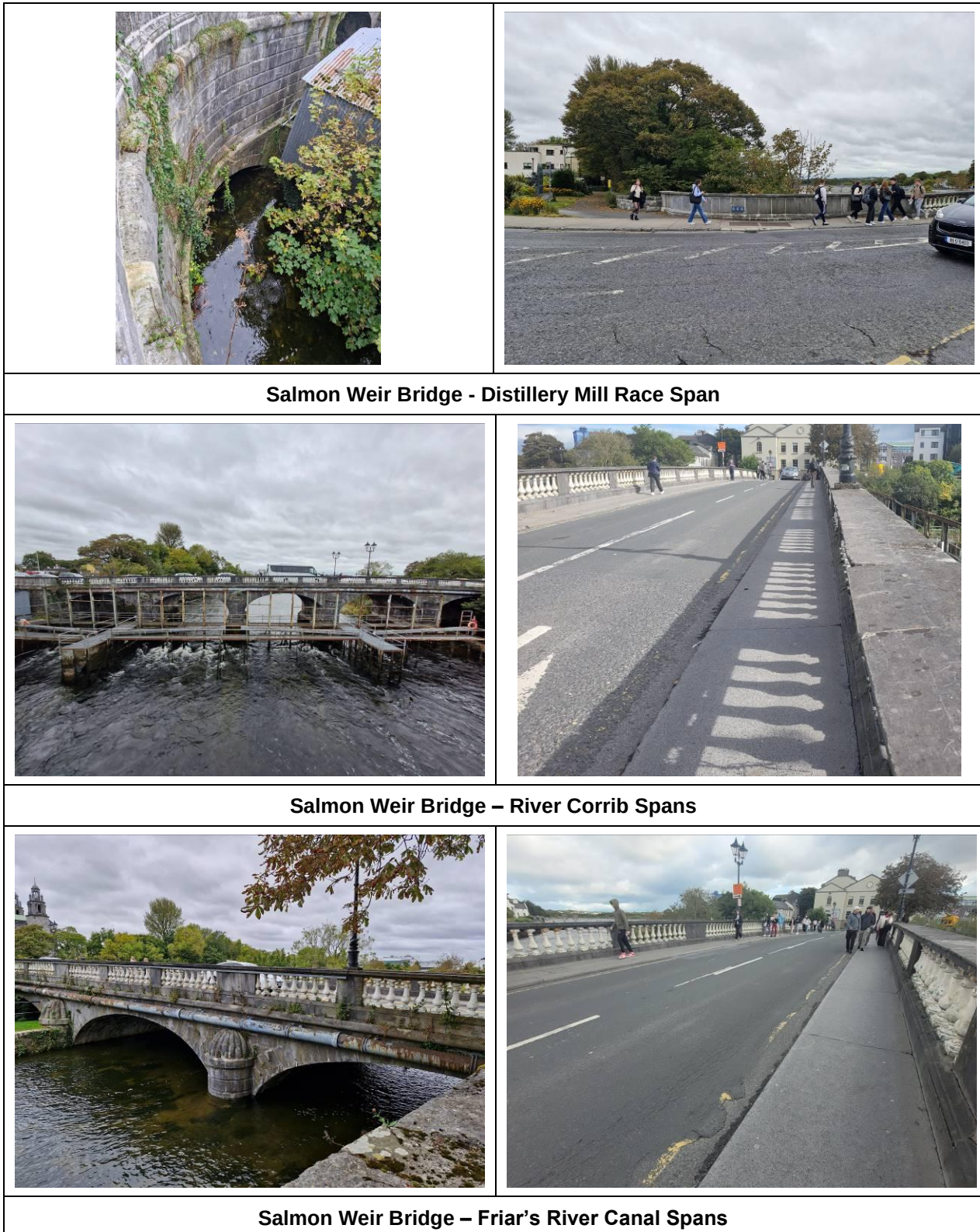


Figure 2.2 Southern Elevations on Salmon Weir Bridge and Photos of Upper Road

Salmon Weir Bridge is located in an urban environment in Galway City Centre.

