

Natural Environment Division Klondyke Building Cromac Avenue Gasworks Business Park Malone Lower Belfast BT7 2JA

Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council Local Planning Office Cloonavin 66 Portstewart Road Coleraine Co. Londonderry BT52 1EY

Direct Tel No: 028 90569538

Our Ref: ASSI429

14 June 2018

Dear Sir / Madam

CONFIRMATION OF GORTYCAVAN AREA OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST ARTICLE 28(6) OF THE ENVIRONMENT (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 2002

Date of declaration: 1 December 2017

Council Area: Causeway Coast & Glens BC

County: Co. Londonderry

Irish Grid Reference: C 796 302

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, having not received any objections or representations regarding the above declaration, hereby gives notice that it has confirmed the declaration of Gortycavan Area of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI) as previously notified to you.

As you will be aware from the citation documents received at the time of declaration, the above Area of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI) has been afforded legal protection against specified operations or activities that may damage its scientific features.

I refer you to the Schedule which you received with your citation documents that lists those operations and activities which the Department considers may cause damage to the features of this ASSI and would remind you of the requirement to apply for written consent/assent from the Department **before** carrying any of them out.





Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) has a statutory responsibility to manage and protect ASSIs and it wishes to work in a cooperative way with landowners and occupiers to secure the scientific features of those areas. Given this responsibility NIEA is also obliged to consider any damage to an ASSI as a serious matter and it is a criminal offence under Article 46 of The Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 to cause damage to these lands.

Yours faithfully

DR J WARNOCK

Assistant Director

Conservation Designations and Protection

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