



Kildare Meath Grid Upgrade

Step 4

Consultation



Have your say at eirgrid.ie/KildareMeath





Introduction to EirGrid

- EirGrid operates and develops the electricity grid in Ireland. We send power from where it is generated to where it is needed.
- We are owned by the Irish Government, and we are a regulated utility. This means we operate solely for the benefit of the electricity user.
- We do not generate electricity – we bring it from generators across the grid. We also operate some interconnectors with neighbouring electricity grids.



Introduction to EirGrid

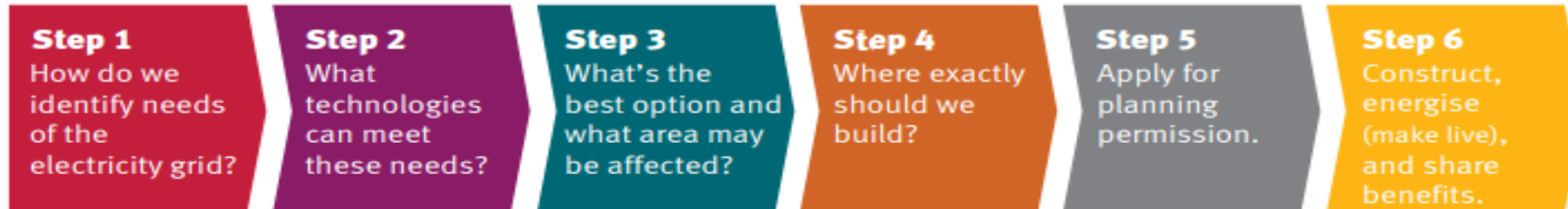
- We run the wholesale electricity market. This ensures electricity is always available at the most economic price possible.
- We do not own the electricity grid, and have no vested interest in adding to it.
- We only upgrade or add to the grid in response to government policy, or where it is an essential response to secure Ireland's electricity supply.

What is the Kildare Meath Grid Upgrade?

- Connect Woodland in County Meath and Dunstown in County Kildare
- Integrate electricity generators (renewable and conventional)
- Serve growing demand in the East
- Introduce large cross-country power flows to the East
- Better distribute power within Kildare, Meath and surrounding counties



What has happened so far?



Step 1 (2018)

Identified the need for the Kildare-Meath upgrade

Step 2 (Nov 2018 – Feb 2019)

Short list of options identified, and consulted on, with a combination of overhead line and underground option.

Step 3 (April 2021)

5 options consulted on and a 400kV underground cable identified as the best performing option.

Step 4 (current step)

Identification of potential underground cable route options

How do we plan route options?

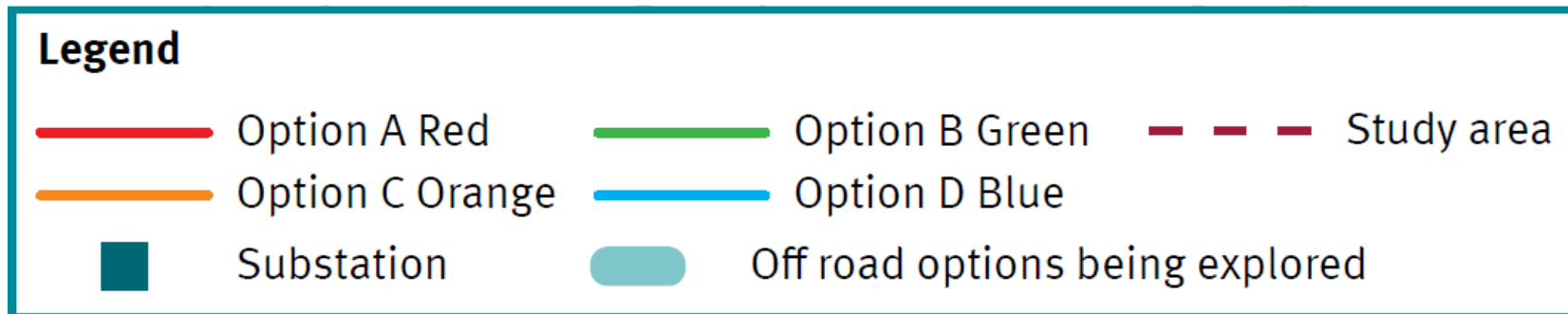
- We follow a set of guidelines called routing principles
- We take into account constraints
- We listen to feedback from the community

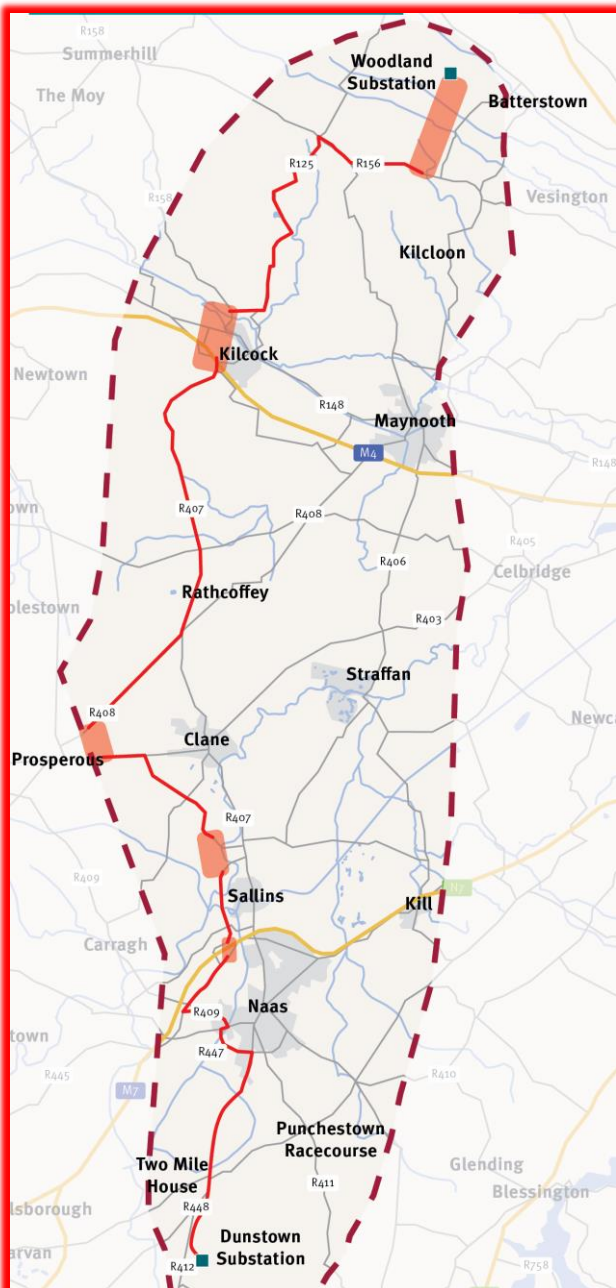
What is common to the route options?

- **Woodland Station** – all routes start here
- **Dunstown Station** – all routes travel here
- **Royal Canal and Grand Canal crossings** – all routes cross here
- We will need to cross some or all of the following:
 - the Rye Water,
 - River Liffey.
 - Dublin-Sligo railway line,
 - Dublin-Cork (and others) railway line,
 - the M4 motorway,
 - the N7 national road and
 - the M7 motorway.

