



**Consolidated
Appropriate
Assessment
Natura Impact Report**

CONSOLIDATED NATURA IMPACT REPORT

IN SUPPORT OF THE
APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

FOR THE

**DÚN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN
COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022-2028**

for: Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

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Section 1 Introduction

1.1 Background

This consolidated Natura Impact Report (NIR) has been prepared in support of the Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028 in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) (hereafter referred to as the "Habitats Directive") and the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

This report is part of the ongoing AA process that is being undertaken alongside the preparation of the Plan. It will be considered, alongside other documentation prepared as part of this process, at adoption of the Plan.

In carrying out AA and in preparing this consolidated NIR, the Council takes into account the matters specified under Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), including the following:

- The Natura Impact Report prepared for the Draft Plan (an earlier version of this consolidated document);
- The Natura Impact Report for the Proposed Material Alterations;
- Written submissions made during the Plan preparation process; and
- Ongoing advice on AA from the Council's agents.

This document should be considered alongside all other documentation relating to the matters above.

1.2 Legislative Context

The Habitats Directive provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the "favourable conservation status" of habitats and species of European Community Interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives (Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds) with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as European Sites (also known as Natura 2000 sites).

AA is required by the Habitats Directive, as transposed into Irish legislation by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). AA is an assessment of the potential for adverse or negative effects of a plan or project, in combination with other plans or projects, on the conservation objectives of a European Site. These sites consist of SACs and SPAs and provide for the protection and long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats.

1.3 Approach

The Draft Plan was informed by a Stage 2 AA and a Natura Impact Report was prepared to accompany it on public display. Mitigation was integrated into the Draft Plan that allowed the Natura Impact Report to conclude that that the Draft Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects¹. The Draft Plan and AA Natura Impact Report were placed on public display and submissions were invited.

Submissions received resulted in Material Alterations being proposed to the Plan. These alterations were subject to AA. Taking into account the measures that were integrated into the Draft Plan and Proposed Material Alterations it was determined that the Proposed Material Alterations are not foreseen

¹ Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.

to give rise to any significant effects on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects².

Subsequently, the Chief Executive made Recommendations that may or may not be adopted as part of the Plan and Members proposed further modifications. None of the Chief Executive's Recommendations or Members' further modifications would introduce additional sources for effects that are not already provided for by the Plan through related and/or overarching provisions and they incorporate a number of relatively minor modifications that would not affect the integrity of any European site. It is concluded that, taking into account the measures that were integrated into the Draft Plan and Proposed Material Alterations, the Recommendations and/or Members' further modifications are not foreseen to give rise to any significant effects on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects³.

The AA is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological and hydrological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and grey literature⁴ was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS) website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives (including spatial data collected for the most recent Article 17 conservation status reporting cycle, 2019).

The ecological desktop study completed for the AA of the Plan comprised the following elements:

- Identification of European Sites within 15 km of the Plan boundary with identification of potential pathway links for specific sites (if relevant) greater than 15 km from the Plan boundary;
- Review of the NPWS site synopsis and conservation objectives for European Sites with identification of potential pathways from the Plan area; and
- Examination of available information on protected species.

There are four main stages in the AA process as follow:

Stage One: Screening

The process that identifies the likely impacts upon a European Site of a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant.

Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment

The consideration of the impact on the integrity of the European Site of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's structure and function and its conservation objectives. Additionally, where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts. If adequate mitigation is proposed to ensure no significant adverse impacts on European Sites, then the process may end at this stage. However, if the likelihood of significant impacts remains, then the process must proceed to Stage Three.

Stage Three: Assessment of Alternative Solutions

The process that examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoids adverse impacts on the integrity of the European Site.

Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain

An assessment of compensatory measures where, in the light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), it is deemed that the project or plan should proceed.

The Habitats Directive promotes a hierarchy of avoidance, mitigation and compensatory measures. This approach aims to avoid any impacts on European Sites by identifying possible impacts early in the plan-making process and avoiding such impacts. Second, the approach involves the application of mitigation measures, if necessary, during the AA process to the point where no adverse impacts on the site(s) remain. If potential impacts on European Sites remain, the approach requires the consideration of alternative solutions. If no alternative solutions are identified and the plan/project is required for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, then compensation measures are required for any remaining adverse effect(s).

² Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.

³ Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.

⁴ Various documents where publishing, in journals for example, is not the primary activity of the producing body. Examples include: conference presentations; regulatory data; unpublished trial data; government publications; and dissertations/theses.

The assessment of potential effects on European Sites is conducted following a standard source-pathway-receptor⁵ model, where, in order for an effect to be established all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence or removal of one of the elements of the model is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

In the interest of this report, receptors are the ecological features that are known to be utilised by the qualifying interests or special conservation interests of a European Site. A source is any identifiable element of the Plan provision that is known to interact with ecological processes. The pathways are any connections or links between the source and the receptor. This report provides information on whether direct, indirect and cumulative adverse effects could arise from the Plan.

The AA exercise has been prepared taking into account legislation including the aforementioned legislation and guidance including the following:

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2009;
- "Commission Notice: Managing Natura 2000 sites - The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission 2018;
- "Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission Environment DG, 2002; and
- "Managing Natura 2000 sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission, 2000.
- Practice Note PN01: Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management, Office of the Planning Regulator, 2021.

This evaluation has been made in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species, for which the relevant European sites have been designated.

⁵ Source(s) – e.g. pollutant run-off from proposed works; Pathway(s) – e.g. groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and Receptor(s) – qualifying aquatic habitats and species of European Sites.

Section 2 Description of the Plan⁶

The Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan is a land use plan and overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the functional area of County Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown over the six-year period 2022-2028. Not later than four years after the adoption of the Plan, the Council is required to review it and commence the preparation of a new Plan. The Plan includes a Written Statement, that provides the development policies, Core Strategy and mandatory and discretionary objectives for different policy areas addressed by the Development Plan.

The Written Statement is divided into 15 chapters setting out various provisions under the headings of:

- Chapter 1: Introduction, Vision and Context
- Chapter 2: Core Strategy
- Chapter 3: Climate Action
- Chapter 4: Neighbourhoods, People, Place and Homes
- Chapter 5: Transport and Mobility
- Chapter 6: Enterprise and Employment
- Chapter 7: Towns, Villages and Retail Development
- Chapter 8: Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity
- Chapter 9: Open Space, Parks and Recreation
- Chapter 10: Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk
- Chapter 11: Heritage and Conservation
- Chapter 12: Development Management
- Chapter 13: Land Use Zoning Objectives
- Chapter 14: Specific Local Objectives
- Chapter 15: Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation

The Written Statement is accompanied by Land Use Zoning Maps, this AA Natura Impact Report and other supporting appendices. AA has facilitated the integration of environmental considerations into the Plan's land use zoning and Policy Objectives – see Section 5 of this document.

The Vision of the Plan is: *'to embrace inclusiveness, champion quality of life through healthy placemaking, grow and attract a diverse innovative economy and deliver this in a manner that enhances our environment for future generations.'* To deliver on the Development Plan Vision over the lifetime of the Plan there are a number of key cross cutting and interrelated themes or Strategic County Outcomes which underpin the Plan as follows:

1. Creation of a climate resilient County;
2. Creation of a compact and connected County;
3. Creation of a network of liveable Towns and Villages;
4. Creation of an inclusive and healthy County; and
5. Creation of a vibrant economic County.

Far in advance of both the submission of the pre-Draft Plan to the Elected Members for approval and the placing of the Draft Plan on public display and subsequent considerations, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council undertook various background work for a variety of sectors in order to inform the preparation of the Plan, including:

- Climate Action;
- Transport and Mobility;
- Green Infrastructure;
- Infrastructure Assessment;
- Housing Strategy and Interim Housing Needs Demand Assessment;
- Building Height Strategy;
- Waste Management Guidelines;
- Green Roofs;
- Landscape Character Areas;
- Wind Energy Strategy;
- Dún Laoghaire Urban Framework Plan;
- Sandyford Urban Framework; and
- Record of Protected Structures.

The findings of this strategic work have been integrated into the Plan and will contribute towards both environmental protection and management and sustainable development within the County.

⁶ Incorporating: the Draft Plan; all alterations and any Chief Executive's Recommendations from 2022 included in Section 5 "Mitigation Measures" in this report; any other further modification considered by the AA process; and any other Chief Executive's Recommendations from 2022. Note that the numbering of individual Plan provisions referenced in this report may be updated during the finalisation of the Plan, including formatting and graphic design.

Section 3 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

3.1 Introduction to Screening

This stage of the process identifies any potential significant effects to European Sites from a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans.

An important element of the AA process is the identification of the “conservation objectives”, “Qualifying Interests” (QIs) and/ or “Special Conservation Interests” (SCIs) of European Sites requiring assessment. QIs are the habitat features and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive for which each European Site has been designated and afforded protection. SCIs are wetland habitats and bird species listed within Annexes I and II of the Birds Directive. It is also vital that the threats to the ecological / environmental conditions that are required to support QIs and SCIs are considered as part of the assessment.

The following NPWS Generic Conservation Objectives have been considered in the screening:

- For SACs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected; and
- For SPAs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

Where available, Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) designed to define favourable conservation status for a particular habitat⁷ or species⁸ at that site have been considered.

3.2 Identification of Relevant European Sites

The Department of the Environment (2009) Guidance on AA recommends a 15 km buffer zone to be considered. Although sites beyond this buffer zone would be considered if relevant, a review of all sites within this zone has allowed a determination to be made that in the absence of significant hydrological⁹ /hydrogeological links the characteristics of the CDP will not impose effects beyond the 15 km buffer.

Details of European Sites that occur within 15 km of the County are provided in Table 3.2 and mapped on Figure 3.1. European Sites and Rivers and Catchments are also mapped in Figure 3.1. Information on QIs, SCIs and site-specific vulnerabilities and sensitivities (see Appendix I) and background information (such as that within Ireland’s Article 17 Report to the European Commission, site synopses and Natura 2000 standard data forms) have been considered by both the AA screening assessment (provided under this section) and Stage 2 AA (provided under Section 4). Conservation objectives that have been considered by the assessment are included in the following National Parks and Wildlife Service documents:

- (2012) Conservation Objectives for Baldoyle Bay SAC [IE0000199] Version 1.
- (2016) Conservation Objectives for Howth Head SAC [IE0000202] Version 1.
- (2013) Conservation Objectives for Malahide Estuary SAC [IE0000205] Version 1.
- (2013) Conservation Objectives for North Dublin Bay SAC [IE0000206] Version 1.
- (2013) Conservation Objectives for South Dublin Bay SAC [IE0000210] Version 1.
- (2019) Conservation Objectives for Ballyman Glen SAC [IE0000713] Version 1.
- (2017) Conservation Objectives for Bray Head SAC [IE0000714] Version 1.
- (2019) Conservation Objectives for Carriggower Bog SAC [IE0000716] Version 1.
- (2020) Conservation Objectives for Glen of the Downs SAC [IE0000719] Version 7.
- (2020) Conservation Objectives for Knocksink Wood SAC [IE0000725] Version 7.
- (2018) Conservation Objectives for Glenasmole Valley SAC [IE0001209] Version 6.
- (2017) Conservation Objectives for Wicklow Mountains SAC [IE0002122] Version 1.

⁷ Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when: its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing; the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future; and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.

⁸ The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when: population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats; the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future; and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

⁹ “Hydrological” includes both surface and groundwater processes. Various provisions have been integrated into the Plan that will contribute towards the protection of both surface and groundwater processes – these are identified in Section 5 Mitigation.

- (2017) Conservation Objectives for Ireland's Eye SAC [IE0002193] Version 1.
- (2020) Conservation Objectives for The Murrrough Wetlands SAC [IE0002249] Version 7.
- (2013) Conservation Objectives for Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC [IE0003000] Version 1.
- (2015) Conservation Objectives for North Bull Island SPA [IE0004006] Version 1.
- (2012) Conservation Objectives for Baldoyle Bay SPA [IE0004016] Version 1.
- (2015) Conservation Objectives for South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA [IE0004024] Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation Objectives for Wicklow Mountains SPA [IE0004040] Version 6.
- (2020) Conservation Objectives for Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA [IE0004063] Version 7.
- (2018) Conservation Objectives for Howth Head Coast SPA [IE0004113] Version 6.
- (2018) Conservation Objectives for Ireland's Eye SPA [IE0004117] Version 6.
- (2020) Conservation Objectives for Dalkey Islands SPA [IE0004172] Version 7.
- (2020) Conservation Objectives for The Murrrough SPA [IE0004186] Version 7.

The assessment considers available conservation objectives. Since conservation objectives focus on maintaining the favourable conservation condition of the QIs/SCIs of each site, the screening process concentrated on assessing the potential effects of the Plan against the QIs/SCIs of each site. The conservation objectives for each site were consulted throughout the assessment process.

Sites downstream and beyond 15 km are considered by the AA. With regard to SPAs within, within 15km of and downstream of the County, provisions have been integrated into the Plan that will protect these sites from the full range of potential effects. Other SPAs would not be impacted upon due to distances involved.