(i) **Salmon Weir Bridge**

Salmon Weir Bridge is located on University Road which forms part of the R863 regional road, and is trafficked by vehicular, pedestrian, and cyclist traffic.

2.3 Description of the Works

The scope of works required is summarised briefly as follows:

- Site set-up;
- Water Quality Protection measures;
- Traffic management;
- Site clearance and removal of vegetation;
- Removal of all vegetation and algae from stonework;
- Removal of existing road pavement and footpaths;
- Installation of proposed road pavement and footpaths;
- Graffiti removal;
- Cleaning of stonework (specialist mild abrasive blast system appropriate to protected structures);
- Masonry Repairs (High quality sympathetic repairs by historic structure specialist mason);
- Masonry Repointing of Joints (by historic structures specialist);
- Concrete Scour Apron Repairs;
- Parapet Balusters (in-situ repairs, surface prep and repainting);
- Heritage Lamp Standards and Lantern Heads (replacement);
- Electrical works associated with Heritage Lighting;
- Provision of parapet striplighting and associated electrical works;
- Watermain repainting & Fixings repairs.

2.4 Time for Completion of Project

The estimated period of time for completion of the whole of the works is approximately 16 weeks.

The anticipated sequence of the Works is to be developed by the Contractor. The Contractor and Designer are required to liaise during the design and construction process to ensure that design assumptions are identified to the Contractor.

3. OTHER WORK ACTIVITIES ON SITE

3.1 Statutory and Other Bodies on the Site

The following is a non-exhaustive list of Utility companies affected by the works that will require advance notification:

- Galway City Council
- Uisce Éireann
- Eir
- ESB

3.2 Other Work Activities

During the works, contractors may also be on-site carrying out works within the parameters of the site. Co-ordination with other contractors on-site will be required in order to provide a safe working environment.

4. WORK INVOLVING PARTICULAR RISKS

4.1 Risks to Safety, Health and Welfare

The following is a list summarising those particular risks referred to in schedule 1 of the Construction Regulations which are considered relevant to the proposed works and are deemed to be reasonably foreseeable to the PSDP.

1. Work which puts persons at work at risk of -
 - a. falling from a height,
where the risk is particularly aggravated by the nature of the work or processes used or by the environment at the place of work or construction site.
2. which puts persons at work at risk from chemical or biological substances constituting a particular danger to the safety and health of such persons or involving a statutory requirement for health monitoring e.g., silica dust from mortar repairs.
3. Work near high, medium or low voltage power lines.
4. Work exposing persons at work to the risk of drowning.

The following is a non-exhaustive list of the work related to the project which will involve risks to the safety, health and welfare of persons in the construction of the works:

- i) Working adjacent to live traffic;
- ii) Operating hydro-demolition equipment;
- iii) Working adjacent to existing utilities; includes buried utilities including electrical cables, gas pipes, water pipes and telecoms ducts;
- iv) Work involving the use of cutting tools;
- v) Work involving exposure of workers to dust from cutting of either natural or artificial materials and the consequent effects on health, e.g., sensitisation of the respiratory system and other respiratory illnesses, irritation and injury to eyes, dermatitis and other skin complaints;
- vi) Work involving temporary diversions of traffic and provision of traffic management adjacent to the works;
- vii) Working with heavy precast and prefabricated elements i.e. formwork;
- viii) Work involving the use of materials-handling machinery and other plant adjacent to traffic, pedestrians and cyclists;
- ix) Handling Corrosive materials e.g., mortar;
- x) Working in confined spaces;
- xi) Instability of existing structures e.g., there is evidence of loose stonework and missing stones
- xii) Work involving exposure of workers to excessive noise and the consequent effects on health;
- xiii) Working with hot materials;
- xiv) Risk of electrocution from electrical cables;
- xv) Work involving exposure of workers to dust from cutting of either natural or artificial materials and the consequent effects on health, e.g., sensitisation of the respiratory system and other respiratory illnesses, irritation and injury to eyes, dermatitis and other skin complaints;
- xvi) Works involving exposure to noise and vibration;
- xvii) Works involving manual handling;
- xviii) Works involving plant and machinery;
- xix) Work adjacent to watercourses;
- xx) Waterborne diseases, Weil's Disease and other mammalian diseases;
- xxi) Risk to members of the public gaining unauthorised access to the site. This risk is