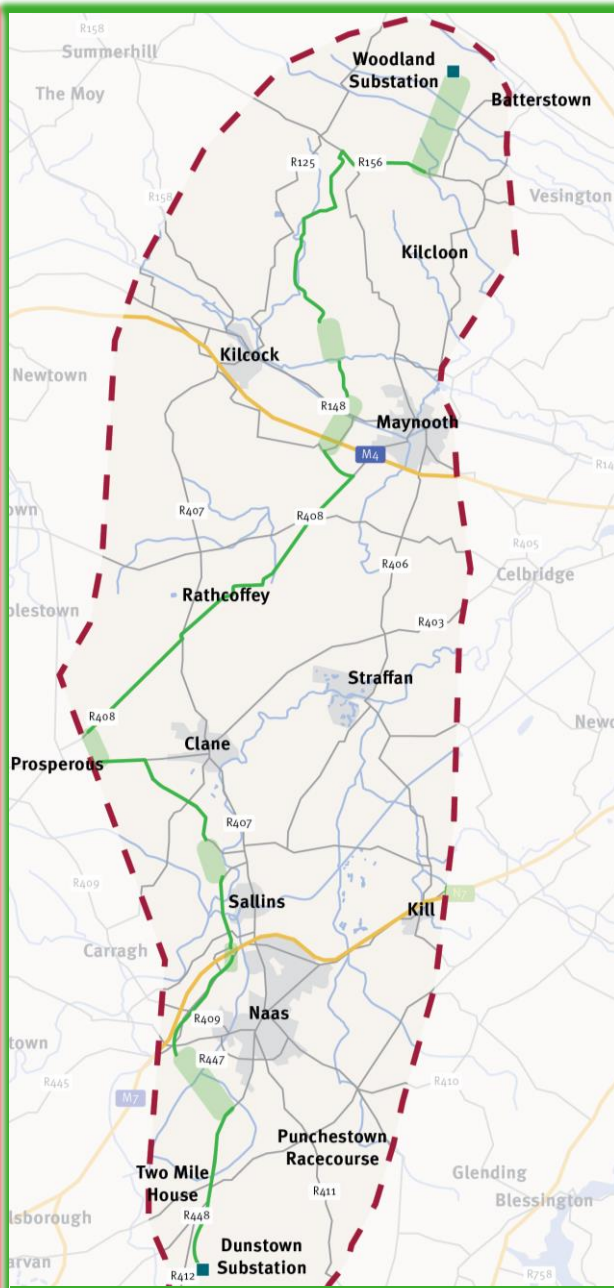
Off-road corridors

- Most of the cable can be laid in the existing road network.
- Each option will require some cable to be off-road.
- We highlight corridors on the route option maps – because we don't have an off-road route agreed.
- We will avoid agricultural land as far as possible and utilise land perimeters.

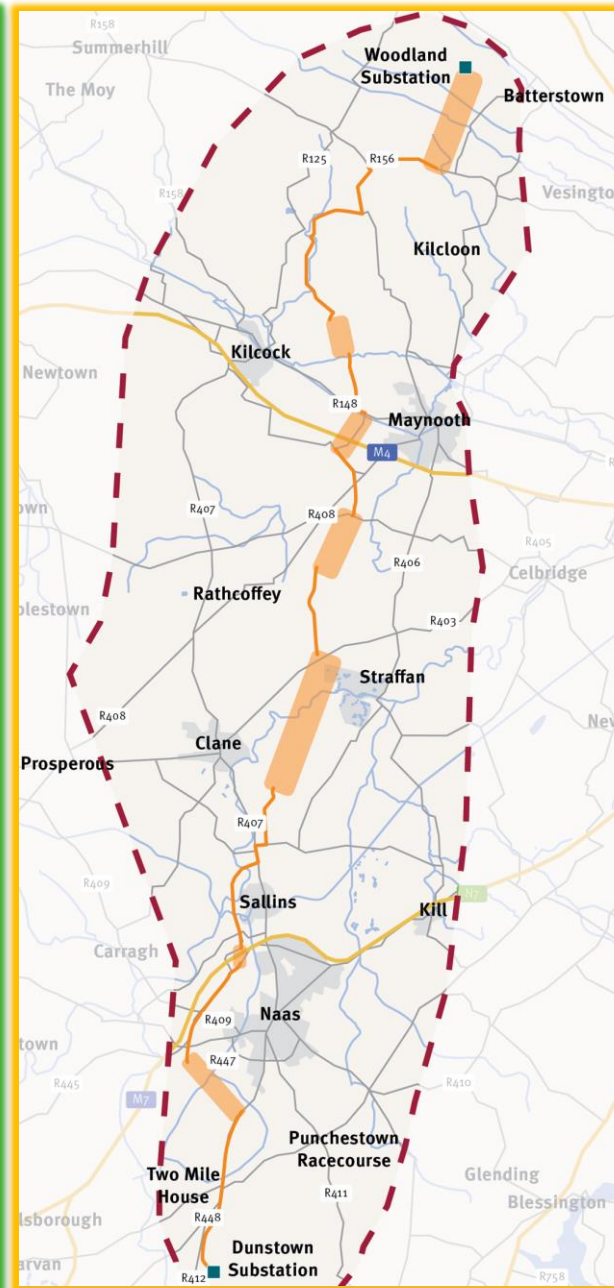




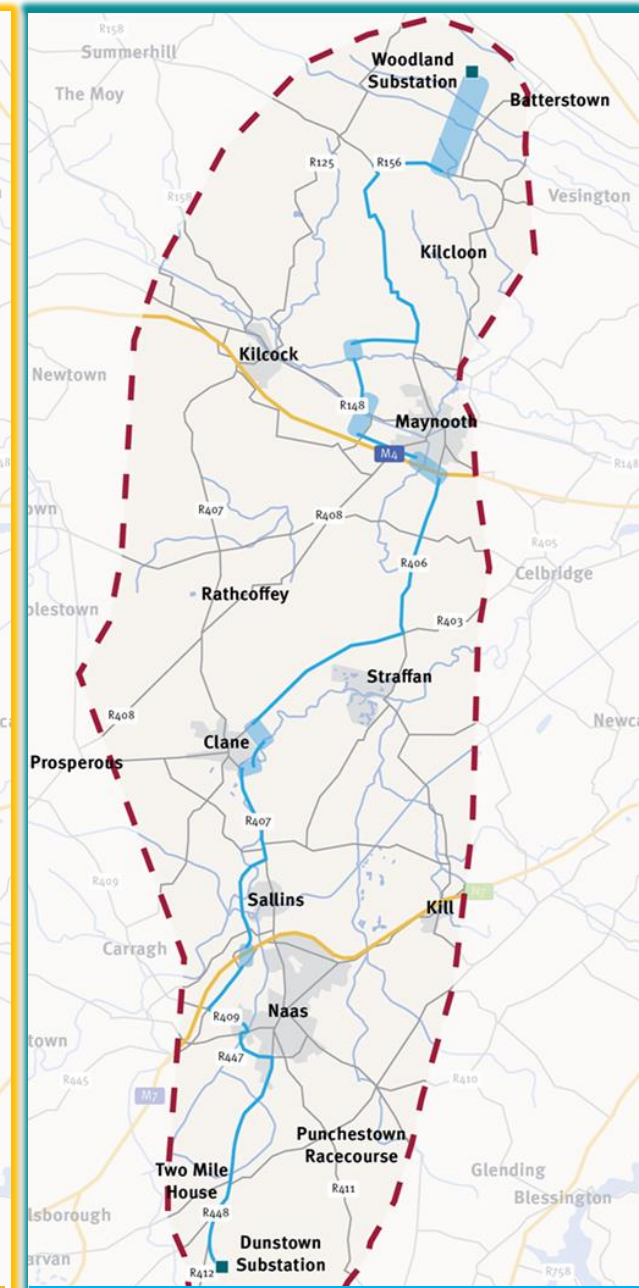
Option A (Red)



Option B (Green)

