

# Use of Geogrids in Wexford

*Donal McLoughlin BEng CEng*

*Wexford County Council*

*March 2019*

## Aim

To give an insight, based on Wexford County Council's experience, into some of the practical pavement applications of geogrids from a local authority point of view.



# Content

- Brief Overview of Geosynthetics
  - Main types used for road construction applications.
  - Historical applications in WCC
- Case study
  - N25 Primary Road Overlay
  - Site selection
  - Design
  - Works



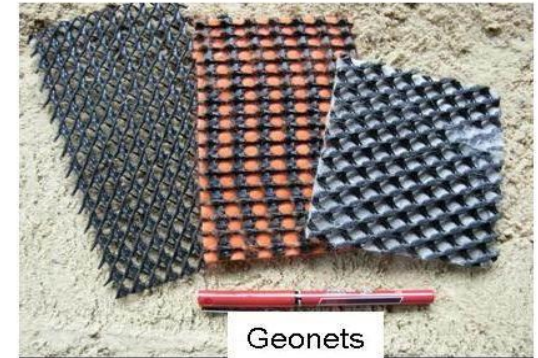
# Types of Geosynthetics



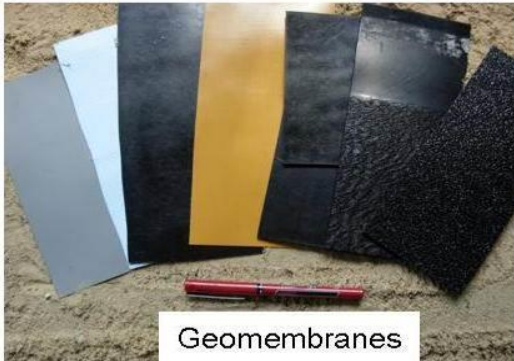
Geotextiles



Geogrids



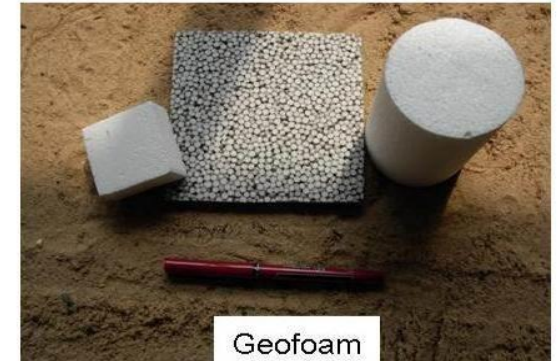
Geonets



Geomembranes



Geosynthetic Clay Liners



Geofoam



Geocells



Geocomposites



# Geosynthetic Functions & Examples



**SEPARATION**



**ASPHALT REINFORCEMENT**



**REINFORCEMENT**

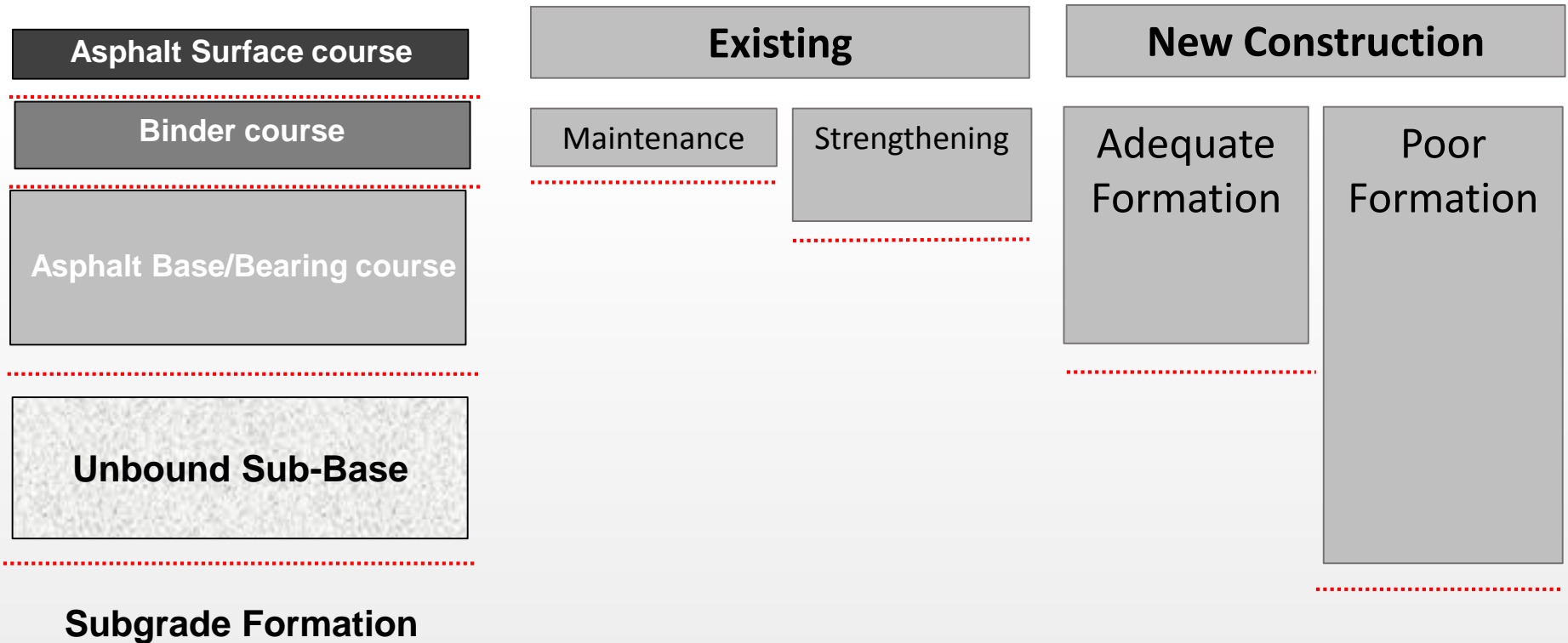