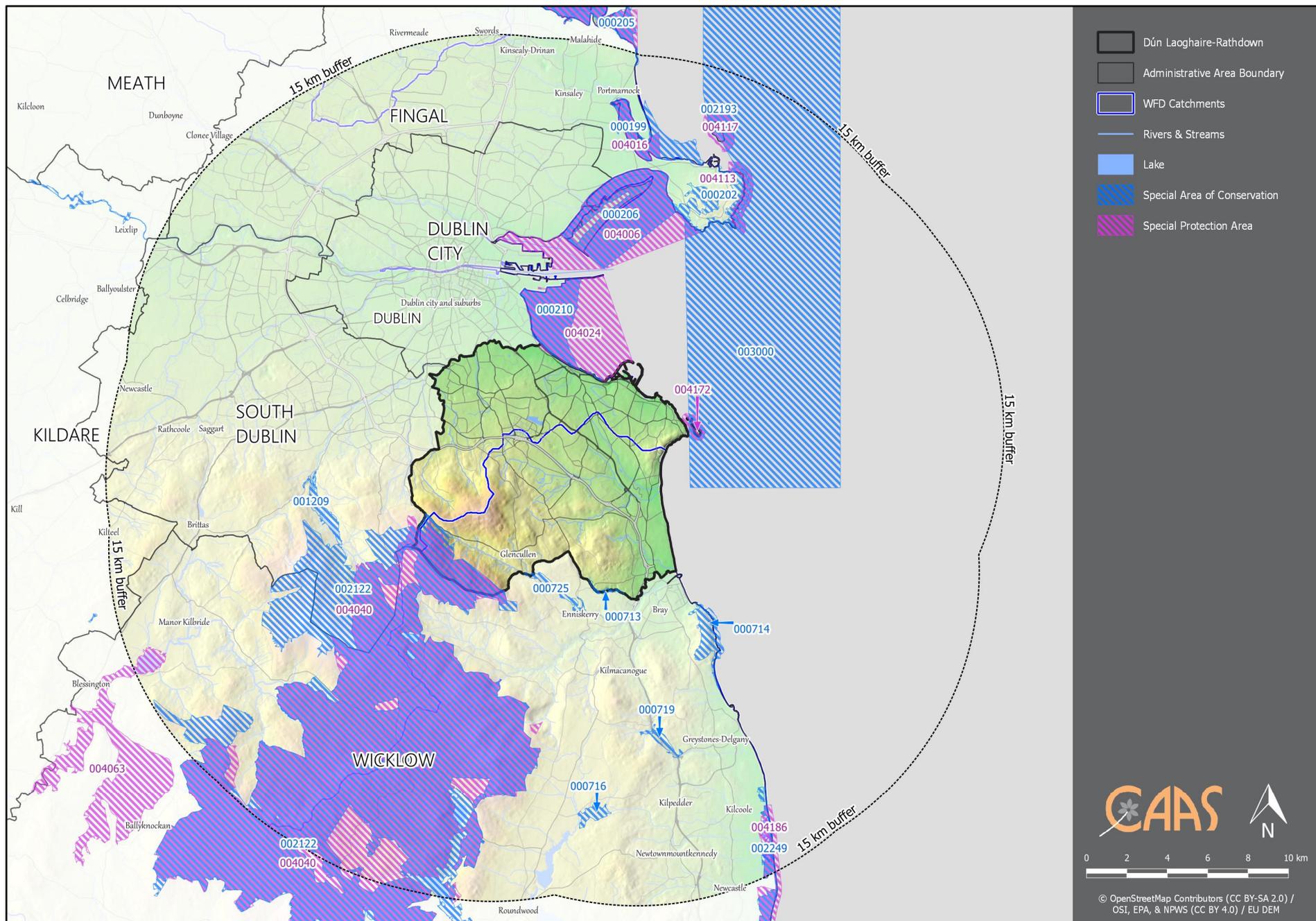


Figure 3.1 European Sites within and within 15 km of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown

3.3 Overview of High Value Biodiversity in the County

Green space, which makes up a large part of the southern portion of the County, consists of a variety of habitats including corridors that provide for the movement of wildlife. Green space within Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is comprised of agricultural lands, bogs and heath in the uplands, woodlands, grasslands, Marlay Park, Deerpark, Cabinteely Park, Shanganagh Park and a number of other open spaces within and adjacent to the County's existing built footprint.

The Loughlinstown River, with tributaries such as the Shanganagh River and the Cabinteely, Ballyogan and the Glenamuck Streams, forms the largest catchment in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. The southernmost branch of the River, also known as Brides Glen stream, is particularly rich in biodiversity. Trout, otter, and bats occur in the river while kingfisher may also be present. Other rivers supporting good areas of biodiversity include the Little Dargle, which rises in Three Rock Mountain and flows through Marlay Park, and the Glencullen River, which drains the uplands around Glendoo and Glencullen Mountains before crossing the County boundary into County Wicklow.

The County's coastline, including areas such as South Dublin Bay and Dalkey, provides a number of habitats for a variety of species. The Shanganagh coastline represents a long stretch of the Killiney Bay shoreline, extending from Ballybrack to Bray in Wicklow. The area is important particularly for its sedimentary cliffs, displaying clear geological time sequences through the quaternary period. The shoreline also has an example of a drowned forest, visible in the sand only at extreme low tide. Coastal habitats in Ireland provide ecosystem services including biodiversity, recreation, coastal protection and food provision. Coastal squeeze describes the impact on coastal habitats from the combined pressures of climate change at sea and human activities on land. Climate change is predicted to cause sea level rise and increased storminess, which in turn has the potential to lead to greater frequency of coastal flooding and erosion events, and eventually to landward movement of coastlines and coastal habitats.

Dalkey Islands comprise the uninhabited islands of Dalkey Island, Lamb Island and Maidens' Rock. The islands contain important ecological, archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage. The underlying rock is granite with rough terrain with rock outcrops, semi-natural grasslands, dense bracken framed by a rocky shoreline with low granite cliffs¹⁰. The Islands are a designated SPA (Dalkey Islands SPA) and SAC (Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC) and form part of the Dalkey Coastal Zone and Killiney Hill pNHA.

The upland areas around Three Rock and Two Rock Mountains are valuable for their heath habitats and their exposed rocky outcrops. Red grouse, an upland bird species thought to be in decline across the country, occurs in this area.

Man-made habitats within the Plan area are also important biodiversity areas. Gardens provide habitats for a range of wildlife including various bird species, invertebrates, such as bees and butterflies and mammals, such as hedgehogs, mice, rats and foxes. These species move around between gardens using hedgerows and vegetated areas. These urban green spaces, however small, are therefore of importance as they form part of a network of green spaces across the Plan area including gardens, parks, graveyards, amenity walks, railway lines and patches of woodland and scrub within which animals and plants continue to thrive.

Marshes are found on level ground near slow-flowing river banks and in other places where mineral or shallow peaty soils are waterlogged, and where the water table is close to ground level for most of the year and tend to be comparatively species-rich especially with herbs. Booterstown Marsh in the north-east of the Plan area is the only remaining area of saltmarsh in Dún-Laoghaire-Rathdown. The marsh is an important habitat for a range of species including birds, fish, invertebrates and rare plants. It is also of international importance as a roosting and feeding area for waders and wildfowl.¹¹

The zone of influence of the Plan beyond the County area with respect to impacts upon ecology via surface waters upon ecological resources – including designated ecology – can be estimated to be areas within 15 km of the County boundary and all downstream areas of catchments which drain the County.

¹⁰ The Dalkey Islands Conservation Plan 2014-2024

¹¹ Treasuring our Wildlife - Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Biodiversity Plan 2009-2013.

3.4 Status of Waters in the County

Most of the Plan area is located within the catchment of the Liffey and Dublin Bay (an area drained by the River Liffey and by all streams entering tidal water between Sea Mount and Sorrento Point). The Plan area is also partially drained by the Avoca-Vartry catchment (an area drained by the Rivers Avoca and Vartry and by all streams entering tidal water between Sorrento Point and Kilmichael Point). The main rivers within the Plan area are the Loughinstown River, the Glencullen River, the Little Dargle River and the River Dodder.

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) defines 'overall surface water status' as the general expression of the status of a body of surface water, determined by the poorer of its ecological status and its chemical status. Thus, in order to achieve 'good surface water status' both the ecological status and the chemical status of a surface water body need to be at least 'good'. The WFD surface water status (2013-2018), for rivers and coastal waters within and surrounding the County is shown on Figure 3.2 and on Table 3.1.

The WFD status of most of the rivers and streams within the County is classified as *moderate*, *good* and *high*, however a section of the Kill of the Grange Stream is identified as *poor* due to unsatisfactory ecological/biological and/or physio-chemical status. Coastal water bodies the Irish Sea and Dublin Bay, adjacent to the north-east of the County, are currently identified as being of *good* status while the Southwestern Irish Sea - Killiney Bay water body, adjacent to the coastline, is of *high* status. The WFD status (2013-2018) of groundwater underlying the County is mostly identified as being of *good* status.

Significant pressures, those pressures which need to be addressed in order to improve water quality, have been identified for waterbodies that are 'At Risk' of not meeting their water quality objectives under the WFD. Significant pressures for surface water bodies within or adjacent to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown are identified on Table 3.1. There are various types of pressures identified, such as:

- **Urban run-off pressures** - can include leaking sewers and run-off from paved and unpaved areas and misconnections where private foul connections are connected to storm sewers instead of the foul sewer network.
- **Urban wastewater pressures** - can include direct discharge of nutrients from urban wastewater treatment plants and discharge from combined storm overflows or storm water overflows. Discharges of elevated concentrations of phosphorus, ammonium and nitrogen impact on the ecology of surface waters.
- **Hydromorphological and anthropogenic pressures** are identified together in many instances. Hydromorphological pressures can include: modifications to the physical habitat conditions or the natural functioning of a waterbody which can impact on ecology, caused by dredging and straightening of rivers (channelisation), land drainage or hard infrastructure such as dams, weirs, culverts or other obstructions. Anthropogenic pressures can include: water abstractions; invasive species; agriculture; use of fertilizers, manures and pesticides; animal husbandry activities; inefficient irrigation practices; deforestation of woods; aquaculture; pollution due to industrial effluents and domestic sewage; and recreational activities.

Table 3.1 WFD River and Coastal Waterbodies Status¹²

Waterbody Name (EPA Identification Code) ¹³	Waterbody Type	WFD Surface Waterbody Status (2013 -2018) ¹⁴
Kill of the Grange Stream_010	River	Poor - due to poor ecological/biological status. This waterbody is identified to be under pressure from hydromorphological/anthropogenic, urban run-off and urban wastewater sources
Carrickmines Stream_010	River	Moderate . This waterbody is identified to be under pressure from urban run-off sources .
Dargle_030	River	Moderate . This waterbody is identified to be under pressure from urban wastewater sources .
Dodder_050	River	Moderate . This waterbody is identified to be under pressure from hydromorphological, urban run-off and urban wastewater sources .
Shanganagh_010	River	Moderate . No pressures identified.
Dargle_040	River	Good . No pressures identified.
Owenadoher_010	River	Good . This waterbody is identified to be under pressure from urban run-off sources .
Dublin Bay	Coastal	Good . No pressures identified.
Irish Sea Dublin (HA 09)	Coastal	Good . No pressures identified.
Glencullen_010	River	High . No pressures identified.
Southwestern Irish Sea - Killiney Bay (HA10)	Coastal	High . No pressures identified.

¹² Source: <https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/> and <https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/Water>.

¹³ The number at the end of each river water body name indicates where the waterbody is located along the main river channel. For example, the waterbody at the source is coded '_010', the next waterbody downstream is coded '_020' and the final waterbody before the river becomes transitional is '_180'.

¹⁴ There is a data gap relating to WFD surface water status data. There are a small number of waterbodies within the Plan area with overall status currently not assigned to them (such as **Brewery Stream**) and the term "unassigned status" applies in respect of these waterbodies. These are not included on the Table 3.1.

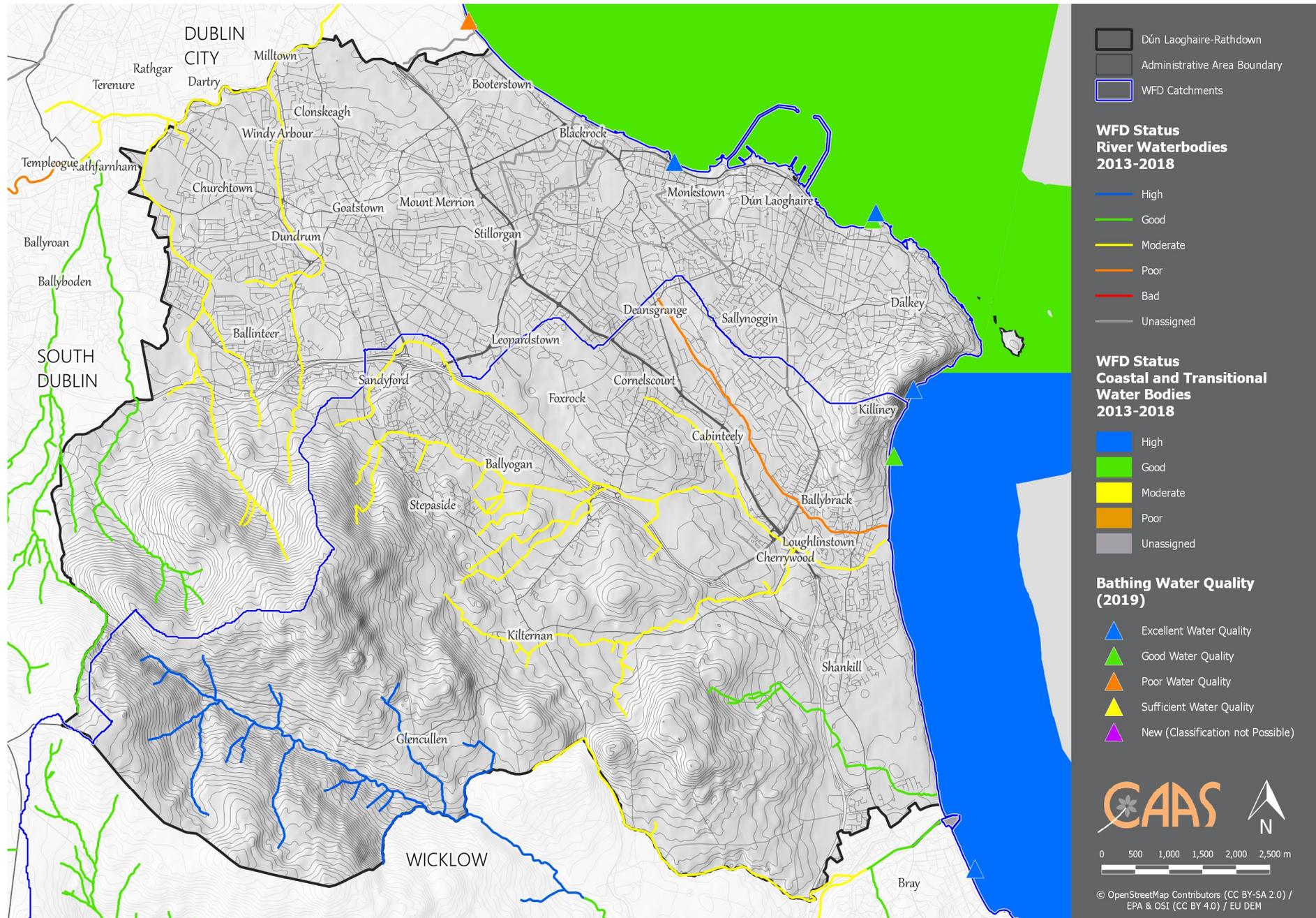


Figure 3.2 WFD Surface Water Status (2013-2018)

3.5 Assessment Criteria and Screening

3.5.1 Is the Plan Necessary to the Management of European Sites?

The overarching objective of the Plan is not the nature conservation management of the sites, but to coordinate and plan the future development of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. Therefore, the Plan is not considered to be directly connected with or necessary to the management of European Sites.