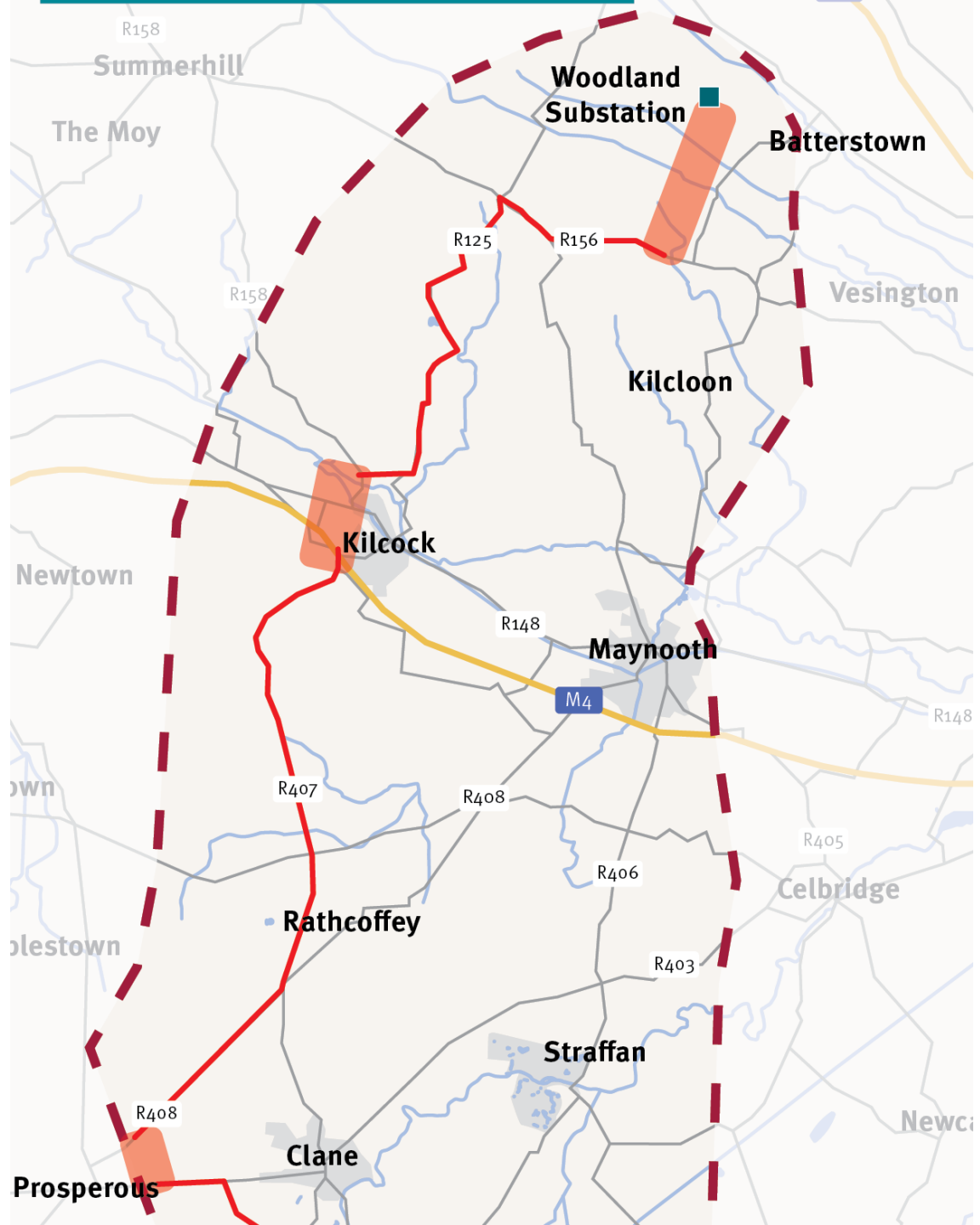


Option C (Orange)

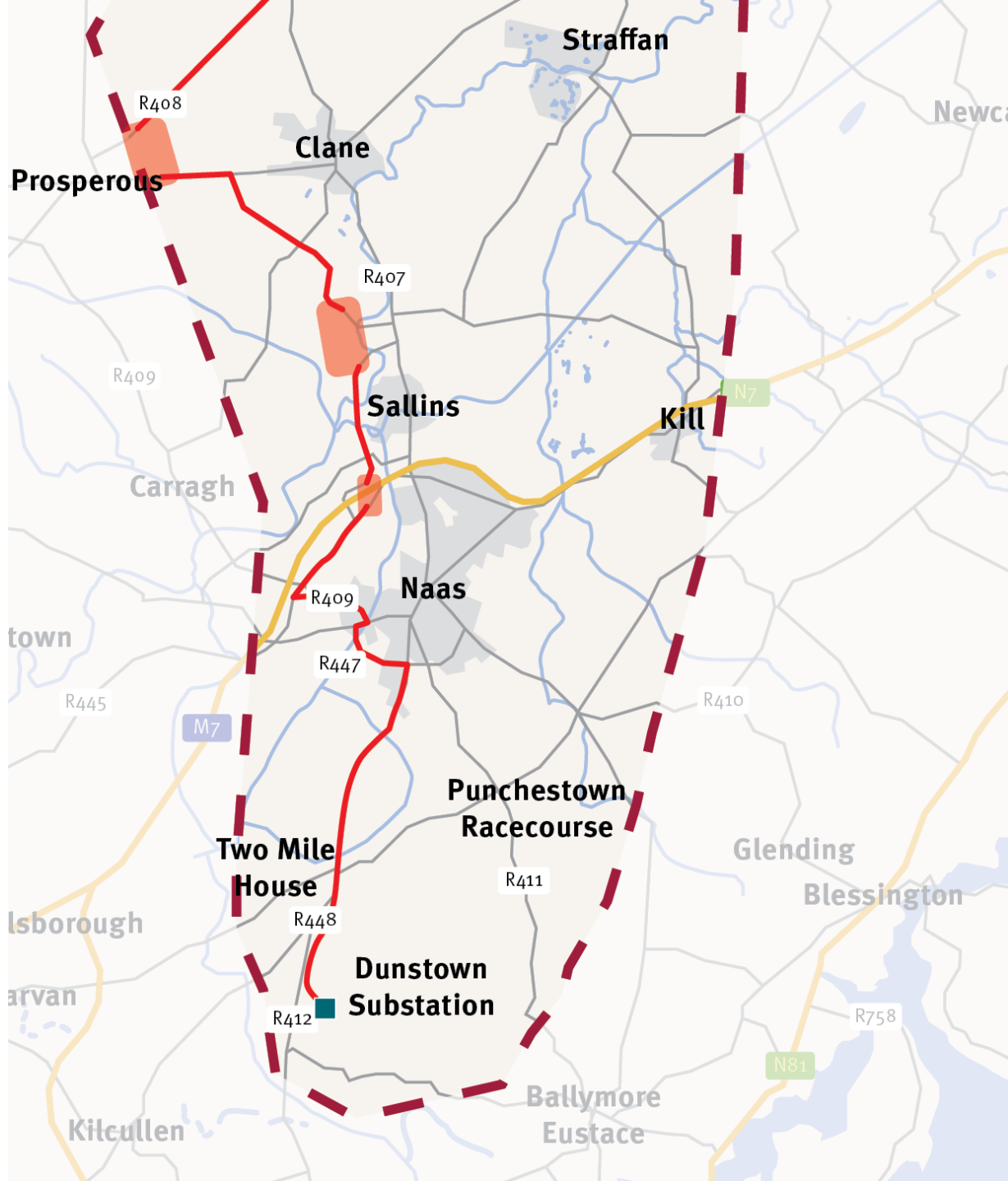


Option D (Blue)