**DRAINAGE / FILTRATION**



**REINFORCEMENT**

# Geogrids and Road Construction



Two main Types.

- Unbound Sub base reinforcement.
- Asphalt/ surface course reinforcement

# Different Types of Reinforcement

## Geosynthetics for Sub-base Reinforcement

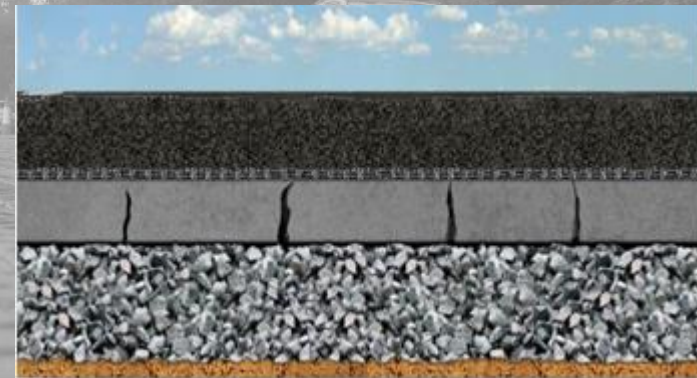
- Reduces deformations in the sub-base.
- Provides soil separation (With a backing Geotextile)
- Mitigation of settlements => extension of road service life.
- Reduces the need for large depths of construction.



# Different Types of Reinforcement

## Geosynthetics for Asphalt Reinforcement.

- Retardation of reflection cracking.
- Extends rehabilitation intervals.
- Extends the service life of road.
- Economic solution to add strength to a road.
- Reduces maintenance costs.