3.5.2 Elements of the Plan with Potential to Give Rise to Effects

The Plan provides a framework for the sustainable development of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown area. Plan elements that could potentially affect the integrity of European Sites include:

- Provisions for sectors such as climate action, urbanisation including residential and economic development, streetscape works, community facilities, transport, green infrastructure, energy, environmental infrastructure, recreational, natural resource, which introduce sources for effects through construction phase such as habitat destruction, light pollution, hydrological interactions and disturbance effects; and
- Loading pressures from the operational phase of developments – these sources could result in habitat loss, disturbance effects, interactions with water quality and habitat fragmentation.

The elements of the Plan with the highest potential to give rise to the effects indicated above are generally associated with construction phase elements of the implementation of the Plan. The operational phase elements of the Plan are generally consistent with the existing condition of the area; however, these will also need to be carefully considered. All policies and objectives are considered in this assessment with respect to the ecological integrity of each of the European Sites identified. The assessment considers the sensitivities/vulnerabilities of the QIs and SCIs in relation to all potential sources for effects and potential pathways for such effects. Where sources and pathways for effects are identified, potential effects are assessed in relation to the SSCOs.

3.5.3 Screening of Sites

Table 3.2 examines whether there is potential for effects on European Sites considering information provided above, including Appendix I. Sites are screened based on one or a combination of the following criteria:

- The existence of potential for pathways for significant effects, such as hydrological links, Plan proposals and the site to be screened;
- The distance of the relevant site from the County boundary; and
- The existence of a link between identified threats or vulnerabilities at a site to potential impacts that may arise from the Plan.

Table 3.2 Screening of European Sites

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interest and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects (refer also to Sections 3.5.2 and 3.5.3 above)	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000210	South Dublin Bay SAC	Within	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Shifting dunes (<i>Embryonic shifting dunes</i>) [2110]	The Plan provides a framework for land use development and activities with potential for construction and operation source effects throughout the County. As this site is within the County boundary there are pathways for potential direct effects to the ecological integrity of the site and consideration at Stage 2 AA is required.	Yes	Yes
000713	Ballyman Glen SAC	Within	Alkaline fens [7230], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220]	The Plan provides a framework for land use development and activities with potential for construction and operation source effects throughout the County. As this site is within the County boundary there are pathways for potential direct effects to the ecological integrity of the site and consideration at Stage 2 AA is required.	Yes	Yes
000725	Knocksink Wood SAC	Within	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220]	The Plan provides a framework for land use development and activities with potential for construction and operation source effects throughout the County. As this site is within the County boundary there are pathways for potential direct effects to the ecological integrity of the site and consideration at Stage 2 AA is required.	Yes	Yes
002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	Within	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030], Western acidic oak woodland (<i>Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</i>) [91A0], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) [3110], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (<i>Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani</i>) [8110], Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130], Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on silicious substrates in mountain areas (<i>and submountain areas in Continental Europe</i>) [6230], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]	The Plan provides a framework for land use development and activities with potential for construction and operation source effects throughout the County. As this site is within the County boundary there are pathways for potential direct effects to the ecological integrity of the site and consideration at Stage 2 AA is required.	Yes	Yes
003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	Within	Reefs [1170], Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>) [1351]	The Plan provides a framework for land use development and activities with potential for construction and operation source effects throughout the County. As this site is within the County boundary there are pathways for potential direct effects to the ecological integrity of the site and consideration at Stage 2 AA is required.	Yes	Yes
004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	Within	Eurasian oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130], Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157], Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194], Roseate tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192], Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169], Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193], Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144], Mediterranean gull (<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>) [A176], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141], Red knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179]	The Plan provides a framework for land use development and activities with potential for construction and operation source effects throughout the County. As this site is within the County boundary there are pathways for potential direct effects to the ecological integrity of the site and consideration at Stage 2 AA is required.	Yes	Yes
004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	Within	Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) [A103], Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) [A098], Wood warbler (<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>) [A314]	The Plan provides a framework for land use development and activities with potential for construction and operation source effects throughout the County. As this site is within the County boundary there are pathways for potential direct effects to the ecological integrity of the site and consideration at Stage 2 AA is required.	Yes	Yes
004172	Dalkey Islands SPA	Within	Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193], Roseate tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192], Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194]	The Plan provides a framework for land use development and activities with potential for construction and operation source effects throughout the County. As this site is within the County boundary there are pathways for potential direct effects to the ecological integrity of the site and consideration at Stage 2 AA is required.	Yes	Yes

Appropriate Assessment of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interest and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects (refer also to Sections 3.5.2 and 3.5.3 above)	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000714	Bray Head SAC	1.76	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230], European dry heaths [4030]	The SAC is designated for terrestrial habitats such as dry heath that are sensitive to localised effects such as drainage, encroachment, inappropriate grazing and land use management. These habitats identified as being clifftop with no functional pathway between the sources for effects identified to interact with the QIs of the site. This assessment was made having regard to the conservation objectives of the site. Therefore, no further consideration is required.	No	No
001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	3.5	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>) [6410], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220]	The SAC is designated for terrestrial grassland habitats that are sensitive to localised effects such as inappropriate grazing and land use management etc. These habitats are not sensitive to hydrological interactions. There are no sources for effects identified that would introduce any effects to the ecological sensitivities of the QIs of the site considering the distances between the European site and the County boundary; having regard to the conservation objectives. Therefore, no further consideration is required.	No	No
004006	North Bull Island SPA	4.69	Ruff (<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>) [A151], Eurasian oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130], Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137], Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Red knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141], Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069], Common shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Common greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>) [A164], Short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>) [A222], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179]	The SCI species for this site are sensitive to localised effects such as disturbance and land use management. The Plan does not introduce any sources for interactions at a local level however it could introduce sources for indirect effects through water quality interactions that could impact the trophic structure of the system thus effecting prey availability.	Yes	Yes
000206	North Dublin Bay SAC	4.72	Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>) [1395], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes") [2130], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)</i>) [1330], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Shifting dunes (<i>Embryonic shifting dunes</i>) [2110], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes") [2120], Humid dune slacks [2190]	The SAC is designated for terrestrial coastal habitats that are sensitive to localised effects such as inappropriate grazing and land use management. These habitats are not sensitive to hydrological interactions. There are no sources for effects identified that would introduce any effects to the ecological sensitivities of the QIs of the site considering the distances between the European site and the County boundary; having regard to the conservation objectives. Therefore, no further consideration is required.	No	No
000719	Glen of the Downs SAC	6.12	Western acidic oak woodland (<i>Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</i>) [91A0]	The SAC is designated for terrestrial woodland habitats that are sensitive to localised effects such as inappropriate grazing and land use management. These habitats are not sensitive to hydrological interactions. There are no sources for effects identified that would introduce any effects to the ecological sensitivities of the QIs of the site considering the distances between the European site and the County boundary; having regard to the conservation objectives. Therefore, no further consideration is required.	No	No
000202	Howth Head SAC	7.15	European dry heaths [4030], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230]	The SAC is designated for terrestrial habitats such as dry heath that are sensitive to localised effects such as drainage, encroachment, inappropriate grazing and land use management. These habitats identified as being clifftop with no functional pathway between the sources for effects identified to interact with the QIs of the site. This assessment was made having regard to the conservation objectives of the site. Therefore, no further consideration is required.	No	No
004113	Howth Head Coast SPA	8.13	Black-legged kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188], Common guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) [A199], Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) [A103], Northern fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>) [A009], Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>) [A200]	The SCI species for this site are sensitive to localised effects such as disturbance and land use management. The Plan does not introduce any sources for interactions at a local level however it could introduce sources for indirect effects through water quality interactions that could impact the trophic structure of the system thus effecting prey availability.	Yes	Yes

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Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interest and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects (refer also to Sections 3.5.2 and 3.5.3 above)	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000199	Baldoyle Bay SAC	9.9	Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>) [1330], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]	The SAC is designated for terrestrial and marine coastal habitats which are sensitive to localised effects such as alteration to sediment characteristics and flow regimes. These habitats are not particularly sensitive to hydrological interactions. Considering the dilution potential of the Irish seas and the distance between the SAC and the County, there are no sources for effects identified that would introduce any effects to the ecological sensitivities of the QIs of the site. Therefore, no further consideration is required.	No	No
004016	Baldoyle Bay SPA	9.9	Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069], Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137], Eurasian oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130], Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Red knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143], Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169], Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141], Common shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005], Common greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>) [A164]	The SCI species for this site are sensitive to localised effects such as disturbance and land use management. The Plan does not introduce any sources for interactions at a local level however it could introduce sources for indirect effects through water quality interactions that could impact the trophic structure of the system thus effecting prey availability.	Yes	Yes
000716	Carriggower Bog SAC	10.14	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	This European site is designated for habitats that are sensitive to ground water interactions that may occur due to the implementation of the Plan. Therefore, further considerations are needed.	Yes	Yes
002249	The Murrrough Wetlands SAC	10.92	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Alkaline fens [7230], Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>) [1330], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]	This European site is designated for QIs that are sensitive to ground water interactions that may occur due to the implementation of the Plan. Therefore, further considerations are needed.	Yes	Yes
004117	Ireland's Eye SPA	11.23	Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Northern fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>) [A009], Atlantic puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>) [A204], Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>) [A200], Black-legged kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188], Northern gannet (<i>Morus bassanus</i>) [A016], Common guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) [A199], Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) [A103]	The SCI species for this site are sensitive to localised effects such as disturbance and land use management. The Plan does not introduce any sources for interactions at a local level however it could introduce sources for indirect effects through water quality interactions that could impact the trophic structure of the system thus effecting prey availability.	Yes	Yes
002193	Ireland's Eye SAC	11.61	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]	The SAC is designated for terrestrial habitats such as dry heath that are sensitive to localised effects such as drainage, encroachment, inappropriate grazing and land use management. These habitats identified as being clifftop with no functional pathway between the sources for effects identified to interact with the QIs of the site. This assessment was made having regard to the conservation objectives of the site. Therefore, no further consideration is required.	No	No
004186	The Murrrough SPA	11.87	Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>) [A222], Common greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>) [A164], Herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184], Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Little tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) [A195], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169], Sandwich tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>) [A191], Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Little egret (<i>Egretta garzetta</i>) [A026], Ruff (<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>) [A151], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Red-throated diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>) [A001], Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>) [A051], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Common shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048]	The SCI species for this site are sensitive to localised effects such as disturbance and land use management. The Plan does not introduce any sources for interactions at a local level however it could introduce sources for indirect effects through water quality interactions that could impact the trophic structure of the system thus effecting prey availability.	Yes	Yes

Appropriate Assessment of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interest and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects (refer also to Sections 3.5.2 and 3.5.3 above)	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
004063	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA	13.24	Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Lesser black-backed gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179]	The SCI species for this site are sensitive to localised effects such as disturbance and land use management. The Plan does not introduce any sources for interactions at a local level however it could introduce sources for indirect effects through water quality interactions that could impact the trophic structure of the system thus effecting prey availability.	Yes	Yes
000205	Malahide Estuary SAC	14.4	Cord-grass swards (<i>Spartina</i> swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>)) [1320], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes") [2120], <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)) [1330], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes") [2130]	The SAC is designated for terrestrial coastal habitats which are sensitive to localised effects such as inappropriate grazing and land use management. These habitats are not sensitive to hydrological interactions. There are no sources for effects identified that would introduce any effects to the ecological sensitivities of the QIs of the site considering the distances between the European site and the County boundary; having regard to the conservation objectives. Therefore, no further consideration is required.	No	No

3.6 Other Plans and Programmes

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the plan or project, have the potential to adversely affect European Sites. Appendix II outlines a selection of plans or projects that may interact with the Plan to cause in-combination effects to European Sites. These plans, programmes, strategies etc. were considered throughout the assessment.

The Plan sits within a hierarchy of statutory documents setting out public policy for, among other things, land use planning, infrastructure, sustainable development, recreation, environmental protection and environmental management, which have been subject to their own environmental assessment processes, as relevant. The Plan must comply with relevant higher-level strategic actions and will, in turn, guide lower level strategic actions.

The National Planning Framework (NPF) sets out Ireland's planning policy direction for the next 20 years. The NPF is to be implemented through Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSEs) and lower tier Development Plans and Local Area Plans. The RSEs for the Eastern and Midland Region sets out objectives for land use planning, tourism, infrastructure, sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been subject to environmental assessment and must be implemented through the County Development Plan.

As required by the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the Draft County Development Plan is consistent with and conforms with national and regional policies, plans and programmes, including the NPF and the RSEs for the Eastern and Midland Region. The County Development Plan may, in turn, guide lower level strategic actions, such as the Local Area Plans that will be subject to their own lower-tier environmental assessments.

In order to be realised, projects included in the County Development Plan (in a similar way to other projects from any other sector) will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and other licencing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework.

All projects within the Plan area and receiving environment will be considered in combination with any and all lower tier projects that may arise due to the implementation of the Plan. Given the uncertainties that exist with regard to the scale and location of developments facilitated by the Draft Plan, it is recognised that the identification of in-combination effects is limited and that the assessment of in-combination effects will need to be undertaken in a more comprehensive manner at the project-level.

Additional information on the relationship with other plans and programmes is provided at Appendix II.

3.7 AA Screening Conclusion

The effects that could arise from the Plan have been examined in the context of several factors that could potentially affect the integrity of any European Site. On the basis of the findings of this Screening for AA, it is concluded that the Plan:

- Is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European Site; and
- May, if unmitigated, have significant effects on 16 (no.) European Sites.

Therefore, a Stage 2 AA is required for the Plan (see Section 4 of this report). An AA Screening Determination undertaken by the planning authority is provided at Figure 3.3.

Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Determination

under
Section 177U of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended,
for the

Emerging Draft Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028

In order to comply with the requirements of Section 177U of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, this determination has been made by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council relating to the potential for the emerging Draft Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028 to have significant effects on European sites.

In making the determination that Appropriate Assessment (AA) is required, the information on the likely significant effects on European Sites arising from the emerging Draft Plan has been taken into account (this information will be placed on public display in the Natura Impact Report alongside the emerging Draft Plan). The process of screening for AA began at an early stage in the drafting of the Plan. The screening process assessed whether the emerging Draft Plan had the potential to have significant effects on any European sites, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects.

The screening process concluded that an AA of the emerging Draft Plan would be required, as the Plan: is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites; and may, on the basis of objective information, individually, or in combination with other plans and projects, if unmitigated have significant adverse effects on 16 (no.) European sites.