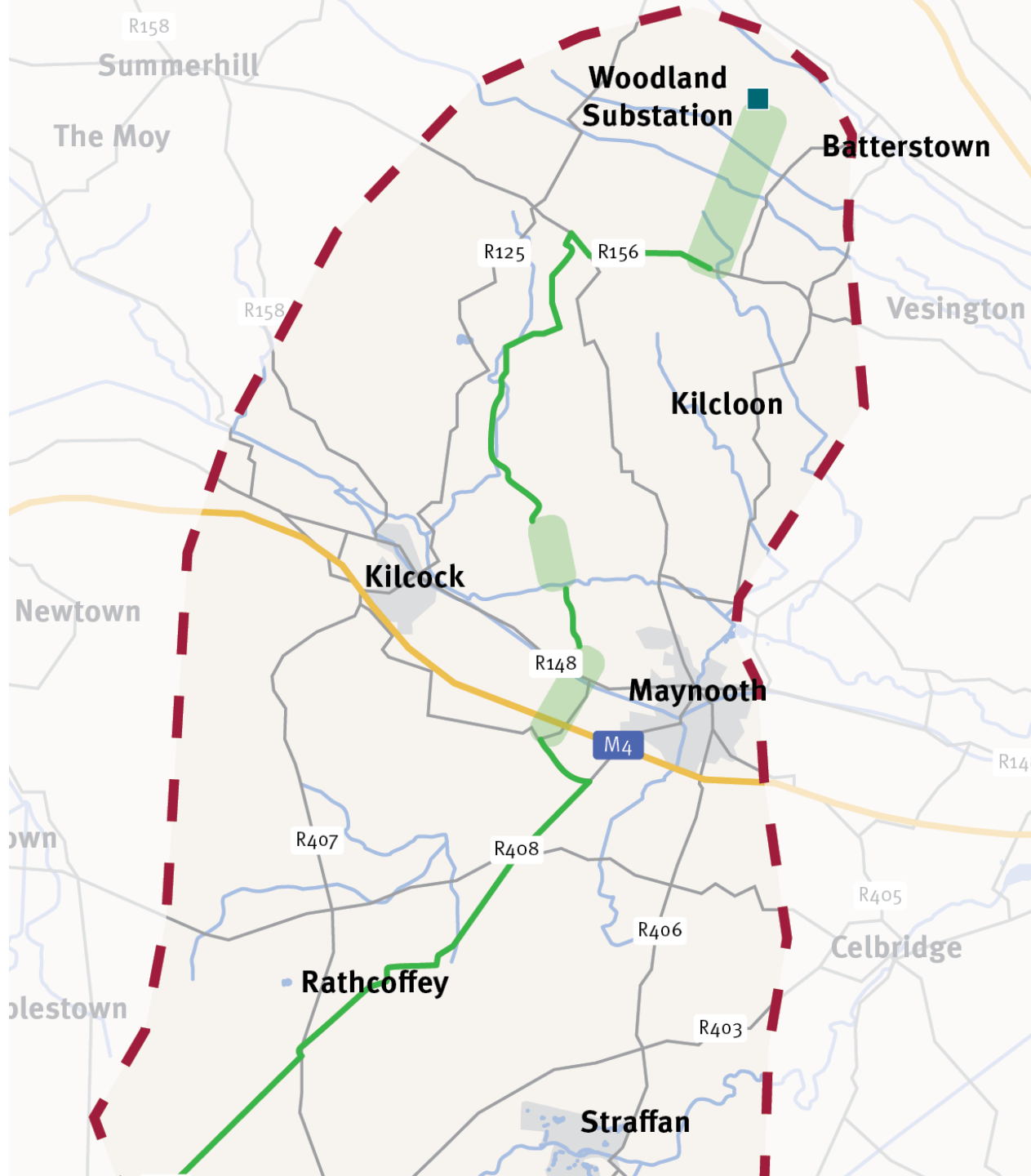
Option A (Red)



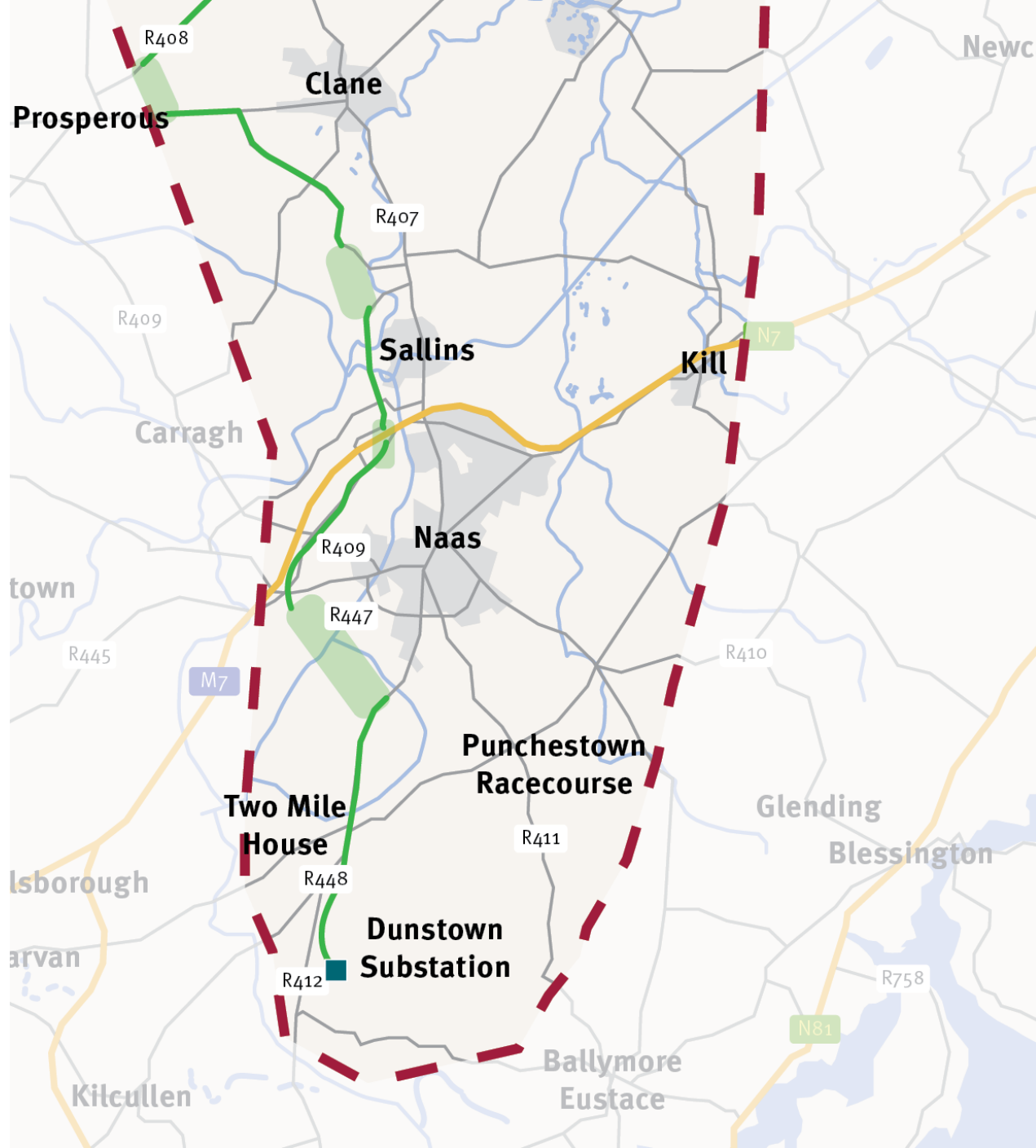
Option A (Red)