# Typical Pavement Crack (Without Reinforcement) Dynamic Fatigue Tests



# Typical Pavement Crack (With Reinforcement) Dynamic Fatigue tests





# Wexford Co. Co. Experience

## Sub-Base Reinforcement Application



**R702 Rehabilitation/ Water Main Rehabilitation**



# Wexford Co. Co. Experience

## Asphalt Reinforcement Application



2009



2019

R730 Wexford Quay

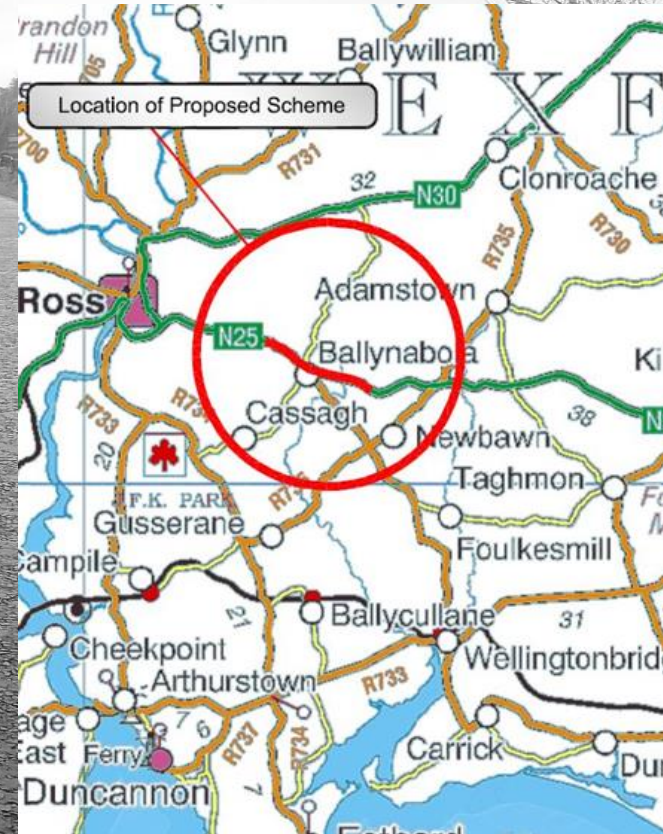
# Case study

## N25 Ballynabola to Raheenvarren Pavement Scheme



# N25 Site Specific Information

- National Primary Road
- Single Carriageway with hard shoulders
- AADT = 8000
- %HGV = 7.8
- Pavement Deteriorating (2014/2015)





# Existing Pavement Condition : Rutting in wheel Track





## Existing Pavement Condition : Cracking





# Existing Hard Shoulder Failure





# TII Pavement Management System

- TII Asset Management Survey (2015 Red Flag).
  - Wheel track rutting
  - Cracking
  - Loss of skid resistance
- Identified the condition of the carriageway as Fair / Poor
- Local Authority survey work / interventions also backed up survey results.
- TII recommended that preliminary investigations be carried out, with a view to demonstrating the need for a proposed pavement scheme.