Factors that could potentially affect the integrity of European sites include:

- Provisions for sectors such as climate action, urbanisation including residential and economic development, streetscape works, community facilities, transport, green infrastructure, energy environmental infrastructure, recreational, natural resource, which introduce sources for effects through construction phase such as habitat destruction, light pollution, hydrological interactions and disturbance effects; and
- Loading pressures from the operational phase of developments – these sources could result in habitat loss, disturbance effects, interactions with water quality and habitat fragmentation.

Therefore, Stage 2 AA (including the preparation of the Natura Impact Report) is required for the emerging Draft Plan.

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above. The undersigned hereby determines pursuant to Section 177U of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and for the purposes of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive that it could not be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the emerging Draft Plan, individually, or in combination with other plans and projects would have a likely significant effect on a European site and therefore an AA is required.

Signatory: *Lonic McQueen, Senior Planner,*

Date: *15 October 2020.*

Figure 3.3 Screening for Appropriate Assessment Determination

Section 4 Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment

4.1 Introduction

The Stage 2 AA assesses whether the Plan alone, or in-combination with other plans, programmes, and/or projects, would result in adverse impacts on the integrity of the 16 European Sites brought forward from screening (those considered on Table 3.2 for which there is "Potential Pathway for Significant Effects" and/or "Potential for In-Combination Effects"), with respect to site structure, function and/or conservation objectives.

4.2 Characterisation of European Sites Potentially Affected

The AA Screening identified 16 European Sites with pathway receptors for potential effects arising from the implementation of the Plan. Appendix I characterises each of the qualifying features of the 16 European Sites brought forward from Stage 1 in context of each of the sites' vulnerabilities. Each of these site characterisations were taken from the NPWS website¹⁵.

4.3 Identifying and Characterising Potential Significant Effects¹⁶

The following parameters can be used when characterising impacts¹⁷:

Direct and Indirect Impacts - An impact can be caused either as a direct or as an indirect consequence of a Plan/Project.

Magnitude - Magnitude measures the size of an impact, which is described as high, medium, low, very low or negligible.

Extent - The area over that the impact occurs – this should be predicted in a quantified manner.

Duration - The time that the effect is expected to last prior to recovery or replacement of the resource or feature.

- Temporary: Up to 1 Year;
- Short Term: The effects would take 1-7 years to be mitigated;
- Medium Term: The effects would take 7-15 years to be mitigated;
- Long Term: The effects would take 15-60 years to be mitigated; and
- Permanent: The effects would take 60+ years to be mitigated.

Likelihood – The probability of the effect occurring taking into account all available information.

- Certain/Near Certain: >95% chance of occurring as predicted;
- Probable: 50-95% chance as occurring as predicted;
- Unlikely: 5-50% chance as occurring as predicted; and
- Extremely Unlikely: <5% chance as occurring as predicted.

Ecologically Significant Impact - An impact (negative or positive) on the integrity of a defined site or ecosystem and/or the conservation status of habitats or species within a given geographic area.

Integrity of a Site - The coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, which enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was classified.

The Habitats Directive requires the focus of the assessment at this stage to be on the integrity of the site as indicated by its Conservation Objectives. It is an aim of NPWS to draw up conservation management plans for all areas designated for nature conservation. These plans will, among other things, set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest within a site.

Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) have been prepared for a number of European Sites. These detailed SSCOs aim to define favourable conservation condition for the qualifying habitats and species at that site by setting targets for appropriate attributes that define the character habitat. The maintenance of the favourable condition for these habitats and species at the site level will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

Favourable conservation status of a species can be described as being achieved when: 'population data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself, and the natural range of the species is neither being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.'

Favourable conservation status of a habitat can be described as being achieved when: 'its natural range, and area it covers within that range, is stable or increasing, and the ecological factors that are necessary for its long-term maintenance

¹⁵ Last accessed February 2022 <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites>

¹⁶ Note that the numbering of individual Plan provisions referenced in this report may be updated during the finalisation of the Plan, including formatting and graphic design.

¹⁷ These descriptions are informed by publications including: Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2016) "Guidelines for ecological impact assessment"; Environmental Protection Agency (2002) "Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements"; and National Roads Authority (2009) "Guidelines for Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Roads Schemes".

exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.

Generic Conservation Objective for SACs:

- To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species that the SAC has been selected.

Generic Conservation Objective for SPAs:

- To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

4.3.1 Types of Potential Effects

Assessment of potential impacts on European Sites is conducted utilising a standard source-pathway model (see approach referred to under Sections 1.3 and 3). The 2001 European Commission AA guidance outlines the following potential changes that may occur at a designated site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site: loss/reduction of habitat area; habitat or species fragmentation; disturbance to key species; reduction in species density; changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.); and climate change. Each of these potential changes are considered below and in Table 4.1 with reference to the QIs/SCIs of all of the European Sites brought forward from Stage 1 of the AA process (see Section 3).

4.3.1.1 Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area

The Plan provides a framework for granting consent for land use developments and activities across various sectors (see Section 2) for the whole of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. Potential effects arising from developments and activities include land take, habitat destruction, disturbance effects, light pollution, dust, hydrological interactions, airborne pollution and excessive noise. All eight of the sixteen sites occurring within or partially within the County have the potential to be impacted.

Various measures have been integrated into the Plan with the objective of ensuring that there are no significant effects on the ecological integrity of any European Site (see Section 5; for example, GIB18, GIB19, GIB20 and GIB21) as a result of loss of habitat or supporting habitat for species that are necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European Sites.

4.3.1.2 Habitat or species Fragmentation

The Plan provides a framework for granting consent for land use developments and activities across various sectors (see Section 2). Potential effects arising from developments and activities include the fragmentation of habitat and or species through, for example, light pollution, habitat loss or removal of stepping stone habitats.

The Plan includes measures to minimise potential fragmentation and to facilitate the enhancement of ecological corridors such as riparian zones, coastal zones, planting of native tree species, management of habitats such as woodlands and minimising inappropriate lighting (for example, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24, GIB25 and EI16 - see Section 5).

Further to the provisions referred to above, there are provisions related to non-designated sites (that the Plan recognises the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources) and specific ecological resources and/or habitats such as waterways, wetlands and hedgerows that will ensure that habitat or species fragmentation does not occur in relation to the connectivity of the ecological resources necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European Sites.

4.3.1.3 Disturbance to Key Species

The Plan provides a framework for granting consent for land use developments and activities across various sectors. Disturbance effects are caused by any activity or development that has potential to alter the movement patterns or distribution of species, for example direct disturbance through human activity/movement as a result of human activity/movement or noise pollution.

Noise and light will be managed through provisions such as T26, EI15 and EI16. Other disturbance effects could relate to a reduction in habitat quality for species. Policies to ensure the protection of habitat quality have been built into the plan as identified above (see also Section 5).

Policy Objectives such as GIB1 and OSR13 (see Section 5) recognise the links between the use of open space, green infrastructure and biodiversity.

Recreational related pressures such as walking or nautical sports are identified as known threats and pressures for numerous sites considered by the assessment. The Plan includes various provisions that would, if unmitigated, have the potential to add sources of effects; however, Policy Objectives such as OSR8, OSR11, GIB11 and SLO35 (see Section 5) will mitigate such effects.

Other disturbance effects could relate to a reduction in habitat quality due to anthropocentric sensitivities for species such as winter wading birds – this is known to occur within the County across much of the coastline and green space areas). Policies to ensure the protection of habitat quality have been built into the Plan; identified above (further details see Section 5).

4.3.1.4 Reduction in species density

Species densities are reliant on species distributions, habitat condition, connectivity of ecological resources and availability of resources such as prey/food. The Plan introduces potential sources for effects to affect these four determinant factors for species densities in the form of construction phase effects such as habitat destruction, light pollution, hydrological interaction or operational effects such as disturbance effects, habitat encroachment and trampling. However, Section 12.7.2 'Biodiversity' of the Plan identifies the rigorous approach that will be taken when assessing the ecological impacts of a proposed development and the precautions surrounding this approach¹⁸.

Section 12.9.4 to 12.9.6 of the Plan requires Construction Management Plan (CMP) to control the sources for effects during the construction phase of certain developments.

The Plan contains provisions to enhance biodiversity within Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown through native tree planting, a pollinator friendly planting code and commitments to implement the Biodiversity Action Plan. The Plan includes provisions related to non-designated sites (that the Plan recognises the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources) and specific ecological resources and/or habitats such as waterways, wetlands and hedgerows that will ensure that habitat or species fragmentation does not occur in relation to the connectivity of the ecological resources necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European Sites. Measures relating to light pollution, noise pollution, habitat loss and fragmentation are addressed above.

In addition to this, the Plan identifies policy objectives to protect and improve water quality interactions which can influence species densities. There are also a number of provisions relating to protective buffer zones, further assessment requirements as well as commitments to increasing water quality standards. Further details in relation to the mitigation measures incorporated into the text of the Plan are provided at Section 5.

4.3.1.5 Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value

Indicators of conservation value are identified as key ecological resources such as water quality, air quality, habitat quality, population health of ecosystem engineers or 'keystone species' etc. The

¹⁸ Including: Any development proposals for sites designated as, or immediately adjacent to, a pNHA, SPA or SAC shall be accompanied by an EIS and/or Appropriate Assessment and shall be referred to the NPWS. Regard shall be had to 'Guidance for Local – Authorities Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland' (DEHLG) (2009).

In the event of a proposed development impacting on a site known, or likely, to be a breeding or resting site of a species listed in Habitats Regulations a derogation license, as per Article 16 of the Habitats Directive issued by the NPWS, will be required in advance of permission.

A precautionary approach should be taken to all proposals in environmentally sensitive areas and/or to sites that may be in use by, or contain, protected species.

An Ecological Risk Assessment may be required in relevant planning applications for both designated and/or non-designated sites (as appropriate) to ensure that the proposed development does not undermine or impact on the conservation objectives of these sites.

In order to comply with European and National legislation on nature conservation, and to ensure that areas of biodiversity value are adequately protected, an ecological assessment will be carried out for development proposals which have potential to impact on species and habitats protected. (Refer to Section 8.7.1.5 Policy Objective GIB22).

No projects giving rise to significant direct, indirect or secondary impacts on Natura 2000 sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Development Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive).

The Planning Authority may require, where appropriate, Visitor/Management Plans to be submitted as part of the Development Management process for development proposals within or adjacent to an ecological sensitive site, as appropriate. The Visitor/Management Plan shall include appropriate measures to avoid significant negative effects and loss of habitat and associated disturbance to the ecological sensitive site.

protection of these resources is a key focus of the Plan including provisions contained within Chapter 8 'Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity'. Other chapters such as the Chapter 3 'Climate Action', Chapter 9 'Open Space and Recreation' and Chapter 13 'Environmental Infrastructure' also contain provisions for ensuring future developments and forward planning is managed in a sustainable manner.

There is potential for interactions at local level between agricultural waste and soil, water, biodiversity and human health – including nitrogen deposition as a result of agricultural activities. However, this is likely to be a less significant issue at County level due to low levels of intensive agriculture.

Plan mitigation relating to water status and the provision of water services includes EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI5, EI6, EI7, EI8, EI9, EI10, EI11 and EI17 (see Section 5). Emissions to air also have potential to adversely affect the conservation status of European Sites. Various provisions have been integrated into the Plan with the objective of protecting air quality (for example EI14, EI15 and CA3 - see Section 5).

Additionally, the policies provide broader scope to ensure the protection of the wider landscape associated with riparian zones and habitats sensitive to hydrological interactions; such as GIB20 and GIB24.

4.3.1.6 Climate change

The Plan includes provisions that potentially conflict with climate mitigation and provisions that will help to contribute towards climate mitigation. Section 12.7.2 'Biodiversity' of the Plan provides that 'No projects giving rise to significant direct, indirect or secondary impacts on Natura 2000 sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Development Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive).' Greenhouse gas emissions arising from the Plan will not affect changes projected to arise from climate change to the degree that it would affect the QIs or SCIs of the European Sites considered.

4.3.2 Additional Commentary on Specific Issues

4.3.2.1 Coastal Defence and Recreation

In recent years, the focus on coastal areas for transport, tourism and recreation infrastructure has increased. There is a growing demand to bring built infrastructure into areas of conservation interest and to protect property through the use of coastal defences. Together, these factors threaten to reduce the area available for coastal habitats and impair the natural functioning of coastal ecosystems.

Policy Objective EI25: Coastal Defence is to implement and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Defence Strategy (2010) for the County, where feasible, and endeavour to incorporate leisure and transport objectives with coastal protection, where feasible and appropriate. This feasibility referred to under Policy EI25 will be informed by a number criteria, including environmental criteria and the requirement to comply with the various provisions that have been integrated into the Plan, such as Policy Objectives GIB18, GIB19, GIB20 and GIB21 that seek to ensure there are no significant effects on the ecological integrity of any European Site as a result of loss of habitat or supporting habitat for species that are necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European Sites.

Policy Objective GIB11 provides for the undertaking of Coastal Area Feasibility Study on recreational potential that comprehensively addresses recreational impact - including visitor numbers, mapping and surveying of sensitive habitats and species and identification of significant threats on European sites - and which would allow an assessment of any future proposals, alone or in combination, to assess impact on the coastal and marine zone within and adjacent to the County boundary. As detailed under Section 4.3.1.3, recreational related pressures are identified as known threats and pressures for numerous sites considered by the assessment and the Plan includes various provisions that would, if unmitigated, have the potential to add sources of effects; however, Policy Objectives such as OSR8, OSR11, GIB11 and SLO35 (see Section 5) will mitigate such effects.

Policy Objective T13 Coastal Cycling Infrastructure Objective and Special Local Objective SLO18 promote the development of Dublin Bay Trail from the boundary with Dublin City to Wicklow County,

as a component part of the National East Coast Trail Cycle Route. The Plan requires that such a route would have to be subject to a feasibility study, including an assessment of the route options and any development proposals shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening ensure the protection of European sites. Further commentary on cycleways and walkways in general is provided under Section 4.3.2.2 below.

Mitigation relating to the undertaking of AA Screening and the protection of designated sites has been integrated into Specific Local Objectives that were added by Members following the consideration of the Chief Executive's Draft Plan, including the possible provision of: an open seawater pool at the Dún Laoghaire Baths site (SLO 115); a cultural and heritage centre in the environs of the Dún Laoghaire Harbour (SLO 116); and a feasibility investigation of how the East Coast Cycle Trail could be integrated into any coastal protection works required between Corbawn Lane and the proposed DART station at Woodbrook (SLO 117).