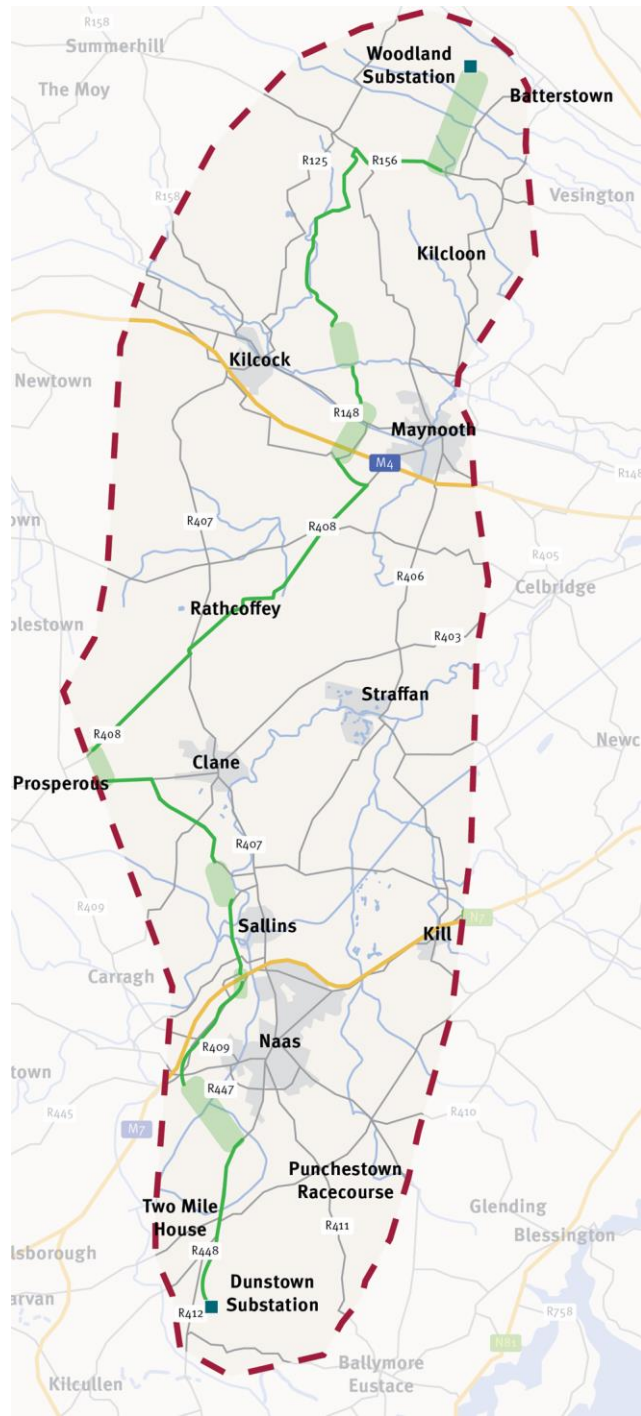
Option B (Green)



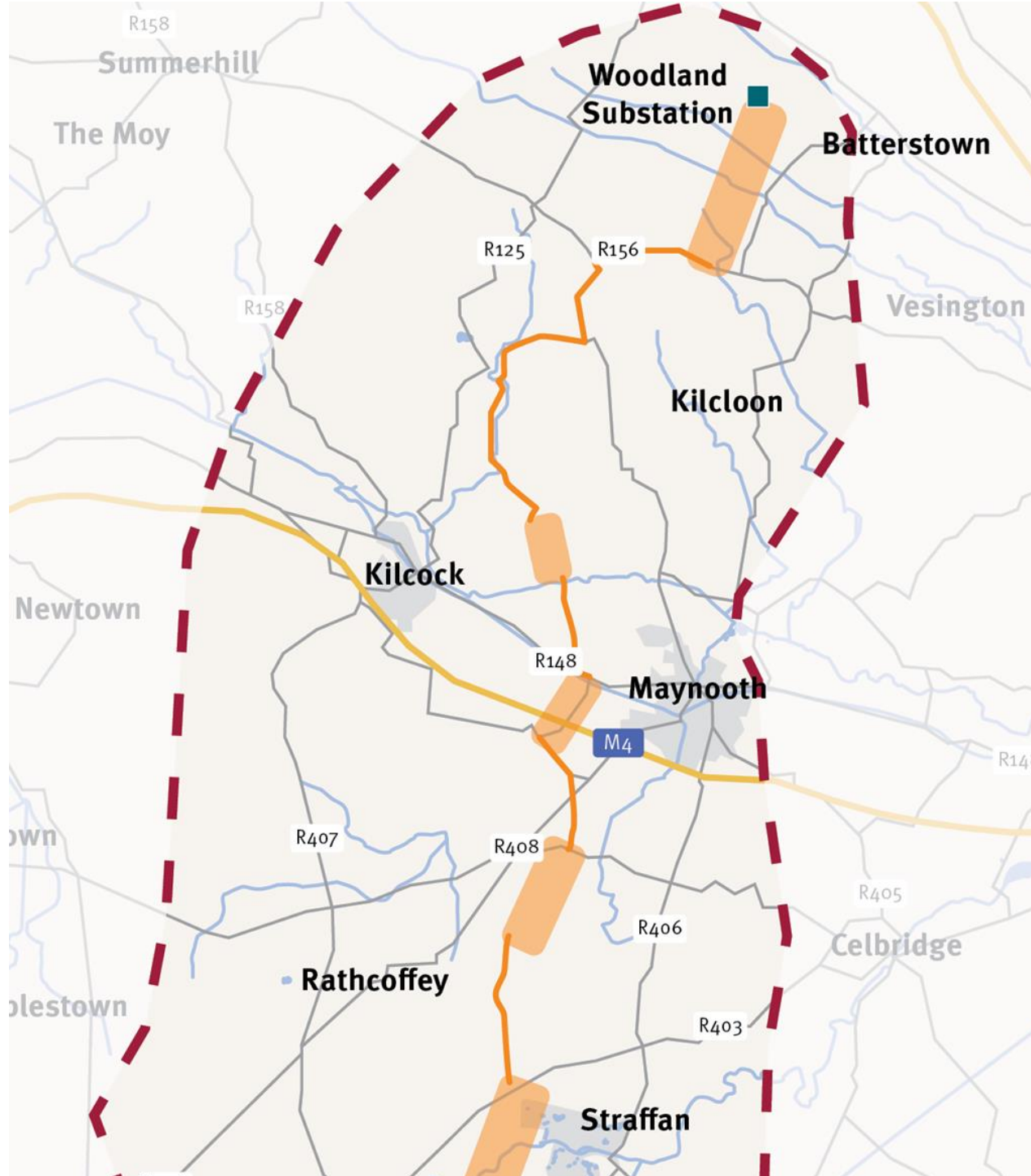
Option B (Green)



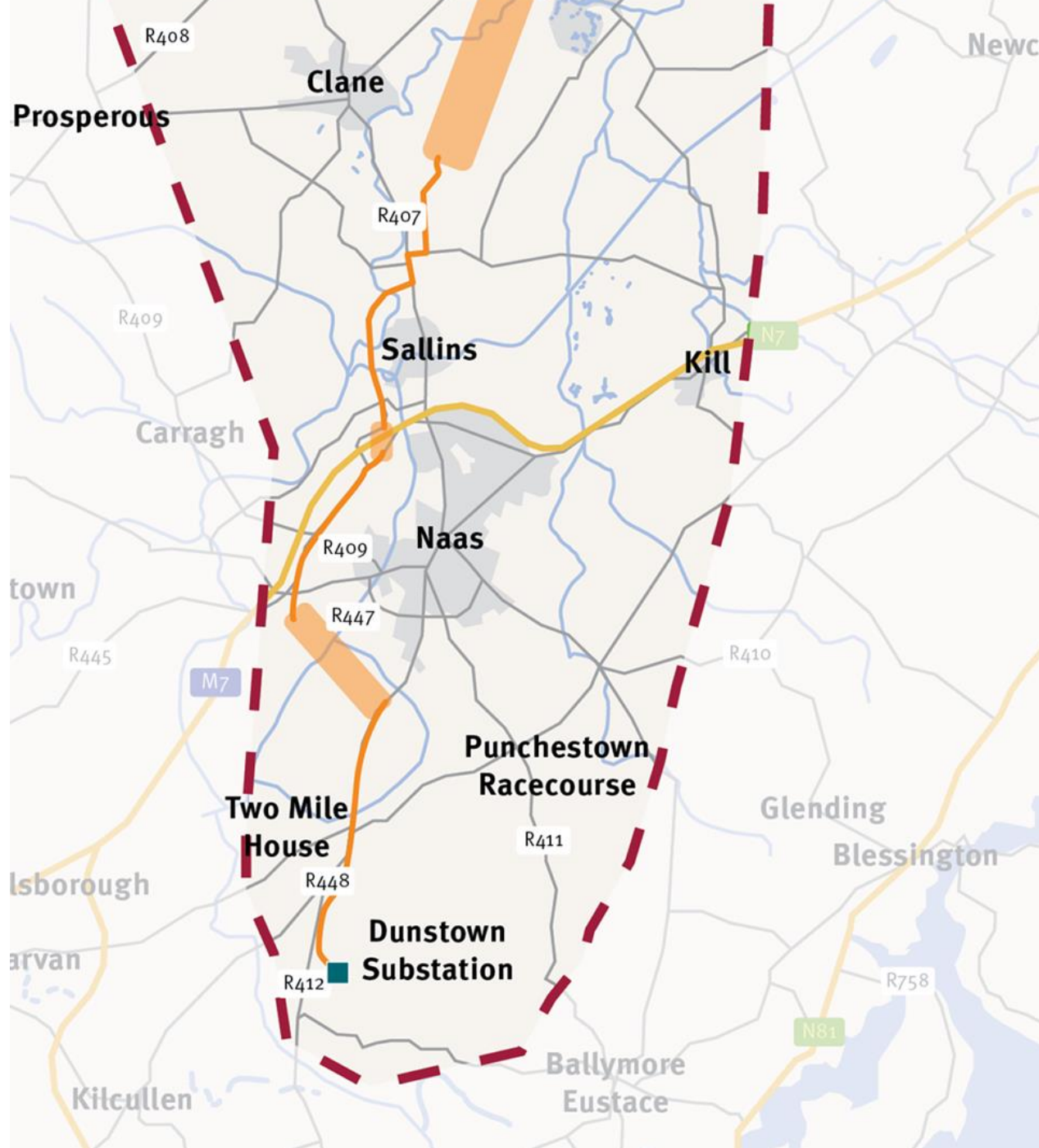
Option B (Green)