Bonneagar Iompair Éireann  
Transport Infrastructure Ireland

## TII Publications

GE PE DN CC OP AM RE

---

### **Design of Bituminous Mixtures, Surface Treatments, and Miscellaneous Products and Processes**

**DN-PAV-03074**

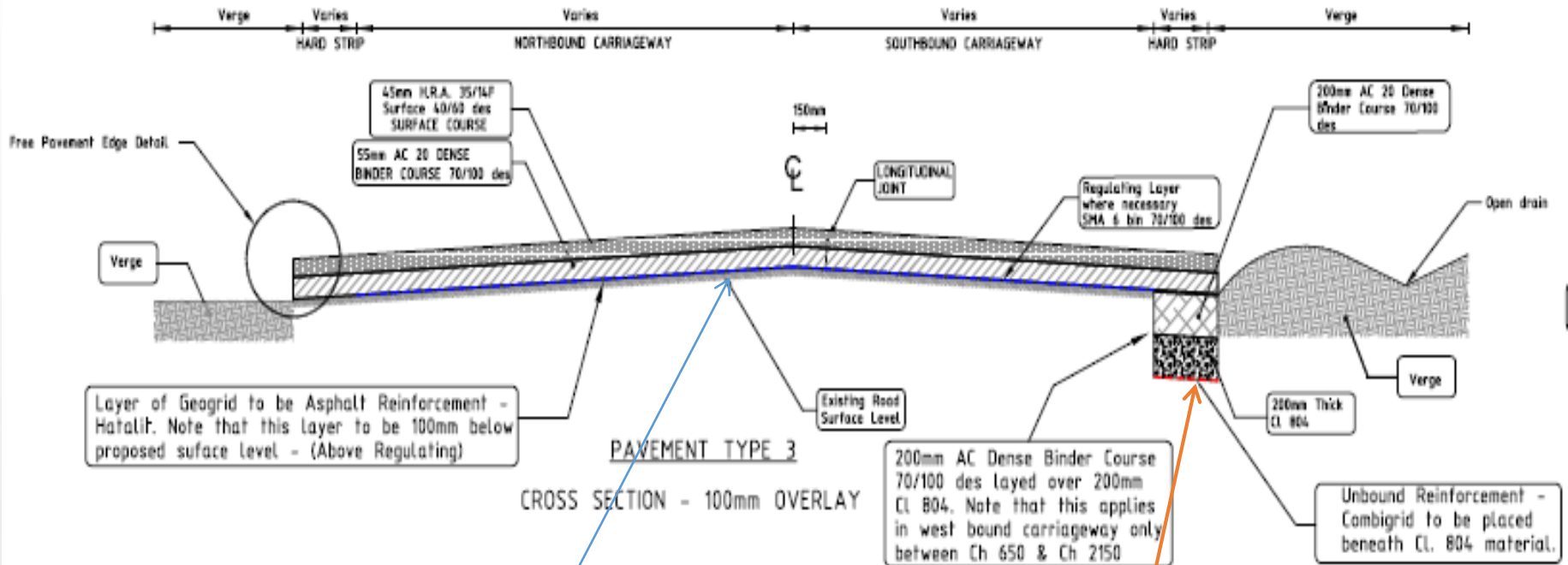
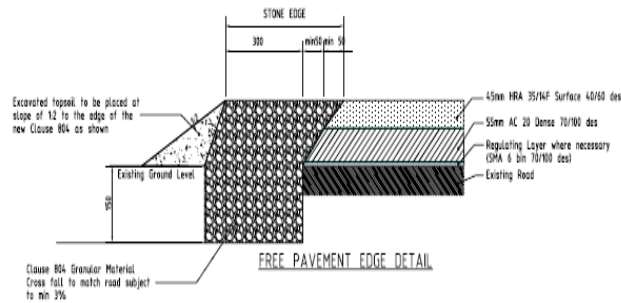
June 2017



# Recommended Solution

- Main Carriageway
  - Sectional repair of compromised pavement to a depth of 200mm
  - Overlay existing pavement with 55mm Binder Course & 45mm HRA
  - Install Asphalt Reinforcement to upper Layers to prevent future cracking & extend the life of the pavement
- Hard Shoulder
  - Cold mill Hard Shoulder to Sub-base level & install geo-composite reinforcement (Geogrid + Geotextile)

# Cross Section



Asphalt Reinforcement

Sub base reinforcement



# Reinforcement

- Sub-Base Reinforcement
  - Reinforcement, filtration, separation (All in one)
  - Easy to install
  - Good resistance against installation damage
- Asphalt Reinforcement
  - Flexible and easy to install
  - Bitumen coated polyester (suitable for fine milled surface)
  - Good resistance against installation damage

## **Extent of the Works**

- Total length of works 3.6 km
- Application of Asphalt Reinforcement over affected area
- Application of Unbound Reinforcement in Hard Shoulder
- Contract awarded to Roadstone Ltd.
- Contract value - €2 million.

## **Works Programme Summer 2017**

1. Sectional repair of main carriageway
2. Excavate and repair WBHS. Including unbound reinforcement.
3. Pavement overlay Main Carriageway. Install Asphalt reinforcement on affected sections.