4.3.2.2 Mobility and Transport

The Mobility and Transport provisions contained in the Plan align with higher level planning, sustainable mobility and climate policy, including the Eastern and Midland RSES 2019, the Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016 and the Climate Action Plan 2021. The more significant projects are already provided for by these higher-level plans and programmes.

The development of new and existing greenways, blueways, trails and walking and cycling routes, including those within the County and those into adjoining counties and beyond has the potential to contribute towards sustainable mobility and a better management of movements in sensitive areas, thereby benefitting various environmental components including habitats at certain locations. The development of these projects, however, presents a variety of potentially adverse environmental effects that would, if unmitigated, have the potential to arise from both the construction and operation of such developments and/or their ancillary infrastructure. These types of infrastructure are often constructed in ecologically and visually sensitive areas adjacent to the banks of rivers and streams. Potential adverse effects would be mitigated both by measures which have been integrated into the Plan which provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development, including the protection of European sites (including Policy Objective OSR8: Greenways and Blueways Network¹⁹) and by measures arising from lower tier assessments (including those for the preparation of lower tier projects). The development of green infrastructure can achieve synergies with regard to the provision of open space amenities, sustainable mobility, the sustainable management of water, the protection and management of biodiversity, the protection of cultural heritage and the protection of protected landscape sensitivities.

As identified in detailed text under Policy Objective GIB1: Green Infrastructure Strategy, it is the Council's intention to review and update the existing Green Infrastructure Strategy for the County in consultation with all key stakeholders and with the public during the lifetime of the County Development Plan, 2022- 2028. The Strategy will identify key green infrastructure aims, with support from the forthcoming DLR County Wildlife Corridor Plan, 2021, and objectives for the County taking account of the main Policy Objectives identified in the County Development Plan.

Policy Objective T22 integrates requirements including those relating to environmental assessment (SEA, EIA and AA) for "6 Year Road Objectives/Traffic Management/Active Travel Upgrades" (Table

¹⁹ The detailed text under which states that in order to ensure careful planning, design and management of greenways at a County level, the Council will:

- Avoid impacts on the integrity of European Conservation Sites (SACs and SPAs), and nationally designated sites (NHAs), which includes taking account of protected species or qualifying interests that may occur/use areas outside designated sites.
- Support the objectives of the National Biodiversity Action Plan, 2017 – 2023 and the forthcoming DLR County Biodiversity Action Plan, 2020- 2025.
- Avoid and/or minimise impacts on locally important biodiversity in DLR.
- Ensure suitable buffer zones of at least 5m are in place on any proposed routes (including associated infrastructure) that may be likely to have a potential impact on habitats or species along rivers, riparian areas, coastal areas, or mountain paths.
- Protect existing hedgerows, important treelines, and individual trees against unnecessary damage during planning, design, and the development of each greenway route.
- Avoid the accidental introduction and the spread of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) such as Japanese Knotweed and Giant Hogweed during the development and maintenance of the greenway route.
- Carry out IAS surveys, and where necessary, develop an IAS Management Plan for proposed greenway routes.

The Greenway projects will comply with the requirements and objectives of the Habitats Directive and are in line with the Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) Objectives of the Cycle Network Plan for the Greater Dublin Area.

5.4). The feasibility of new roads projects provided for by the Plan (under Policy Objective T22) that are not already provided for by existing plans/programme or are not already permitted, must be examined, taking into account environmental sensitivities, including those relating to European sites, and a Corridor and Route Selection Process must be undertaken (see Policy Objective T24: Environmental Assessment of New Roads).

The Dublin Eastern Bypass is one of the projects listed on Table 5.4 under Policy Objective T22. The Plan qualifies that “should the proposals for the Dublin Eastern Bypass be progressed at some point in the longer term, a full assessment of the potential ecological impacts associated with the proposals will be required to be carried out to include the appropriate research and survey work necessary in order to inform a robust Environmental Impact Assessment and Appropriate Assessment of the potential impacts associated with the proposed works.”

With regard to the expansion of Bray-Fassaroe, the Plan identifies (Policy Objective T2: Delivery of Enabling Transport Infrastructure) that the Council will collaborate with National Transport Authority (NTA), Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and Wicklow County Council (WCC) to facilitate the delivery of enabling transport infrastructure to facilitate this area including Old Connaught (consistent with RPO 4.40 of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy). The NTA’s Bray and Environs Transport Study identifies enabling infrastructure for the development of this area including a busway from Fassaroe to Old Connaught over the County Brook at Ballyman Glen (which also facilitates walking and cycling). In response to these higher-level documents, the Plan, at Specific Local Objective SLO107, commits the Council to cooperate with others (NTA, TII and WCC) in the establishment of a combined road across the County Brook Valley to provide connections between the proposed new development areas of Old Connaught and Fassaroe. Proposals for such a connection would have to comply with the various provisions of the Plan and the adjoining Wicklow County Development Plan, as relevant, in order to be granted permission, such as Draft Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan GIB18, GIB19, GIB20 and GIB21 that seek to ensure at there are no significant effects on the ecological integrity of any European Site as a result of loss of habitat or supporting habitat for species that are necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European Sites. A requirement to follow the Corridor and Route Selection Process outlined by Policy T24 has been integrated into SLO107.

4.3.2.3 Birds and Amenity Grasslands and Agricultural Fields

As shown on Table 3.2, Light-bellied Brent Goose is a qualifying interest for five SPAs in the Dublin Bay network. Over the last 30 years or so Brent geese have begun to feed in Dublin’s amenity grasslands and agricultural fields with the population now reliant, to a large degree, on the availability of suitable grass feeding resources within the Dublin area outside of the SPA network. Curlew, Oystercatcher, Black-tailed Godwit and Black-headed Gull, which are qualifying interests for a number of SPAs in the Dublin Bay network also make use of such *ex-situ* sites.

Loss of these *ex-situ* sites, individually or cumulatively has the potential to adversely affect these bird species. Various provisions have been integrated into the Plan to help to ensure that this does not happen, for example, Policy Objective GIB21: Designated Sites²⁰ and Policy Objective GIB22: Non-Designated Areas of Biodiversity Importance²¹.

The Council’s Ecological Network Map is likely to be a useful data source for lower-tier AAs that must be undertaken for lower-tier plans/projects under the Plan as are the updated existing Green Infrastructure Strategy, forthcoming County Wildlife Corridor Plan, 2021, and any ecological surveys and update the habitat and species mapping for the County undertaken by the Council.

4.3.2.4 Knocksink Wood SAC, Ballyman Glen SAC and Old Connaught

Knocksink Wood and Ballyman Glen SACs are located partly within the County boundary. Both sites are designated for petrifying springs with tufa formation, as well as other priority habitats (alluvial woodland and alkaline fen respectively).

²⁰ The detailed text under which states that “The Council is also committed to avoiding pollution or deterioration of important bird habitats outside SPAs (as per Article 4(4) of the Birds Directive). In line with the requirements of Article 3 of the Habitats Directive the Council will endeavour to improve the ecological coherence of Natura 2000 sites by maintaining, and where appropriate, developing, further features of the landscape which are of importance for wild fauna and flora.”

²¹ The detailed text under which states that “In accordance with Article 4(4) of the Birds Directive the Council will endeavour to ensure the avoidance of pollution or deterioration of important bird habitats outside formally designated SPAs. The Council will also continue to support swift species and other important bird species through the encouragement of the use of swift nest boxes in development with advice from Swift Conservation Ireland.”

As outlined in the Natura Impact Report prepared for the current County Development Plan, any changes to the groundwater regime or surface water quality within the County boundary could have adverse effects on these habitats.

The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht identified in their submission that their National Parks and Wildlife Service section will be commissioning a Hydrogeological and Ecological Survey of the tufa springs in Knocksink Wood and Ballyman Glen in 2020. The purpose of this study will be to better understand the hydrogeological conditions of the tufa springs and to delineate 'source protection zones', land areas that contributes groundwater to a spring. This study is likely to be a useful data source for lower-tier AAs that must be undertaken for lower-tier plans/projects under the Plan. The Council's "Groundwater Strategy for the Glencullen Local Area Plan upon abandonment of the existing wellfields as a source of Public Water Supply" (2018) might be of use to certain projects also (this is referenced in the detailed text that is provided under Policy Objective EI8: Groundwater Protection and Appropriate Assessment).

Proposals for development under the Plan will have to comply with the various provisions of the Plan ensuring the protection of European sites (see Section 5), including Policy Objectives EI5: River Basin Management Plans²², EI8: Groundwater Protection and Appropriate Assessment²³ and EI11: Rathmichael Groundwater and Surface Water Protection²⁴ and Special Local Objective 130²⁵.

In light of the population allocation approved by the Eastern Midland Regional Assembly to enable the planned growth of the Key Town of Bray to 2031 (falling outside the timeframe of the 2022-2028 Plan), and the regional designation of Old Connaught as a strategic residential development area to facilitate the westward expansion of Bray, it is considered appropriate to identify a SLR to meet this designated future growth. The SLR does not comprise a residential zoning status or any future zoning status however it does protect an area from ad hoc and inappropriate development and provide a framework for potential future growth beyond the timeframe of the Plan period of 2028.

The closest European site to Old Connaught is Ballyman Glen SAC. The Glen is a steep sided valley of the County Brook stream and designated for two habitats: Alkaline fens; and Petrifying springs with tufa formation.

Various alternatives for County Development Plan provisions are examined in the accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report. This examination has been informed by the AA process. One type of alternative considered relates to the Strategic Land Reserve (SLR) for Old Connaught. Alternatives identified for the SLR comprise:

- SLR 1: Old Connaught North;
- SLR 2: Old Connaught North West; and
- SLR 3: Old Connaught South West.

²² Including: "It is a Policy Objective: To ensure the delivery of the relevant policies and objectives of the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018 – 2021 and any subsequent plan, including those relating to protection of water status, improvement of water status, prevention of deterioration and meeting objectives for designated protected sites... In the interests of protection of water abstraction sources development within 200m of any part of Glencullen River and Brockey tributary and a horizontal setback of 100m from any part of its tributaries at Boranaraltry and The Alleys up stream of the water intake locations for the Enniskerry Potable Water Supply shall not be permitted."

²³ It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of the groundwater resources in and around the County and associated habitats and species in accordance with the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC and the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations, 2010. In this regard, the Council will support the implementation of Irish Water's Water Safety Plans to protect sources of public water supply and their contributing catchment. In the Glencullen area, new development will not be permitted which could damage groundwater resources or prevent use of this resource. Regard should be had to the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown commissioned "Groundwater Strategy for the Glencullen Aquifer" (2018).

In the Glencullen area, new development will not be permitted which could damage groundwater resources or prevent use of this resource. Regard should be had to the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown commissioned "Groundwater Strategy for the Glencullen Aquifer" (2018).

²⁴ It is a Policy Objective to not consider granting planning permission for any new developments which include an on-site wastewater treatment facility within the Rathmichael area until the groundwater issues in the area are resolved or ameliorated.

This policy will be implemented through the Development Management process through the refusal of planning permission for any new developments - which include an on-site wastewater treatment facility - within the Rathmichael area. This policy is necessitated due to the potential impact of un-sewered developments on groundwater and surface water quality and also on the ability of the Council to meet its obligations under the Water Framework Directive.

Proposals for change of use, or alteration to, or extension of, existing approved developments within these areas involving on-site wastewater treatment facilities will be assessed in the context of there being no potential deterioration of ground or surface waters.

²⁵ To ensure that development in this area does not (i) have a significant negative impact on the environmental sensitivities in the area including those identified in the SEA Environmental Report, and/or (ii) does not significantly detract from the character of the area either visually or by generating traffic volumes which would necessitate road widening or other significant improvements.

These alternatives do not overlap with any European site designation; however, SLR 3 Old Connaught South West would have significantly more potential to adversely impact upon the integrity of the Ballyman Glen SAC given its proximity. SLR 1 emerged as the most favourable alternative for the SLR.

Further commentary on cooperating with the NTA, TII and WCC regarding the development of a combined road across the County Brook Valley is provided under Section 4.3.2.2 above.

4.3.2.5 Renewable Energy

Various Policies Objectives in Chapter 3 "Climate Action" contribute towards the framework for the development of renewable energy, for example, Policy Objective CA10: Renewable Energy and Policy Objective CA11: Onshore and Offshore Wind Energy and Wave Energy. The development of renewable energy would have the potential to impact upon terrestrial and aquatic European sites, if unmitigated. Various provisions, such as Policy Objectives GIB18, GIB19, GIB20 and GIB21, have been integrated into the Plan that will help to ensure that, arising from renewable energy development, there are no significant effects on the ecological integrity of any European Site as a result of loss of habitat or supporting habitat for species that are necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European Sites.

Table 4.1 Characterisation of Potential Effects arising from the Plan²⁶

Site Code	Site Name ²⁷	Characterisation of Potential Effects ^{28, 29}
000210	South Dublin Bay SAC	<p>The known threats to this site are paths, tracks, cycling tracks, changes in abiotic conditions, discharges, accumulation of organic material, roads, motorways, biocenotic evolution, succession, bait digging or collection, urbanised areas, human habitation, reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, industrial or commercial areas, non-motorized nautical sports, marine water pollution and nautical sports.</p> <p>These pressures for this site predominantly relate to land use management interactions on-site effects. Pressures also relate to hydrologic interactions, recreation, direct interaction with species and populations through fishing/hunting, waste management, direct land use management and invasive species. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI5, EI6, EI7, EI8, EI9, EI10, EI11 and EI17. Disturbance effects from water-based sports and maritime leisure activities is addressed by Policy Objective OSR11.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
000713	Ballyman Glen SAC	<p>The known threats to this site are cultivation, fertilisation, sand and gravel extraction, other point source pollution to surface water, grazing, continuous urbanisation, discontinuous urbanisation, roads, motorways, forest planting on open ground, disposal of household or recreational facility waste, removal of hedges and copses or scrub, groundwater pollution by leakages from contaminated sites.</p> <p>There are no provisions in the Plan that will result in additional sources for effects in relation to agriculture or forestry pressures. The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI5, EI6, EI7, EI8, EI9, EI10, EI11 and EI17. Wastewater and waste management capacity concerns are addressed through Policy Objectives such as EI1, EI2, EI3, EI12, EI13 and EI14.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
000716	Carriggower Bog SAC	<p>The known threats to this site are abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, forest planting on open ground, non-intensive horse grazing, species composition change (succession), dispersed habitation, fertilisation, raising the groundwater table or artificial recharge of groundwater.</p> <p>There are no provisions in the Plan that will result in additional sources for effects in relation to agriculture or forestry pressures. The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI5, EI6, EI7, EI8, EI9, EI10, EI11 and EI17.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
000725	Knocksink Wood SAC	<p>The known threats to this site are Forest planting on open ground, discontinuous urbanisation, disposal of household or recreational facility waste, roads, motorways, grazing, missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, interpretative centres, artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, improved access to site, vandalism, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, invasive non-native species, tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees, camping and caravans, Removal of forest undergrowth.</p> <p>There are no provisions in the Plan that will result in additional sources for effects in relation to agriculture or forestry pressures. The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI5, EI6, EI7, EI8, EI9, EI10, EI11 and EI17. Invasive species will be managed through the inclusion of Policy Objective GIB28. Disturbance effects from water-based sports and maritime leisure activities is addressed by Policy Objective OSR11. Potential disturbance effects in the Plan area will not extend beyond the County boundary.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	<p>The known threats to this site are stock feeding, grazing in forests or woodland, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, mountaineering, rock climbing, speleology, vandalism, off-road motorized driving, tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees, peat extraction, fences, fencing, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, non-intensive timber production (leaving dead wood or old trees untouched), trampling, overuse, taking from nest (e.g. falcons), invasive non-native species, burning down, erosion, collapse of terrain, landslide, disposal of household or recreational facility waste, military manoeuvres, damage by herbivores (including game species), urbanised areas, human habitation, grazing, hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, wildlife watching, collection (fungi, lichen, berries etc.), outdoor sports and leisure activities and recreational activities.</p>

²⁶ Note that the numbering of individual Plan provisions referenced in this report may be updated during the finalisation of the Plan, including formatting and graphic design.