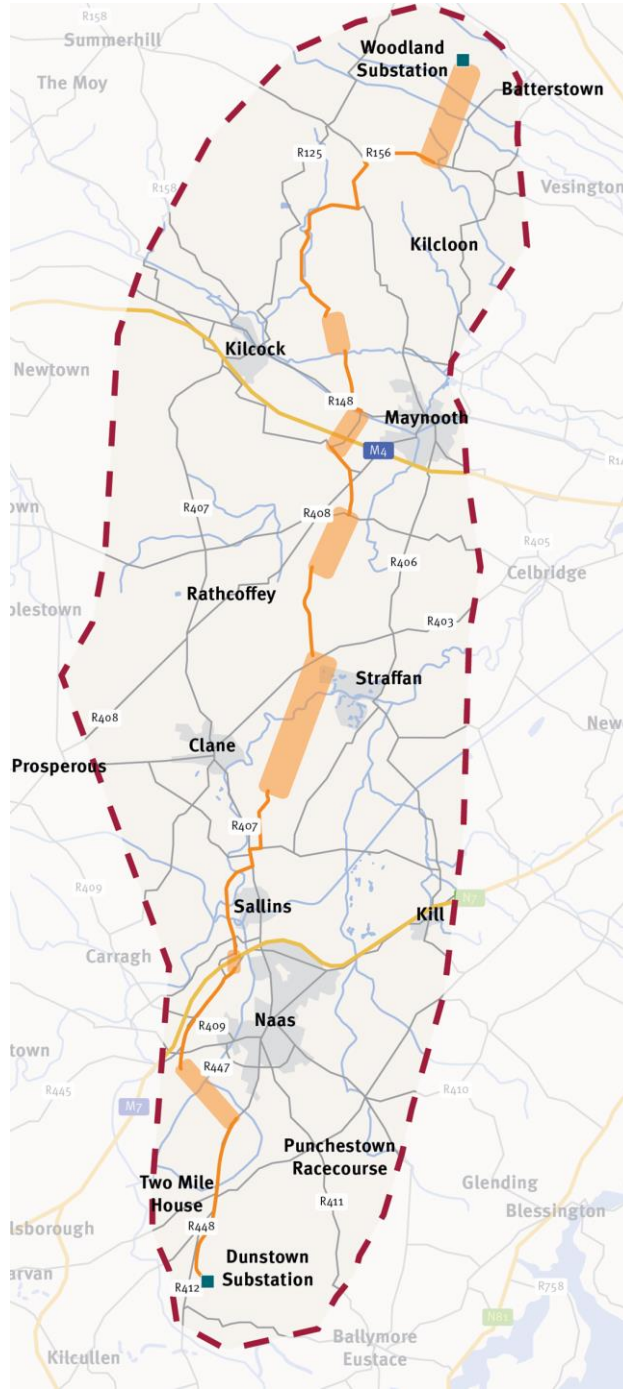
Option C (Orange)



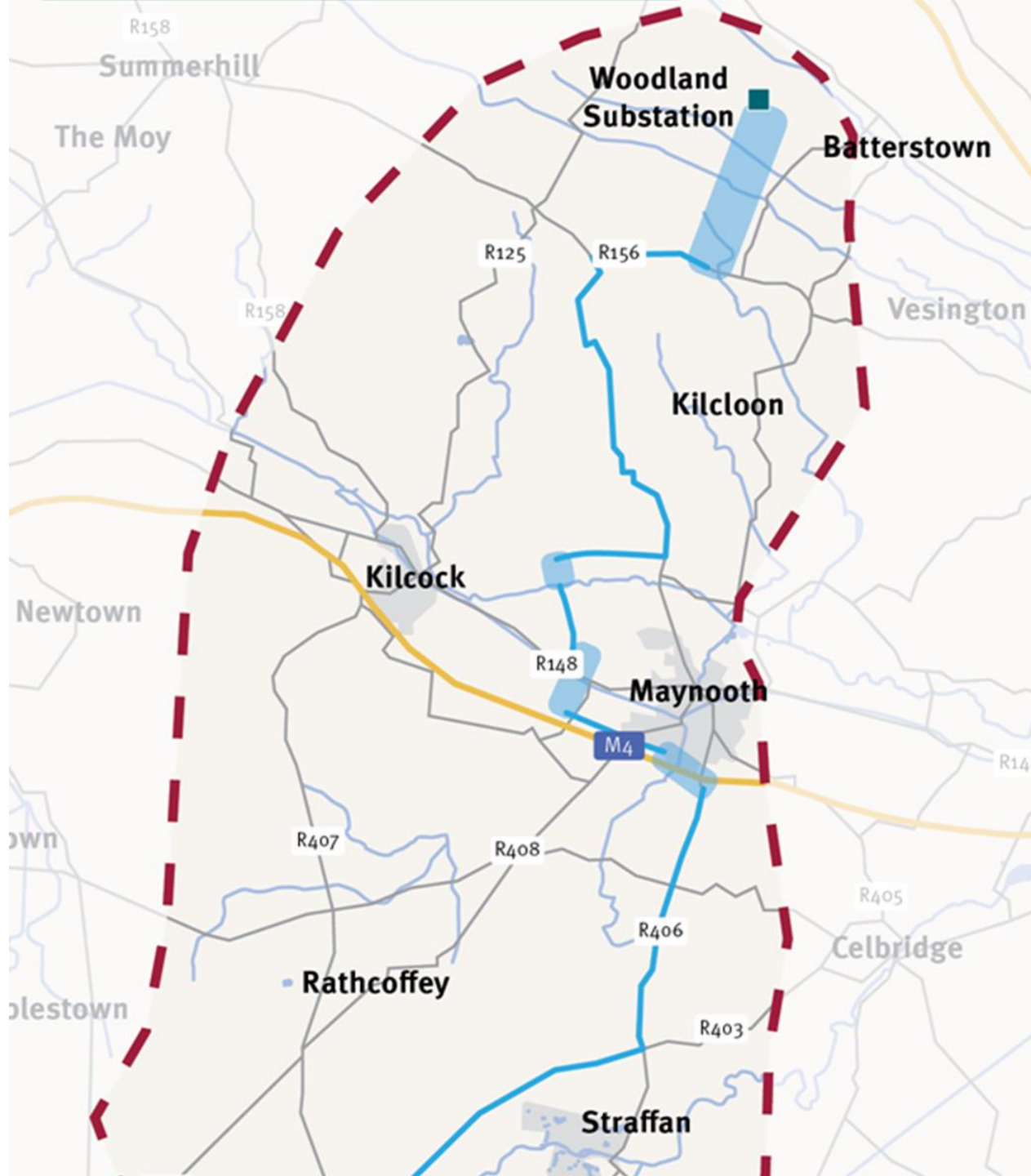
Option C (Orange)