- increased when adjacent to housing estates and public facilities;
- xxii) Working hoists and lifting appliances adjacent to live traffic;

4.2 Specific Measures for Reducing Risks

It is envisaged at the commencement of the Construction Stage that the following non-exhaustive list of specific measures for reducing particular risks will be addressed by the PSCS in the Construction Stage Safety and Health Plan.

- i) The use of transport vehicles, and materials-handling shall be planned to conform with the following conditions:
 - a) The stability of any temporary works shall be secured;
 - b) Provision of adequate lateral clearance for live traffic adjacent to works areas;
 - c) Sufficient clearances both laterally and vertically to achieve adequate working space shall be ensured for vehicles and machinery, especially in proximity to live traffic lanes, pedestrians and cyclists, so as not to trap or crush persons or cause damage or collapse of temporary platforms, trenches and the like;
 - d) Traffic management plans with high visibility signs and temporary road markings, banksman/lookouts to be used for site traffic with full PPE worn by all staff.
- ii) Measures will be required for the safe operation with clearance zones for plant adjacent to vehicular traffic;
- iii) Measures will be required for the safe operation of plant working including adequate protection to live traffic;
- iv) Securing of the site and compound against unauthorised access to protect public safety and prevent vandalism;
- v) Measures will be required for the safe provision of temporary diversions of traffic, buses, cyclists, pedestrians and emergency services;
- vi) Based on acquired information to locate the exact position of all public and private service utilities prior to excavation work - through the continued liaison with service providers – ensure that the engaged works do not affect underground services without appropriate approval;
- vii) Measures will be required in the planning and delivery of concrete and other materials to site, particularly given the confined nature of the site;
- viii) Measures will be required to address the removal of the lamp standards;
- ix) Measures will be required in the cleaning, demolition and storage of materials on site;
- x) Equipment and clothing to protect against noise, hazardous materials etc to be provided e.g. lead-based paint.
- xi) Equipment and arrangements are to be put in place to prevent drowning.
- xii) Measures to address the risks associated with instability in existing structures.

5. LOCATION OF EXISTING SERVICES TO FACILITATE ADEQUATE WELFARE FACILITIES

5.1 Electricity

Electricity supply may be readily available for the provision of welfare facilities at the sites. If necessary, discussions are to be held with Galway City Council.

5.2 Foul Sewer

A foul sewer connection to public sewer may be available for welfare facilities. If necessary, discussions are to be held with Uisce Éireann.

5.3 Water

A connection may be available, if necessary, discussions to be held with Uisce Éireann.

6. COORDINATION OF DESIGN

6.1 Continuing Liaison

Procedures will be required for liaison between the PSCS, the PSDP, the Contractor and the Designer for considering the following:

- (a) safety and health implication of design elements;
- (b) unforeseen eventualities during project execution resulting in substantial design change and which might affect particular risks, time for completion, or have other safety and health implications;
- (c) the provision of information for the Safety File.

6.2 Safety File

Pursuant to regulation 13 of the Construction Regulations, the Project Supervisor for the Design Process is required to:

'prepare a written safety file appropriate to the characteristics of the project, containing relevant safety and health information, including any information provided under regulation 21, to be taken into account during any subsequent construction work following completion of the project and promptly deliver the safety file to the client on completion of the project.'

In order to prepare the safety file, the PSDP must receive the appropriate information from designers, the PSCS and other duty-holders.

Regulation 21 requires the PSCS to

'co-ordinate arrangements among contractors to ensure the provision of relevant information, in writing, necessary for the project supervisor for the design process to complete the safety file referred to in regulation 13, monitor the implementation of the arrangements and take any necessary corrective action, as set out in regulation 20, and provide in writing to the project supervisor for the design process all relevant information necessary for that project supervisor to complete the safety file referred to in regulation 13.'