²⁷ For qualifying features for each European Site (QIs and SCIs), please refer to Table 3.2

²⁸ Informed by, inter alia, The Status of Protected EU Habitats and Species in Ireland, Overview Volume 1 (NPWS, 2019).

²⁹ Refer to Section 5 for Policy Objectives

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Site Code	Site Name ²⁷	Characterisation of Potential Effects ^{28, 29}
		<p>There are no provisions in the Plan that will result in additional sources for effects in relation to agriculture or forestry pressures. The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives E11, E12, E13, E14, E15, E16, E17, E18, E19, E110, E111 and E117. Invasive species will be managed through the inclusion of Policy Objective GIB28. Disturbance effects from water-based sports and maritime leisure activities is addressed by Policy Objective OSR11. Potential disturbance effects in the Plan area will not extend beyond the County boundary.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
002249	The Murrrough Wetlands SAC	<p>The known threats to this site are silviculture, forestry, erosion, disposal of industrial waste, grazing, fertilisation, railway lines, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, modification of water flow (tidal & marine currents), sea defence or coast protection works, tidal barrages, paths, tracks, cycling tracks and sand and gravel extraction.</p> <p>There are no provisions in the Plan that will result in additional sources for effects in relation to agriculture or forestry pressures. The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives E11, E12, E13, E14, E15, E16, E17, E18, E19, E110, E111 and E117. Potential disturbance effects in the Plan area will not extend beyond the County boundary. The Plan introduces no sources for effects in relation to tidal defence works within the SAC.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	<p>The known threats to this site are discharges, noise nuisance, noise pollution, siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, utility and service lines, professional active fishing, removal of sediments and shipping lanes.</p> <p>There are no provisions in the Plan that will result in additional sources for effects in relation to agriculture or forestry pressures. The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives E11, E12, E13, E14, E15, E16, E17, E18, E19, E110, E111 and E117. Potential disturbance effects in the Plan area will not extend beyond the County boundary.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
004006	North Bull Island SPA	<p>The known threats to this site are Discharges, Bridge, viaduct, Nautical sports, Golf course, Walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, Interpretative centres, Bait digging or collection, Shipping lanes, Other patterns of habitation, Roads, motorways, Continuous urbanisation, Industrial or commercial areas.</p> <p>There are no provisions in the Plan that will result in additional sources for effects in relation to agriculture or forestry pressures. The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives E11, E12, E13, E14, E15, E16, E17, E18, E19, E110, E111 and E117. Potential disturbance effects in the Plan area will not extend beyond the County boundary.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
004016	Baldoye Bay SPA	<p>The known threats to this site are golf course, roads, motorways, eutrophication (natural), hunting, bait digging or collection, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, fertilisation, urbanised areas, human habitation, reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh and invasive non-native species.</p> <p>There are no provisions in the Plan that will result in additional sources for effects in relation to agriculture or forestry pressures. The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives E11, E12, E13, E14, E15, E16, E17, E18, E19, E110, E111 and E117. Potential disturbance effects in the Plan area will not extend beyond the County boundary.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
004024	Sandymount Strand/Tolka Estuary SPA	<p>The known threats to this site are nautical sports, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, eutrophication (natural), reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, discharges, industrial or commercial areas, leisure fishing, roads, motorways, urbanised areas, human habitation and bait digging or collection.</p> <p>There are no provisions in the Plan that will result in additional sources for effects in relation to agriculture or forestry pressures. The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives E11, E12, E13, E14, E15, E16, E17, E18, E19, E110, E111 and E117. Potential disturbance effects in the Plan area will not extend beyond the County boundary.</p>

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Site Code	Site Name ²⁷	Characterisation of Potential Effects ^{28, 29}
		For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.
004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	<p>The known threats to this site are interpretative centres, silviculture, forestry, grazing, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, peat extraction, paths, tracks and cycling tracks.</p> <p>There are no provisions in the Plan that will result in additional sources for effects in relation to agriculture or forestry pressures. The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI5, EI6, EI7, EI8, EI9, EI10, EI11 and EI17. Potential disturbance effects in the Plan area will not extend beyond the County boundary.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
004063	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA	<p>The known threats to this site are hunting, nautical sports, forest planting on open ground, leisure fishing, bridge and viaduct.</p> <p>There are no direct provisions in the plan that will result in additional sources for effects in relation to leisure fishing or forestry pressures. The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI5, EI6, EI7, EI8, EI9, EI10, EI11 and EI17. Potential disturbance effects in the Plan area will not extend beyond the County boundary.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
004113	Howth Head Coast SPA	<p>The known threats to this site are fire and fire suppression, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles.</p> <p>The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI5, EI6, EI7, EI8, EI9, EI10, EI11 and EI17. Potential disturbance effects in the Plan area will not extend beyond the County boundary.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
004117	Ireland's Eye SPA	<p>The known threats to this site are walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles and leisure fishing.</p> <p>The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI5, EI6, EI7, EI8, EI9, EI10, EI11 and EI17. Potential disturbance effects in the Plan area will not extend beyond the County boundary.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
004172	Dalkey Islands SPA	<p>The known threats to this site are nautical sports, urbanised areas, human habitation, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles and grazing.</p> <p>There are no direct provisions in the plan that will result in additional sources for effects in relation to agriculture pressures. The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI5, EI6, EI7, EI8, EI9, EI10, EI11 and EI17. Potential disturbance effects in the Plan area will not extend beyond the County boundary.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>
004186	The Murrrough SPA	<p>The known threats to this site are walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, railway lines and fertilisation.</p> <p>There are no direct provisions in the plan that will result in additional sources for effects in relation to agriculture pressures (fertilisation). The known threats and pressures for the SAC are identified as hydrological and on-site land use management issues. No direct land take or habitat loss will occur due to the implementation of the Plan either within any European sites or any connectivity corridors necessary to support the ecological integrity of the site, due to Policy Objectives such as GIB18, GIB19, GIB20, GIB21, GIB22, GIB23, GIB24 and GIB25. The Plan has Policy Objectives to ensure that the Plan will not result in significant adverse effects to hydrological interactions for surface and ground water - these include Policy Objectives EI1, EI2, EI3, EI4, EI5, EI6, EI7, EI8, EI9, EI10, EI11 and EI17. Potential disturbance effects in the Plan area will not extend beyond the County boundary.</p> <p>For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</p>

Section 5 Mitigation Measures

This section outlines measures that have been incorporated into the Plan in order to mitigate against potential effects to European Sites as identified above. The Draft Plan was prepared in an iterative manner whereby the Plan and AA documents have informed subsequent versions of the other. These mitigation measures ensure that there will be no significant effects to the ecological integrity of any European Site from implementation of the Plan. The mitigation measures most relevant to the protection of European Sites are identified in Table 5.1 below. Some of these measures, many of which were integrated into the current 2016-2022 Plan through the SEA and AA processes for that Plan, have been retained and/or updated.

Some of the key text integrated into the Plan as a direct result of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and AA recommendations for the Draft Plan 2022-2028 are detailed on Table 5.2.

All mitigation measures apply to all developments and European sites, as relevant, to be determined at project level, when the nature, location, size, layout and operational processes associated with individual and combinations of projects are known.

Table 5.1 Mitigation Measures that will protect European sites^{30, 31, 32}

Component	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
Various	Various	Policy Objective T24: Environmental Assessment of New Roads It is a Policy Objective that where projects for new roads, identified under Section 5.7, are not already provided for by existing plans/programme or are not already permitted, that the feasibility of progressing these projects shall be examined, taking into account environmental sensitivities as identified in the SEA Environmental Report (including greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions to air) and the objectives of the Plan relating to sustainable mobility. A Corridor and Route Selection Process will be undertaken where appropriate, for relevant new road infrastructure in two stages: Stage 1 – Route Corridor Identification, Evaluation and Selection and Stage 2 – Route Identification, Evaluation and Selection. In implementing this Objective, the Council will comply with any national policy or guidelines issued relating to the assessment of greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions to air for new transport projects.
Various	Various	Special Local Objective 107 To co-operate with the National Transport Authority, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and Wicklow County Council in the establishment of a busway and bridge from Fassaroe to Old Connaught over County Brook at Ballyman Glen which facilitates walking and cycling to provide connections between the proposed new development areas of Old Connaught and Fassaroe (Wicklow County). The Corridor and Route Selection Process outlined by Policy T24 should be followed
Various	Various	Green Infrastructure Policy Objective GIB1: Green Infrastructure Strategy It is a Policy Objective to continue to implement, and update, the DLR Green Infrastructure (GI) Strategy, to protect existing green infrastructure and encourage and facilitate, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, the development, design and management of high quality natural and semi-natural areas. This recognises the ecosystems approach and the synergies that can be achieved with regard to sustainable transport, provision of open space, sustainable management of water, protection and enhancement of biodiversity.
Various	Various	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirements under Chapter 12: Development Management, including those under the headings of: Impacts on the Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Impact Assessment • Appropriate Assessment • Ecological Impact Assessment Environmental Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Pollution • Noise Pollution • Noise, Odour and Vibration Generating Uses

³⁰ For a complete assessment of the Plan, against all environmental components (These components comprise biodiversity, fauna, flora, population, human health, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors), refer to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report.

³¹ Note that the numbering of individual Plan provisions referenced in this report may be updated during the finalisation of the Plan, including formatting and graphic design.

³² The measures generally benefit multiple environmental components i.e. a measure providing for the protection of water could beneficially impact upon the protection of biodiversity, flora and fauna, for example. All of the measures included in this table would benefit the protection of European sites.

Component	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Management Plans • Hours of Construction • New Development/Change of Use - Environmental Impacts • Waste Management Infrastructure facilities and refuse transfer stations • Telecommunications • Development and Overhead Power Lines • Public lighting • Drainage and Water Supply • Flood Risk Management • Coastal Issues - Erosion/Flooding/ Recreation
<p>Biodiversity and flora and fauna</p>	<p>Arising from both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of/damage to biodiversity in designated sites (including European Sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna; • Habitat loss, fragmentation and deterioration, including patch size and edge effects; and • Disturbance (e.g. due to noise and lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species such as birds and bats. <p>See also assessment under Section 4 of this AA Natura Impact Report</p>	<p>Policy Objective CS8 – Ecosystem Services Approach: It is a Policy Objective to promote an Ecosystem Services Approach in the preparation of lower-level Plans, Strategies and Development Management.</p> <p>Policy Objective T29: Street Lighting It is a Policy Objective to provide and maintain street lighting on the public road/footway/cycleways throughout the County in accordance with commonly accepted best practice, the Council’s public lighting masterplan and the upgrade of sodium lights to LEDs.</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB7: National Marine Planning Framework (NMPPF) It is a Policy Objective to support the policies and objectives as appropriate and relevant of the National Marine Planning Framework (NMPPF), with respect to the conservation, management, and protection for a sustainable future for the marine area.</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB10: Dublin Bay Biosphere It is a Policy Objective to participate, support and contribute to the management of the biosphere, along with its partners and to aim to raise awareness and education to people living, working and using the biosphere, through an Education Strategy. In furtherance of this Policy Objective DLR have contributed to the development of an Environmental Code of Practice for those working in the Biosphere and all partners carry out conservation actions including gathering biodiversity data and monitoring within the biosphere.</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB11: Coastal Area Feasibility Study It is a Policy Objective to explore undertaking a comprehensive feasibility study on the recreational potential along the coastal area of the County which comprehensively addresses recreational impact - including visitor numbers, mapping and surveying of sensitive habitats and species and identification of significant threats on European sites - and which would allow an assessment of any future proposals, alone or in combination, to assess impact on the coastal and marine zone within and adjacent to the County boundary. The Council will explore the possibility of carrying out this study with adjoining and/or coastal Local Authorities and/or other agencies.</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB18: Protection of Natural Heritage and the Environment It is a Policy Objective to protect and conserve the environment including, in particular, the natural heritage of the County and to conserve and manage Nationally and Internationally important and EU designated sites - such as Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservations (SACs), proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) and Ramsar sites (wetlands) - as well as non-designated areas of high nature conservation value known as locally important areas which also serve as ‘Stepping Stones’ for the purposes of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB19: Habitats Directive It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of natural heritage and biodiversity, including European sites that form part of the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with relevant EU Environmental Directives and applicable National Legislation, Policies, Plans and Guidelines.</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB20: Biodiversity Plan It is a Policy Objective to support the provisions of the forthcoming DLR County Biodiversity Action Plan, 2021 – 2026.</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB21: Designated Sites It is a Policy Objective to protect and preserve areas designated as proposed Natural Heritage Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, and Special Protection Areas. It is Council policy to promote the maintenance and as appropriate, delivery of ‘favourable’ conservation status of habitats and species within these areas.</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB22: Non-Designated Areas of Biodiversity Importance It is a Policy Objective to protect and promote the conservation of biodiversity in areas of natural heritage importance outside Designated Areas and to ensure that notable sites, habitats and features of biodiversity importance - including species protected under the Wildlife Acts 1976 and 2000, the Birds Directive 1979, the Habitats Directive 1992, Birds and Habitats Regulations 2011, Flora (Protection) Order, 2015, Annex I habitats, local important areas, wildlife corridors and rare species - are adequately protected. Ecological assessments will be carried out for all developments in areas that support, or have potential to support, features of biodiversity importance or rare and protected species and appropriate mitigation/ avoidance measures will be implemented. In implementing this policy regard shall be had to the Ecological Network including the forthcoming DLR Wildlife Corridor Plan and the recommendations and objectives of the Green City Guidelines (2008) and ‘Ecological Guidance Notes for Local Authorities and Developers’ (Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown Version 2014).</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB23: County-Wide Ecological Network It is a Policy Objective to protect the Ecological Network which will be integrated into the updated Green Infrastructure Strategy and will align with the DLR County Biodiversity Action Plan. Creating this network throughout the County will also improve the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network in accordance with Article 10 of the Habitats Directive. The network will also include non-designated sites.</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB24: Rivers and Waterways It is a Policy Objective to maintain and protect the natural character and ecological value of the river and stream corridors in the County and where possible to enhance existing channels and to encourage diversity of habitat and nature-based solutions that incorporate biodiversity features. It is also policy (subject to the sensitivity of the riverside habitat), to provide public access to riparian corridors, to promote improved passive recreational activities.</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB25: Hedgerows</p>