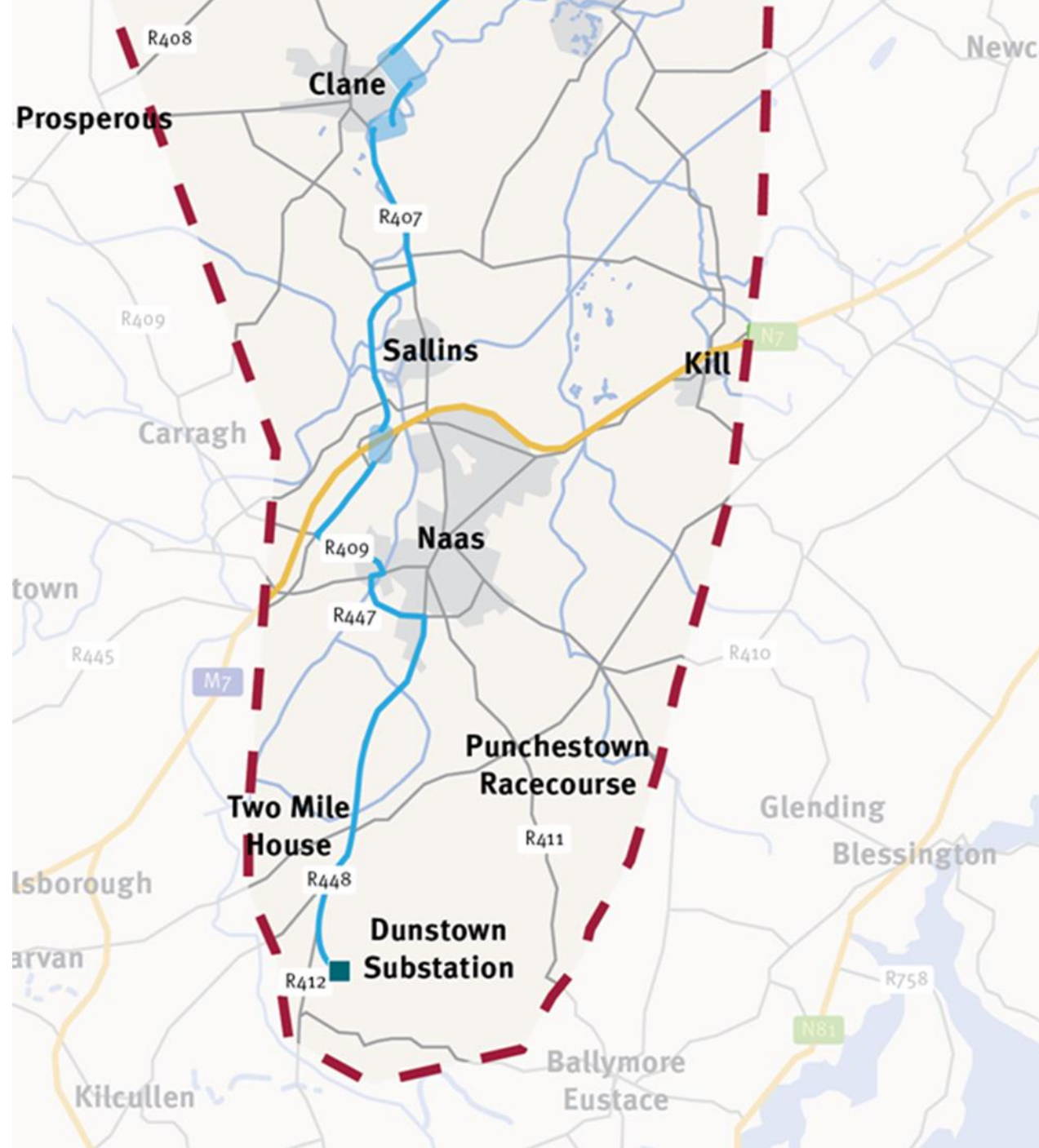
Option C (Orange)



Option D (Blue)



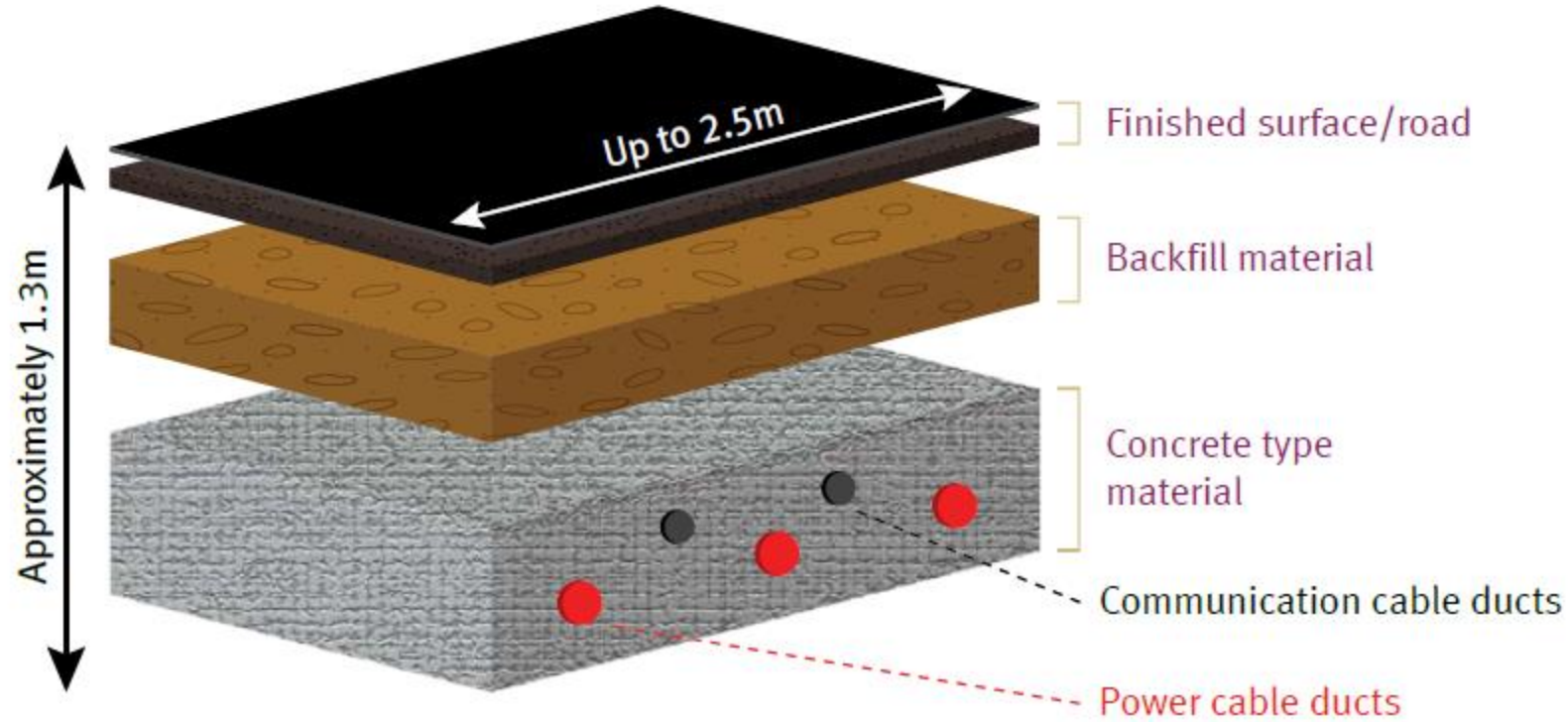
Option D (Blue)