The following is a non-exhaustive list of contents that are required to be included in the safety file. It is not intended to be a complete list and in no way relieves the PSCS of his obligations under the regulations.

- Safety and Health Plan for the construction site prepared by the PSCS;
- As Built Drawings;
- Maintenance Procedures and Manuals;
- Relevant Certificates from Suppliers / Manufacturers / Specialist Contractors etc;
- Details of Location and Nature of Utilities and Services and details of relevant procedures and precautions to be followed.

6.3 Design Assumptions

The Designer has made assumptions in the design as to the methods of construction of the Works. Any variation in these methods proposed by the Contractor, which would require substantial change in the design or have safety and health implications, will require to be considered in the Safety and Health Plan to be prepared by the PSCS.

Any design changes arising from unforeseen eventualities during construction which might affect particular risks, the time for completion or have other safety and health implications must be notified to the PSDP.

APPENDIX A

Designer's Assessment Records

Designer's Assessment of safety and health hazards/risks

Made (Design/Project Engineer):	DS / PK		Scheme Name:	Project Number:
Checker:	PK		Galway Bridge Rehabilitations – Salmon Weir Bridge	23.150
Date:	20/04/2026			
Identified Hazard or Risk.	Exposed Party		Evaluation, Design Decisions and / or Alternative Actions	Is the risk of a substantial or unusual nature such that information should be provided to the PSDP?
(P) indicates a Particular Risk listed in Schedule 1 of the Regulations	Contractor	Public Maintainer	<i>Description of risk or hazardous activity</i> Describe the design decisions, assumed construction methods and / or alternative actions	
Work which puts persons at work at risk of falling from a height (P)	✓		The design requires the repair of bridge elements over the River Corrib, Friar's River Canal, and Distillery Mill Race. These works would be considered typical, and given the works are being undertaken by a competent contractor, it is considered that the risk is not unusual in nature. It is assumed that the Contractor will implement protective measures to ensure that all works are carried out in safe manner (e.g.: ensure a stable working platform is available to complete the proposed works on / over the river / canal, ensure workers remain behind the parapets when undertaking works on the deck and verge).	Yes
Work which puts persons at work at risk from chemical or biological substances (P)	✓		Persons may be at risk due to exposure to chemical and biological substances arising from vegetation and algae removal, graffiti removal, stone cleaning, masonry repairs, concrete works, repainting, electrical works, and general road and footpath construction activities. These works may involve exposure to biological growths, contaminated surface water, dusts, lime-based mortars, cementitious materials, cleaning agents, paints, solvents and fuels. This risk cannot be eliminated as the works require cleaning, repair and repainting of the existing bridge structure and associated road and footpath works. The design specifies the use of appropriate specialist methods and materials, including mild abrasive stone cleaning systems and lime repair mortars The Specification will require the Contractor to use products which are NSAI/BSI or equivalent approved and include requirements regarding the use of hazardous materials.	Yes
Work with ionising radiation (P)	✓		Nuclear density gauge may be used to test compaction of pavement layers and are a source of ionising radiation. PSCS / testing organisation needs to comply with its RPII Licence conditions and Radiation Safety Procedures.	No
Work near medium and high voltage power lines (P)	✓		Underground electricity lines present along the bridges. Preliminary utilities tracking indicates presence of medium voltage lines along all bridges. Contractor will be required to locate the position of all public and private service utilities prior to commencing of work. This will involve liaison with service providers such as ESB, and carried out a CAT scan to confirm the absence of underground cables.	Yes