## Hard shoulder Rehabilitation.



# Asphalt Reinforcement – Bond Coating





# Asphalt Reinforcement – Laying Process





# Main Carriageway





# Asphalt Reinforcement – Rolling



- Ultra light Weight nonwoven Backing
- Tensile Strength 50 Kn/m
- Bitumen content of Coating > 60%

Combination of bitumen coating grid & bond coat emulsion provided an extremely strong bond between the asphalt layers & geogrid



# Asphalt Reinforcement – Paving



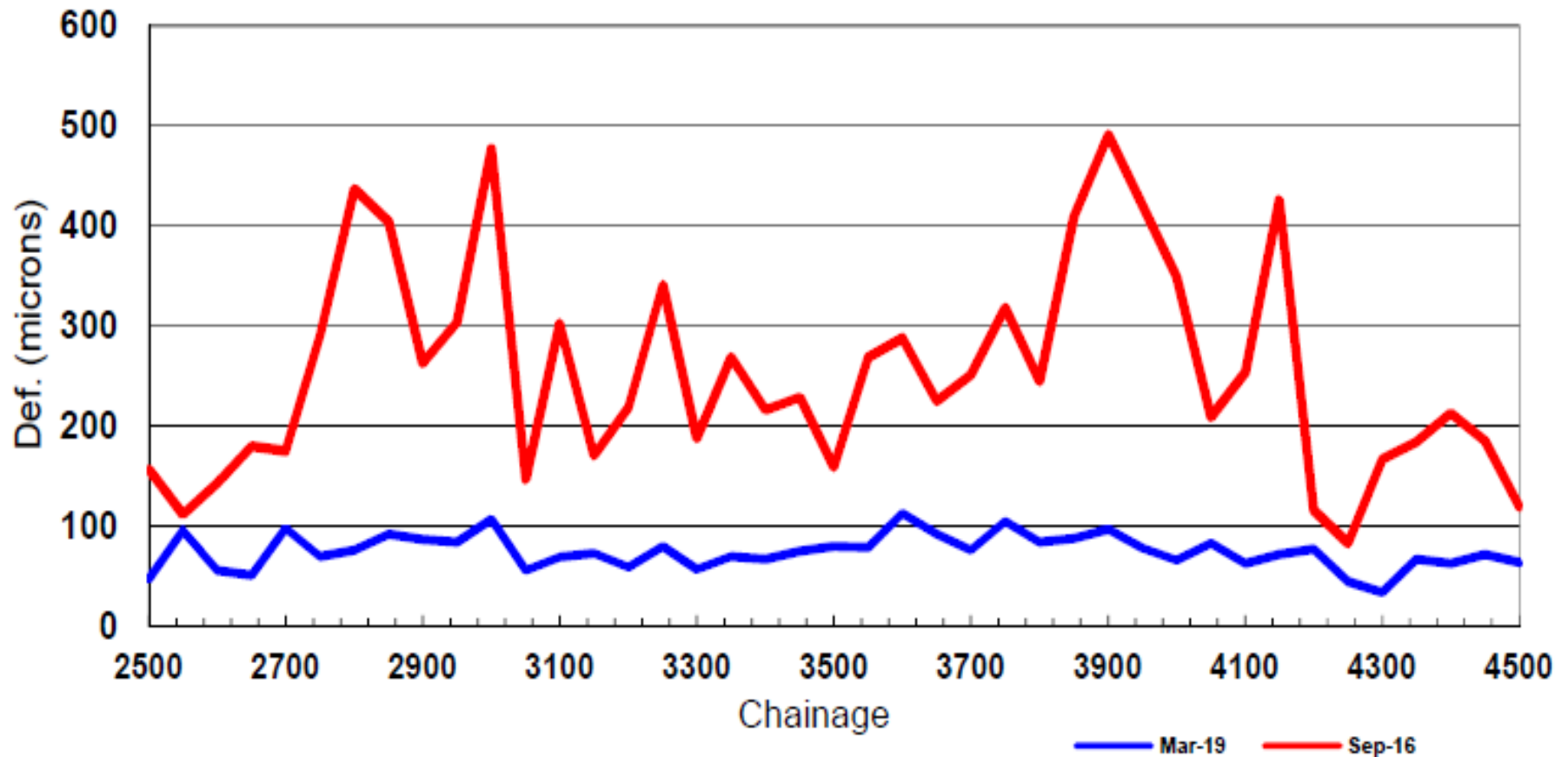


# Completed Scheme



# Completed Scheme

## D1 Deflection Plots



# Completed Scheme

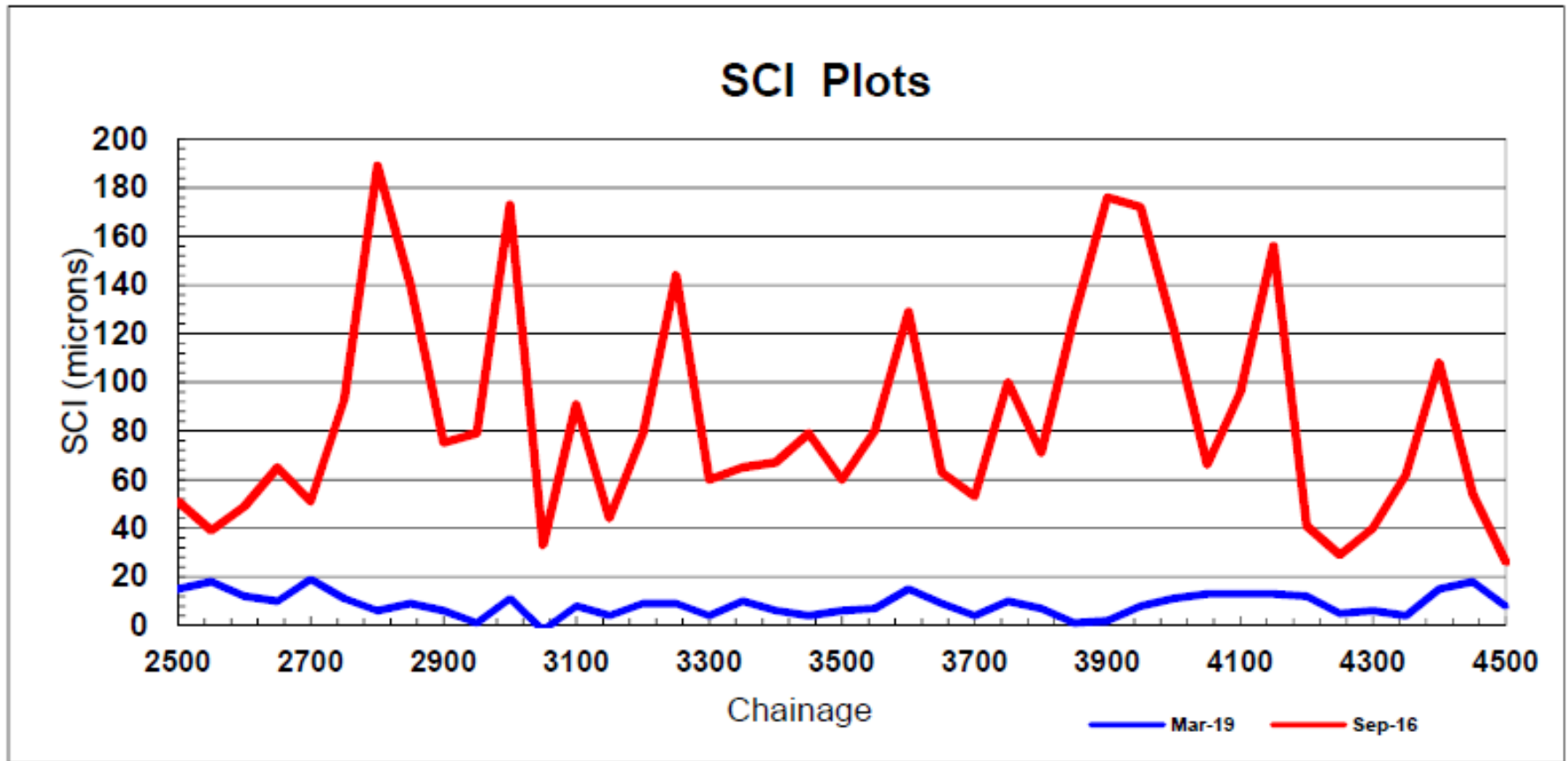


Figure 2: SCI Plots



# Thank You

*Donal Mcloughlin BEng CEng*

*Wexford County Council*

*March 2019*