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Garveys Supervalu Dingle - Development

THE Dingle-based Garvey Group are planning a multi-million euro relocation project for their Dingle supermarket.

The proposed move has already cost an estimated €4m for a five-acre greenfield site at Emlagh, close to the Skellig Hotel which the group also owns.

On Monday the company's managing director, Terry Dunne, told The Kerryman that the development is subject to planning permission being secured for the new location.

"The reason for moving is because of the limited parking space at our present location. The plans for the new site are still up in the air and our architects are working on those at present," he said.

The new development may or may not include a petrol filling-station, according to Mr Dunne.

"What I can tell you is that there will be some smaller commercial units as well as the new supermarket. And it will mean an increase in our workforce," he said.

"We would hope to have planning permission early next year followed by a 12-month building phase. If everything falls into place we will probably open in the summer of 2007," he said.

While he would not reveal the actual purchase price of the new site Mr Dunne confirmed that it was "in the region of €4m".

Asked what plans the group has for the existing supermarket following the move, he said it is still too early to say what they might be.

The newly acquired site opposite the sportsfield was in use as a pitch and putt course up to about 15 years ago and has since been used for grazing purposes.