Designer's Assessment of safety and health hazards/risks

Identified Hazard or Risk.	Exposed Party			Evaluation, Design Decisions and / or Alternative Actions	Is the risk of a substantial or unusual nature such that information should be provided to the PSDP?
(P) indicates a Particular Risk listed in Schedule 1 of the Regulations	Contractor	Public	Maintainer	Description of risk or hazardous activity Describe the design decisions, assumed construction methods and / or alternative actions	
Work exposing persons at work to the risk of drowning (P)	✓			Works are required to the elevations, arch barrels, wingwalls, approach walls, piers, and abutments of the bridge, therefore works over watercourses are required. To mitigate the risk while working on the River Corrib, Friar's River Canal, and Distillery Mill Race, it is assumed that a safe and stable working platform will be used. It is not possible to completely eliminate this risk due to the works requirements. All site operatives should be provided with site safety induction prior to starting on site. The contractor should ensure that when operatives are working adjacent to the river, that appropriate PPE, including life vests are worn where appropriate.	Yes
Risk of injury and damage to the underground services	✓			Persons may be at risk of injury and existing underground services may be damaged during excavation, removal of existing road pavement and footpaths, installation of new pavements, electrical works, and associated construction activities where buried services are present. The location of known services has been included for in the Contract Drawings. Risk of injury and damage to the services network due to buried service strike within site area during intrusive work. Contractor will be required to locate the position of all public and private service utilities prior to commencing of work. This will involve liaison with service providers such as Gas Network Ireland, ESB, Uisce Éireann, and Eir, and hand digging and CAT scan to confirm absence of utility ducts.	Yes
Work involving the assembly or dismantling of heavy prefabricated components (P)	✓			Persons may be at risk of injury during the assembly, lifting, positioning or dismantling of heavy prefabricated components associated with heritage lamp standards, lantern heads, parapet strip lighting, and associated fittings and fixings. This risk cannot be eliminated as the works require the installation, replacement and removal of heavy prefabricated elements. The contractor should provide appropriate lifting equipment and provide appropriate training in materials handling.	Yes
Construction Traffic	✓	✓		Construction traffic will require temporary traffic management to ensure safe access to the site and for the transport of large elements. The use of transport vehicles, paving machinery and materials handling plant should be planned. The Contractor is anticipated to provide traffic management and routing of vehicles and personnel to reduce risk. The Contractor is to have clearly signed access and exit points to the site.	No

Designer's Assessment of safety and health hazards/risks

Identified Hazard or Risk.	Exposed Party			Evaluation, Design Decisions and / or Alternative Actions	Is the risk of a substantial or unusual nature such that information should be provided to the PSDP?
(P) indicates a Particular Risk listed in Schedule 1 of the Regulations	Contractor	Public	Maintainer	Description of risk or hazardous activity Describe the design decisions, assumed construction methods and / or alternative actions	
Work involving exposure to live traffic	✓	✓		Live traffic will need to be maintained on bridge carriageways. A temporary traffic management plan is envisaged to manage the interface between the site traffic with the life traffic on the respective roads for each bridge. It is envisaged that the contractor will liaise with Galway City Council in the preparation and implementation of traffic management at the site.	Yes
Confined Space	✓			The Distillery Mill Race on the western side of the Salmon weir Bridge has limited headroom and width and therefore may constitute a confined space. To carry out the masonry repair works for this part of Salmon Weir Bridge, it is anticipated the Contractor will take all necessary precautions to address the risks associated with working in confined spaces and carry out all works strictly in accordance with the HSA Code of Practice for Working in Confined Spaces.	Yes
Instability of existing structures	✓			While the structures were determined to have sufficient capacity for the applied traffic loading, meaning a global collapse is highly unlikely, this does not mean that a local collapses of an individual element isn't possible, particularly when these elements are being disturbed in order to carry out repairs. It is assumed that the Contractor will employ suitable temporary works measures to stabilise any component subject to repair works. A detailed method statement and risk assessment will be required for any such works.	Yes
Work involving exposure to dust	✓	✓		Persons may be at risk of exposure to dust arising from removal of existing road pavement and footpaths, stone cleaning, masonry repairs, repointing, concrete repairs and associated construction activities. There will be dust generation over the duration of the works, preventative measures should be taken. This issue is of particular concern due to proximity of the site to the live carriageway. It is anticipated that preventative action will be taken by the contractor. Preventative measures may include damping of the site in dry weather conditions, provision of screening, equipment that can collect deleterious material and the provision of PPE.	No