At a glance comparison

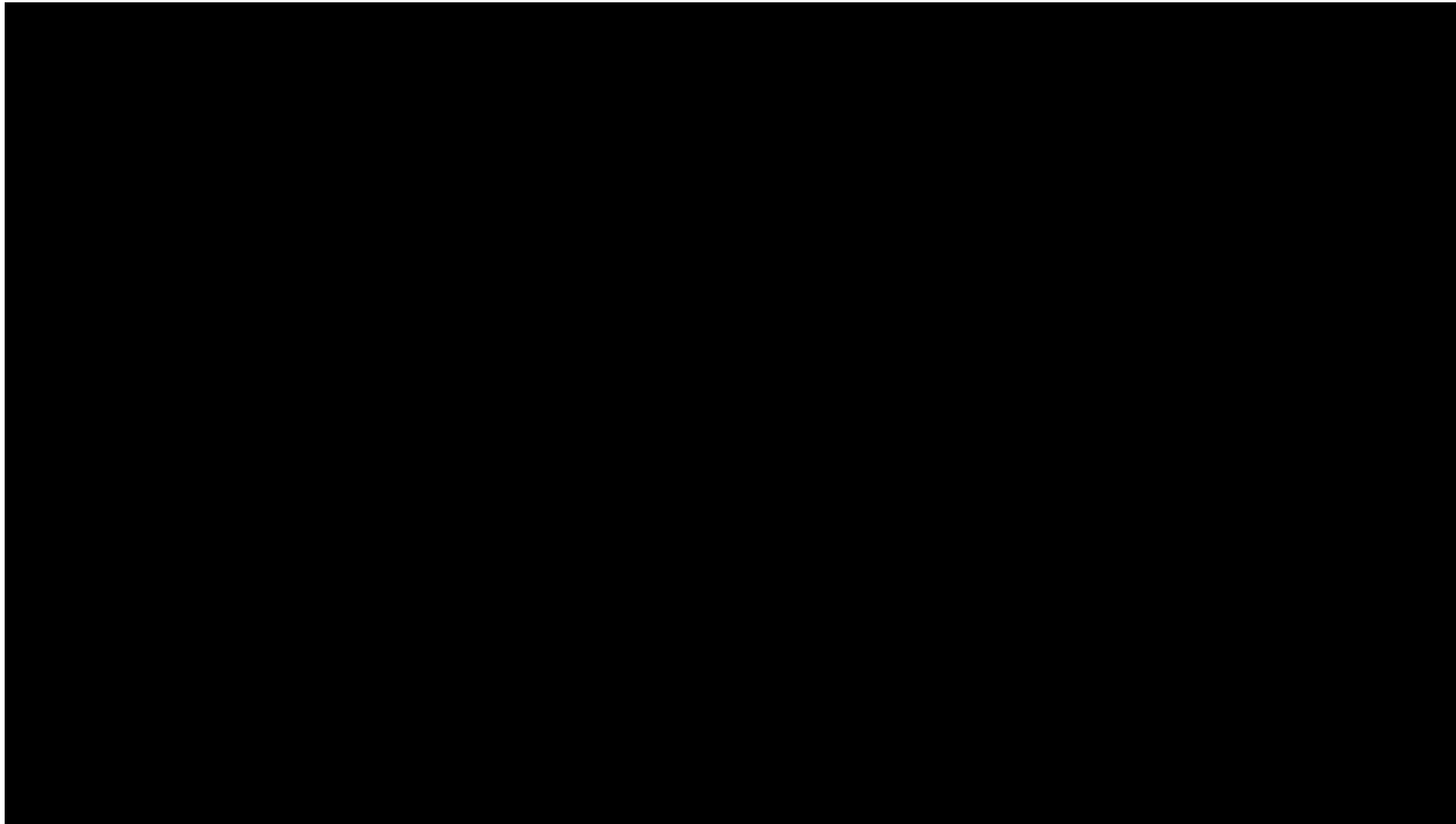
Option	Estimated overall length (km)	Estimated off-road sections (km)	Environmental impact	Social impact and potential disruption during construction	Meets technical requirements	Other notable points
Option A (Red)	51	5	Low	Low-moderate	Yes	Travels to the west of Kilcock village, longest route, but it affects the least amount of agricultural land of all options.
Option B (Green)	50	8	Low-moderate	Moderate-high	Yes	Travels through Rathcoffey and Moortown.
Option C (Orange)	47	13	Low-moderate	Moderate-high	Yes	Shortest cable but it affects the most agricultural land of all options.
Option D (Blue)	51	6	Low	Low-moderate	Yes	

The underground cable



- High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC)
- 400 kV

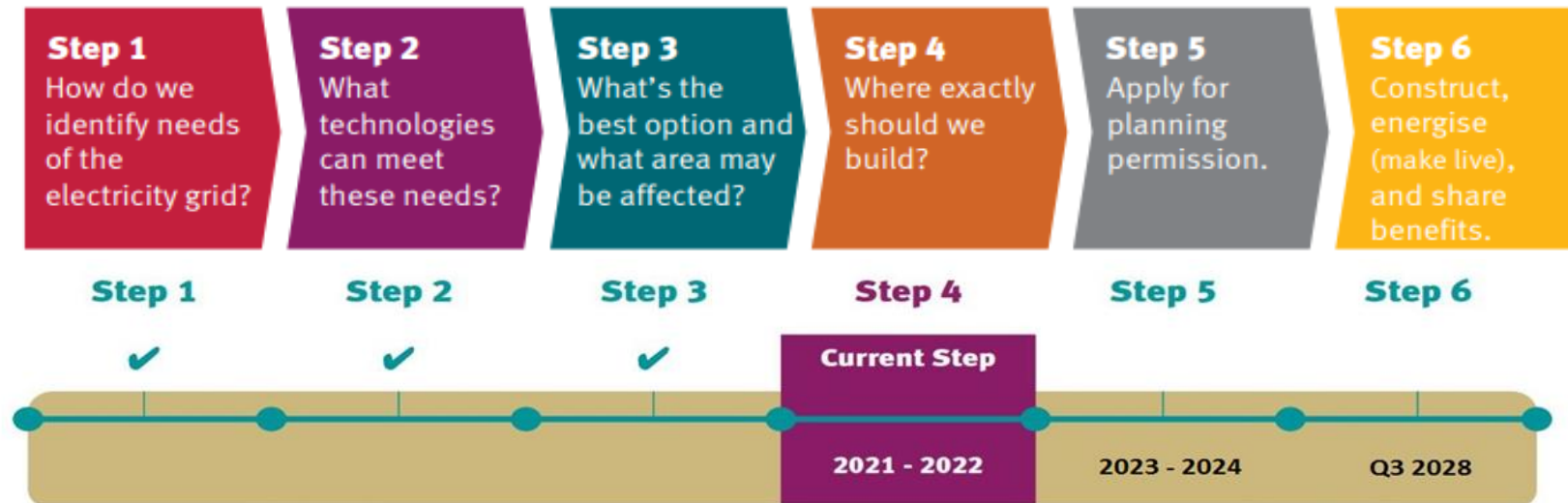
What does construction look like?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P8iSJGEAsUQ>



Kildare Meath Grid Upgrade Programme



Our six-step timeline for the Kildare-Meath Grid Upgrade

High level programme milestones

Q1 2022:	Publication of Public Consultation Report
Q2 2022:	Public announcement of chosen route
Q2 2023:	Submit planning application
2024 / 2027:	Planning Grant, Design, Procurement, Construction
2028:	Energisation

Submit your views



- Make a submission or complete the questionnaire at: consult.eirgrid.ie/



- Send an email to KildareMeath@eirgrid.ie



- Send your submission by post:
**Kildare Meath Grid Upgrade,
EirGrid, Freepost FDN 5312,
160 Shelbourne Road,
Ballsbridge, D04 FW28**

- Deadline is **22 November**



Questions?