Component	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		<p>It is a Policy Objective to retain and protect hedgerows in the County from development, which would impact adversely upon them. In addition, the Council will promote the protection of existing site boundary hedgerows and where feasible require the retention of these when considering a grant of planning permission for all developments. The Council will promote the County's hedgerows by increasing coverage, where possible, using locally native species and to develop an appropriate code of practice for road hedgerow maintenance. The Council will promote the protection of existing hedgerows when considering a grant of planning permission for all developments.</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB26: Geological Sites It is a Policy Objective to protect, promote and preserve sites of Geological and Geomorphological importance, in particular the proposed Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs), and any County Geological Sites (CGS), that become designated during the lifetime of the Plan.</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB27: Green Belts It is a Policy Objective to retain the individual physical character of towns and development areas by the designation of green belt areas, where appropriate.</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB28: Invasive Species It is a Policy Objective to prepare an 'Invasive Alien Species Action Plan' for the County which will include actions in relation to invasive alien species (IAS) surveys, management and treatment and to also ensure that proposals for development do not lead to the spread or introduction of invasive species. If developments are proposed on sites where invasive species are or were previously present, the applicants will be required to submit a control and management program for the particular invasive species as part of the planning process and to comply with the provisions of the European Communities Birds and Habitats Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477/2011).</p> <p>Policy Objective GIB29: Nature Based Solutions It is a Policy Objective to increase the use of Nature Based Solutions (NBS) within the County and to promote and apply adaption and mitigation actions that favour NBS, which can have multiple benefits to the environment and communities. NBS has a role not only to meet certain infrastructure related needs (e.g. flooding management), and development needs, but also to maintain or benefit the quality of ecosystems, habitats, and species.</p> <p>Policy Objective EI7: Water Supply and Wastewater treatment and Appropriate Assessment It is a Policy Objective to require that all developments relating to water supply and wastewater treatment are subject to screening for Appropriate Assessment to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity, defined by the structure and function, of any Natura 2000 sites and that the requirements of Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive are met. (Consistent with RPO 10.7 of the RSES).</p> <p>Policy Objective OSR8: Greenways and Blueways Network: It is a Policy Objective to develop a comprehensive network of County Greenways linking parks and public open spaces and to liaise with adjoining local authorities and other stakeholders to achieve and improve wider external linkages and corridors, to enable enhanced connectivity to wider strategic networks, and to allow for the long-term strategic expansion of urban areas (consistent with NPO 62 of the NPF).</p> <p>Policy Objective OSR11: Water-Based Sports It is a Policy Objective to support and encourage water-based sports and maritime leisure activities along the coast subject to Council Bye-Laws, and the Habitats and Birds Directives. The County features seventeen kilometres of coastline, which is a valuable asset. If utilised to its full potential it can contribute to the health and well-being of the residents of, and workers, in the County and will increase sport and physical activity participation levels locally. These activities can also offer significant potential for tourism growth.</p> <p>Policy Objective OSR13: Play Facilities and Nature Based Play It is a Policy Objective to support the provision of structured, and unstructured play areas with appropriate equipment and facilities, incorporating and facilitating Nature-based Play with respect to the provision of Play Opportunities throughout the County and to support the aspirations of the forthcoming Play Policy prepared within the lifetime of the Plan.. These play facilities will also seek to maximise inclusivity and accessibility, to ensure that the needs of all age groups and abilities - children, teenagers, adults and older people - are facilitated in the public parks, open spaces and the public realm of Dún Laoghaire – Rathdown.</p> <p>Policy Objective EI1: Sustainable Management of Water It is a Policy Objective to work with Irish Water:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure the efficient and sustainable use and development of water resources and water services infrastructure in order to manage and conserve water in a manner that supports climate action, the circular economy, a healthy society and protection of the environment. (Consistent with NSO 9 of the NPF, RSO 7, RPO 10.1 of the RSES) • To continue the development and improvement of the water supply and wastewater systems throughout Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown in order to meet the anticipated water and wastewater requirements of the County. • To ensure facilities comply with the Water Framework Directive and the River Basin Management Plan or any updated version of the document, 'Water Quality in Ireland 2013-2018'(2019) or any updated version of the document, Pollution Reduction Programmes for Designated Shellfish Areas, the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive and the Habitats Directive. <p>Policy Objective EI7: Water Supply and Wastewater treatment and Appropriate Assessment It is a Policy Objective to require that all developments relating to water supply and wastewater treatment are subject to screening for Appropriate Assessment to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity, defined by the structure and function, of any Natura 2000 sites and that the requirements of Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive are met. (Consistent with RPO 10.7 of the RSES).</p> <p>Policy Objective EI8: Groundwater Protection and Appropriate Assessment It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of the groundwater resources in and around the County and associated habitats and species in accordance with the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC and the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations, 2010. In this regard, the Council will support the implementation of Irish Water's Water Safety Plans to protect sources of public water supply and their contributing catchment. In the Glencullen area, new development will not be permitted which could damage groundwater resources or prevent use of this resource. Regard should be had to the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown commissioned "Groundwater Strategy for the Glencullen Aquifer" (2018).</p> <p>Special Local Objective SLO18 To promote the development of the Dublin Bay Trail Sutton to Sandycove Promenade and Cycleway, as a component part of the National East Coast Trail Cycle Route and also the Dublin Bay trail from the boundary with Dublin City up to the boundary with Co. Wicklow. Any development proposal will protect and enhance public access to the coast where</p>

Component	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		<p>feasible. Any development proposals shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive to ensure the protection and preservation of all designated SACs, SPAs, and pNHA(s) in Dublin Bay and the surrounding area.</p> <p>Special Local Objective SLO35 To promote Water Leisure Facilities for public use at the coastal fringe of the Gut and rear of the West Pier, subject to the appropriate environmental assessments including any assessment required under the Habitats Directive in co-operation with the relevant agencies.</p> <p>Special Local Objective 115 - To provide an open seawater pool as a part of the next phase of the development at the Dún Laoghaire Baths site. This provision shall take into account environmental feasibility, including ecological, water and cultural heritage sensitivities. Any proposals shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive and shall ensure the protection and preservation of all designated SACs, SPAs, and pNHA(s) in Dublin Bay and the surrounding area.</p> <p>Special Local Objective 116 - To provide a cultural and heritage centre in the environs of the Dún Laoghaire Harbour that focusses on the unique history of emigration from the Carlisle Pier, the construction of the harbour the role of the harbour in the development of amateur watersports and the celebration of the first suburban rail line and mail boat service. Any proposals shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive and shall ensure the protection and preservation of all designated SACs, SPAs, and pNHA(s) in Dublin Bay and the surrounding area.</p> <p>Special Local Objective 117 - The feasibility of incorporating the East Coast Cycle Trail into any coastal protection works required between Corbawn Lane and the proposed DART station at Woodbrook should be investigated. Such works shall be carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Coastal Defence Strategy (2010) or any future Strategy. Any proposals shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive and shall ensure the protection and preservation of all designated SACs, SPAs, and pNHA(s) in Dublin Bay and the surrounding area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirements under Chapter 12: Development Management, including³³ those under the headings of: <p>Impacts on the Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Impact Assessment • Appropriate Assessment • Ecological Impact Assessment <p>Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Infrastructure • Biodiversity • Sensitive Landscapes and Site Features • High Amenity Landscapes, Views and Prospects • Fencing of Hitherto Open Land <p>Construction Management Plan requirements under Plan Sections 12.9.4 to 12.9.6</p> <p>References to the protection of European sites/ Appropriate Assessment or the Habitats Directive in the detailed text under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Objective T13: Coastal Cycling Infrastructure Objective • Policy Objective T22: Roads and Streets • Policy Objective GIB10: Dublin Bay Biosphere • Policy Objective GIB18: Protection of Natural Heritage and the Environment • Policy Objective GIB19: Habitats Directive • Policy Objective GIB21: Designated Sites • Policy Objective GIB23: County-Wide Ecological Network • Policy Objective GIB24: Rivers and Waterways • Policy Objective EI3: Wastewater Treatment Systems • Policy Objective EI23: Flood Risk Management • Policy Objective OSR8: Greenways and Blueways Network:

³³ Including: Any development proposals for sites designated as, or immediately adjacent to, a pNHA, SPA or SAC shall be accompanied by an EIS and/or Appropriate Assessment and shall be referred to the NPWS. Regard shall be had to 'Guidance for Local – Authorities Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland' (DEHLG) (2009).

In the event of a proposed development impacting on a site known, or likely, to be a breeding or resting site of a species listed in Habitats Regulations a derogation license, as per Article 16 of the Habitats Directive issued by the NPWS, will be required in advance of permission.

A precautionary approach should be taken to all proposals in environmentally sensitive areas and/or to sites that may be in use by, or contain, protected species.

An Ecological Risk Assessment may be required in relevant planning applications for both designated and/or non-designated sites (as appropriate) to ensure that the proposed development does not undermine or impact on the conservation objectives of these sites.

In order to comply with European and National legislation on nature conservation, and to ensure that areas of biodiversity value are adequately protected, an ecological assessment will be carried out for development proposals which have potential to impact on species and habitats protected. (Refer to Section 8.7.1.5 Policy Objective GIB22).

No projects giving rise to significant direct, indirect or secondary impacts on Natura 2000 sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Development Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive).

The Planning Authority may require, where appropriate, Visitor/Management Plans to be submitted as part of the Development Management process for development proposals within or adjacent to an ecological sensitive site, as appropriate. The Visitor/Management Plan shall include appropriate measures to avoid significant negative effects and loss of habitat and associated disturbance to the ecological sensitive site.

Component	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
Population and human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential adverse effects arising from flood events. Potential interactions if effects arising from environmental vectors. 	<p>Requirements under Chapter 13 Land Use Zoning Objectives, under the heading of Appropriate Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also see measures under other environmental components including Soil, Water and Air and Climatic Factors. <p>Policy Objective T26: Traffic Noise It is a Policy Objective to ensure that traffic noise levels are considered as part of new developments along major roads/rail lines in accordance with best practice guidelines.</p> <p>Policy Objective EI15: Air and Noise Pollution It is a Policy Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement the provisions of national and EU Directives on air and noise pollution and other relevant legislative requirements in conjunction with other agencies as appropriate. (Consistent with RPO 10.10 of the RSES) To maintain and manage a Dublin County ambient air quality monitoring network in conjunction with the EPA and TII and to make available to the public the resulting air quality measurements via the EPA website www.epa.ie/air/quality. To support the implementation of objectives of the 'Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan 2018-2023'. <p>Policy Objective EI16: Light Pollution It is a Policy Objective to ensure that the design of external lighting schemes minimise the incidence of light spillage or pollution in the immediate surrounding environment and has due regard to the residential amenity of surrounding areas.</p> <p>Policy Objective EI17: Water Pollution It is a Policy Objective to implement the provisions of water pollution abatement measures in accordance with national and EU Directives and other legislative requirements in conjunction with other agencies as appropriate.</p> <p>Policy Objective EI18: Major Accidents It is a Policy Objective to have regard to the provisions of the Major Accidents Directive (European Council Directive 2012/110/EU). This Directive relates to the control of major accident hazards involving dangerous substances and its objectives are to prevent major accidents and limit the consequences of such accidents.</p>
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential adverse effects on the hydrogeological and ecological function of the soil resource, including as a result of development on contaminated lands. Potential for riverbank and coastal erosion. 	<p>Also see measures under other environmental components including Water and Material Assets.</p> <p>Coastal Protection</p> <p>Policy Objective EI25: Coastal Defence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a Policy Objective to implement and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Defence Strategy (2010) for the County where feasible. The Council will endeavour to (i) obtain funding from the OPW in order to undertake defence measures for specific areas as prioritised in the Strategy (ii) become part of any future national OPW Coastal Monitoring Survey Programme. Where feasible and appropriate the Council will endeavour to incorporate leisure and transport objectives with coastal protection. <p>12.9.6 New Development/Change of Use - Environmental Impacts 12.9.6 New Development/Change of Use - Environmental Impacts, including: Where brownfield redevelopment is proposed, require adequate and appropriate investigations to be carried out into the nature and extent of any soil and groundwater contamination and the risks associated with site development work.</p>
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential adverse effects upon the status of water bodies and entries to the WFD Register of Protected Areas (ecological and human value), arising from changes in quality, flow and/or morphology. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also see measures under other environmental components including Soil and Material Assets. <p>Policy Objective EI5: River Basin Management Plans (RMBPs) It is a Policy Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the delivery of the relevant policies and objectives of the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018 – 2021 and any subsequent plan, including those relating to protection of water status, improvement of water status, prevention of deterioration and meeting objectives for designated protected sites. To support Irish Water in its implementation of Water Quality Management Plans for ground, surface, coastal and estuarine waters as part of the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive. To support Irish Water in the development of Drinking Water Protection Plans. <p>Policy Objective EI8: Groundwater Protection and Appropriate Assessment It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of the groundwater resources in and around the County and associated habitats and species in accordance with the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC and the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations, 2010. In this regard, the Council will support the implementation of Irish Water's Water Safety Plans to protect sources of public water supply and their contributing catchment. In the Glencullen area, new development will not be permitted which could damage groundwater resources or prevent use of this resource. Regard should be had to the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown commissioned "Groundwater Strategy for the Glencullen Aquifer" (2018).</p> <p>Policy Objective EI11: Rathmichael Groundwater and Surface Water Protection It is a Policy Objective to not consider granting planning permission for any new developments which include an on-site wastewater treatment facility within the Rathmichael area until the groundwater issues in the area are resolved or ameliorated.</p> <p>Policy Objective EI17: Water Pollution It is a Policy Objective to implement the provisions of water pollution abatement measures in accordance with national and EU Directives and other legislative requirements in conjunction with other agencies as appropriate.</p>
Air and Climatic Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential conflicts between transport emissions, including 	<p>Policy Objective T26: Traffic Noise It is a Policy Objective to ensure that traffic noise levels are considered as part of new developments along major roads/rail lines in accordance with best practice guidelines.</p> <p>Policy Objective EI15: Air and Noise Pollution</p>