Designer's Assessment of safety and health hazards/risks

Identified Hazard or Risk.	Exposed Party			Evaluation, Design Decisions and / or Alternative Actions	Is the risk of a substantial or unusual nature such that information should be provided to the PSDP?
(P) indicates a Particular Risk listed in Schedule 1 of the Regulations	Contractor	Public	Maintainer	Description of risk or hazardous activity Describe the design decisions, assumed construction methods and / or alternative actions	
Flooding	✓			Works will need to be required on the River Corrib, Friar's River Canal, and Distillery Mill Race. The Contractor is to ensure that water in the River Corrib, Friar's River Canal, and Distillery Mill Race is at a safe level prior to starting any works in that watercourse. Safe access and egress from the watercourse must be ensured by the contractor at all times. All site operatives should be provided with site safety induction prior to starting on site. The contractor should ensure that when operatives are working adjacent to the river, that appropriate PPE, including life vests are worn where appropriate.	Yes
Work involving exposure to asbestos	✓			The presence of asbestos is unknown. Contractor will be required to put in place measures of prevention if asbestos is encountered during the works and to ensure that no damage is caused to existing asbestos which may release respirable fibres.	No
Work involving exposure to lead paint	✓	✓		The presence of lead paint is unknown. Assumed construction methods involve manual scraping, sanding with HEPA filters, and chemical stripping, all within enclosed areas. Contractor will be required to implement preventive measures if lead paint is encountered during the works and ensure that no damage is caused to existing lead paint which may release harmful lead dust.	Yes
Risk of slips, Trips	✓	✓		Slips, trips and falls are a risk on uneven ground or where the construction works require an existing public route to be diverted. All site operatives are expected to receive safety induction training. Furthermore, appropriate signage should be erected to make site personnel aware of potential trip/slip hazards. Footway diversions should be well sign posted and follow routes that does not put the general public at risk of slips, trips or falls.	No
Work involving exposure to vibration	✓			Persons may be at risk of exposure to vibration and risk of white finger arising from the use of handheld pneumatic tools and plant during site clearance, removal of existing road pavement and footpaths, stone cleaning, masonry repairs, concrete repairs and associated construction activities Appropriate safety equipment and PPE should be provided to site staff using or affected by vibrating machinery. Assumed that the Contractor will take measures such as rotating operatives and limiting of exposure duration to reduce exposure.	No
Provision of welfare facilities	✓			No water, electrical or foul services are readily available on the site The Contractor to provide independent welfare facilities.	No

Designer's Assessment of safety and health hazards/risks

Identified Hazard or Risk.	Exposed Party			Evaluation, Design Decisions and / or Alternative Actions	Is the risk of a substantial or unusual nature such that information should be provided to the PSDP?
(P) indicates a Particular Risk listed in Schedule 1 of the Regulations	Contractor	Public	Maintainer	<i>Description of risk or hazardous activity</i> Describe the design decisions, assumed construction methods and / or alternative actions	
Unauthorised Access by members of the public		✓		<i>Exposure to antisocial behaviour</i> The proposed site is located in an urban area. It is assumed that the Contractor will evaluate the risks at the site and make adequate provision for security.	No
Waterborne diseases Weil's Disease and other mammal borne diseases	✓			The location of the site provides the environment for vermin to be present. It is expected that the Contractor's method of work will address this hazard and will provide site induction and appropriate health and safety equipment to be locally available.	No
Work involving exposure of workers to excessive noise	✓	✓		Machinery will be required for the works. Use of quieter machinery and silencers or alternative construction methods to be considered where applicable. Personal protective equipment to protect against hearing loss should be provided. Compliance with legislative requirements.	No

Other parties please take note: These are designer's risk evaluations of design options carried out in-house for the purpose of our complying with designers' duties under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2013. The evaluations relate only to those aspects/elements of the project which we are responsible for designing under the terms of our appointment by our client. Other parties should not rely on these evaluations for their own purposes; in particular, contractors, who must deal with and control all risks arising during construction, must carry out their own definitive risk assessments *ab initio* for that purpose.