Component	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
	<p>those from cars, and air quality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential conflicts between increased frequency of noise emissions and protection of sensitive receptors. 	<p>It is a Policy Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement the provisions of national and EU Directives on air and noise pollution and other relevant legislative requirements in conjunction with other agencies as appropriate. (Consistent with RPO 10.10 of the RSES) To maintain and manage a Dublin County ambient air quality monitoring network in conjunction with the EPA and TII and to make available to the public the resulting air quality measurements via the EPA website www.epa.ie/air/quality. To support the implementation of objectives of the 'Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan 2018-2023'. <p>Policy Objective CA1: National Climate Action Policy It is a Policy Objective to support the implementation of International and National objectives on climate change including the 'Climate Action Plan 2021 Securing Our Future', the 'National Adaptation Framework' 2018 and the 'National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030', and take account of the 'Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021', and subsequent updates, other relevant policy, Guidelines and legislation, that support the climate action policies included in the County Development Plan.</p> <p>Policy Objective CA2: Regional Climate Action It is a Policy Objective to work closely with the Eastern Midland Regional Authority (EMRA) the Dublin Metropolitan Climate Action Regional Office (Dublin CARO), City of Dublin Energy Management Agency (Codema) and the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) to achieve the climate action policies and objectives set out in the Eastern and Midland Region Spatial and Economic Strategy (consistent with RPO 3.1, 36, 7.4, 7.30, 7.31, 7.32, 7.33, 7.35, 7.38, 7.40, 7.42, 7.43, 7.7 of the RSES).</p> <p>Policy Objective CA3: Guidelines on Climate Action and Measuring Greenhouse Gas Impacts It is a Policy Objective that spatial and infrastructure planning are consistent with climate mitigation and adaptation objectives. When it is available, the Council will be informed by the work led by the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly to develop a methodology for quantifying the GHG impacts of spatial planning policies, (QGasSP, an ESPON EU research programme) and the forthcoming Development Plan Guidelines or other national Guidance as appropriate. The Council will quantify the GHG impacts for this County Development Plan when EMRA guidelines become available and also ensure the Development Plan is consistent with the approach to climate action recommended in any forthcoming revised Section 28 Development Plan Guidelines or other relevant guidelines and if necessary, vary the development plan. (Consistent with NPO 54 of the NPF and RPO 3.6 of the RSES)</p> <p>Policy Objective CA4: Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 (DLR CCAP) It is a Policy Objective to implement and take account of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Climate Change Action Plan 2019 - 2024 (DLR CCAP), to take account of the 'Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021', and subsequent updates of both and to transition to a climate resilient low carbon County. (Consistent with SO8 of the NPF, RPO 7.32, 7.33 of the RSES).</p>
<p>Material Assets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to provide adequate and appropriate waste water treatment (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts). Failure to adequately treat surface water run-off that is discharged to water bodies (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts). Increases in waste levels. Potential impacts upon public assets and infrastructure. Potential interactions at local level between agricultural waste and soil, water, biodiversity and human health – including nitrogen deposition as a result of agricultural activities. However, this likely to 	<p>Also see measures under other environmental components including Population and Human Health, Cultural Heritage, Soil, Water, Air and various Land Use Zoning provisions from the Plan.</p> <p>Policy Objective EI1: Sustainable Management of Water It is a Policy Objective to work with Irish Water:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the efficient and sustainable use and development of water resources and water services infrastructure in order to manage and conserve water in a manner that supports climate action, the circular economy, a healthy society and protection of the environment. (Consistent with NSO 9 of the NPF, RSO 7, RPO 10.1 of the RSES) To continue the development and improvement of the water supply and wastewater systems throughout Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown in order to meet the anticipated water and wastewater requirements of the County. To ensure facilities comply with the Water Framework Directive and the River Basin Management Plan or any updated version of the document, 'Water Quality in Ireland 2013-2018'(2019) or any updated version of the document, Pollution Reduction Programmes for Designated Shellfish Areas, the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive and the Habitats Directive. <p>Policy Objective EI2: Irish Water Enabling Policies Irish Water's Plans and Programmes It is a Policy Objective - in conjunction with the Eastern and Midland Regional Authority, where appropriate - to work with and support Irish Water in the delivery of the strategic objectives and strategic water and wastewater projects and infrastructure as set out in the 'Water Services Strategic Plan' (2015), any subsequent plan, Irish Water's Capital Investment Plan 2020 – 2024, any subsequent Capital Investment Plans and the forthcoming National Water Resources Plan, so as to ensure provision of infrastructure to service settlements in accordance with the Core Strategy of this Plan, and the settlement strategy of the RSES. (Consistent with RPO 10.2, 10.3, 10.11, 10.16 of the RSES)</p> <p>Policy Objective EI3: Wastewater Treatment Systems It is a Policy Objective that all new developments in areas served by a public foul sewerage network connect to the public sewerage system, either directly or indirectly. It is a Policy Objective to promote the changeover from septic tanks to collection networks where this is feasible and to strongly discourage the provision of individual septic tanks and domestic wastewater treatment systems in order to minimise the risk of groundwater and surface water pollution. It is a Policy Objective to prohibit multiple dwelling units discharging to communal wastewater treatment systems.</p> <p>Policy Objective EI4: Water Drainage Systems It is a Policy Objective to require all development proposals to provide a separate foul and surface water drainage system – where practicable. (Consistent with RPO 10.12)</p> <p>Policy Objective EI6: Sustainable Drainage Systems It is a Policy Objective to ensure that all development proposals incorporate Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).</p> <p>Policy Objective EI7: Water Supply and Wastewater treatment and Appropriate Assessment It is a Policy Objective to require that all developments relating to water supply and wastewater treatment are subject to screening for Appropriate Assessment to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity, defined by the structure and function, of any Natura 2000 sites and that the requirements of Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive are met. (Consistent with RPO 10.7 of the RSES).</p> <p>Policy Objective EI9: Drainage Impact Assessment</p>

Component	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
	<p>be a less significant issue at County level due to low levels of intensive agriculture.</p>	<p>It is a Policy Objective to ensure that all new developments prepare a Drainage Impact Assessment that meets the requirements of the Council's Development Management Thresholds Information Document (see Appendix 3) and the Stormwater Management Policy (See Appendix 7.1).</p> <p>Policy Objective EI10: Storm Overflows of Sewage to Watercourses It is a Policy Objective to work alongside Irish Water to minimise the number and frequency of storm overflows of sewage to watercourses and to establish, in co-operation with the adjoining Local Authorities and Irish Water, a consistent approach to the design, improvement and management of these intermittent discharges to ensure that the needs of the Region's receiving waters are met in a cost effective manner</p> <p>Policy Objective EI12: Resource Management It is a Policy Objective to implement the Eastern-Midlands Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021 and subsequent plans, in supporting the transition from a waste management economy towards a circular economy, to enhance employment and increase the value recovery and recirculation of resources. Underpinning this objective is the requirement to conform to the European Union and National Waste Management Hierarchy of the most favoured options for waste as illustrated below subject to economic and technical feasibility and Environmental Assessment. (Consistent with RPO 10.25 of the RSES)</p> <p>Policy Objective EI13: Waste Management Infrastructure, Prevention, Reduction, Reuse and Recycling (Circular Economy approach) It is a Policy Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support the principles of the circular economy, good waste management and the implementation of best international practice in relation to waste management in order for the County and the Region to become self-sufficient in terms of resource and waste management and to provide a waste management infrastructure that supports this objective. • To aim to provide a supporting waste management infrastructure in the County for the processing and recovery of waste streams such as mixed municipal waste in accordance with the proximity principle. • To provide for civic amenity facilities and bring centres as part of an integrated waste collection system in accessible locations throughout the County and promote the importance of kerbside source segregated collection of household and commercial waste as the best method to ensure the quality of waste presented for recycling is preserved. • To ensure any waste amenity facilities adhere to the Waste Regional Offices Waste Management Infrastructure siting guidelines. • To develop a County wide network of multi material recycling centres, bring centres and a re-use centre and to require the provision of adequately-sized recycling facilities in new commercial and large-scale residential developments, where appropriate. • To require the inclusion of such centres in all large retail developments to maximise access by the public. • To ensure new developments are designed and constructed in line with the Council's Guidelines for Waste Storage Facilities (an excerpt of which is contained in Appendix 6). <p>Policy Objective EI14: Hazardous Waste It is a Policy Objective to adhere to the recommendations of the 'National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2014-2020' and any subsequent plan, and to co-operate with other agencies, to plan, organise, authorise and supervise the disposal of hazardous waste streams, including hazardous waste identified during construction and demolition projects.</p> <p>Construction Management Plan requirements under Plan Sections 12.9.4 to 12.9.6</p> <p>Policy Objective E17: Maritime Economy It is a Policy Objective to support the sustainable development of the maritime economy.</p> <p>Policy Objective E18: Rural Development It is a Policy Objective to facilitate the development of acceptable rural enterprises and to minimise pollution from agricultural and industrial sources by means of development management and water pollution legislation.</p>

Table 5.2 identifies some of the key text relevant to European sites that was integrated into the Plan as a direct result of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and AA recommendations for the Draft Plan 2022-2028.

Table 5.2 Selection of Recommendations from the SEA and AA processes

Chapter	Recommended Text Integrated into the Plan
2 Core Strategy	<p>Normal black text like this was already part of the emerging Draft Plan; Green text like this was proposed to be added to the Plan; Red strikethrough text like this was proposed to be deleted from the Plan</p> <p>Ecosystems Services Approach and Natural Capital Ecosystems are multifunctional communities of living organisms interacting with each other and their environment. Ecosystems provide a series of services for human well-being (ecosystem services) either directly or indirectly contributing towards human wellbeing. The Ecosystems Services Approach followed by the Plan provides a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. Ecosystem Services Approach principles include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Consideration of natural systems - by using knowledge of interactions in nature and how ecosystems function (this has been considered in preparing Chapters including no. 3, 8, 9 and 10) b) Taking into account of the services that ecosystems provide - including those that underpin social and economic well-being, such as flood and climate regulation (this has been considered in preparing Chapters including no. 3 and 8) or recreation, culture and quality of life (this has been considered in preparing Plan Chapters including no. 9 and 11) c) Involving people - those who benefit from the ecosystem services and those managing them need to be involved in decisions that affect them. Public consultation has informed the preparation of the Draft Plan which will be further refined before adoption, taking into account submissions/observations made on the Draft Plan during public display.

Chapter	Recommended Text Integrated into the Plan
	<p>Normal black text like this was already part of the emerging Draft Plan; Green text like this was proposed to be added to the Plan; Red strikethrough text like this was proposed to be deleted from the Plan</p> <p>Natural capital consists of renewable and non-renewable resources (e.g. plants, animals, air, water, soils, minerals) which need to be managed. In recognition of this, policy objectives have been integrated into the Plan that will contribute towards the management of air quality, noise pollution, light pollution, pollination, flood risk, water bodies and river basins and natural resources supporting energy production and recreation.</p> <p>Policy Objective CS7 - Ecosystem Services Approach It is a policy objective to promote an Ecosystem Services Approach in the preparation of lower-level plans, strategies and Development Management.</p>
5 Transport and Mobility	<p>Policy Objective T24: Environmental Assessment of New Roads It is a Policy Objective that where projects for new roads, identified under Section 5.7, are not already provided for by existing plans/programme or are not already permitted, that the feasibility of progressing these projects shall be examined, taking into account environmental sensitivities as identified in the SEA Environmental Report and the objectives of the Plan relating to sustainable mobility. A Corridor and Route Selection Process will be undertaken where appropriate, for relevant new road infrastructure in two stages: Stage 1 – Route Corridor Identification, Evaluation and Selection and Stage 2 – Route Identification, Evaluation and Selection.</p>
8 Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caveats added under Policy Objective GIB24 “Rivers and Waterways” to improve flexibility with regard to sustainable development • Reference to “Natura 2000 sites” changed to “European sites” throughout the document <p>8.7.1.2 Policy Objective GIB19: Habitats Directive It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of natural heritage and biodiversity, including European sites that form part of the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with relevant EU Environmental Directives and applicable National Legislation, Policies, Plans and Guidelines. Implementation of the above policy will be in accordance with the following and any updated/ superseding documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Directives, including the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), as amended, the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC), the Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC), the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (85/337/EEC/2011/92/EU, as amended by 2014/52/EC), as amended, the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) and the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC). • National legislation, including the Wildlife Acts 1976 and 2010, as amended, the European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 1989 (SI No. 349 of 1989), as amended, European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 , the European Union (Water Policy) Regulations 2003, as amended, the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (SI No. 477 of 2011), as amended, the European Communities (Environmental Liability) Regulations 2008, as amended, and the Flora Protection Order 2015. • National policy guidelines, including the Landscape and Landscape Assessment Draft Guidelines 2000, the Environmental Impact Assessment Sub- Threshold Development Guidelines 2003, Strategic Environmental Assessment Guidelines 2004, Flood Risk Management Guidelines 2009, Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports 2017, and the Appropriate Assessment Guidance 2010. • Catchment and Water Resource Management Plans, including the Eastern National River Basin District Management Plan 2018-2021. • Biodiversity Plans and guidelines, including the forthcoming DLR County Biodiversity Action Plan 2021-2026, the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021, and the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030. • Ireland’s Environment 2016 (EPA) and to make provision, where appropriate, to address the report’s goals and challenges.
9 Open Space and Recreation	<p>Policy Objective OSR11: Water-Based Sports It is a Policy Objective to support and encourage water-based sports and maritime leisure activities along the coast subject to Council Bye-Laws and the Habitats and Birds Directives. The County features seventeen kilometres of coastline, which is a valuable asset. If utilised to its full potential it can contribute to the health and well-being of the residents of, and workers, in the County and will increase sport and physical activity participation levels locally. These activities can also offer significant potential for tourism growth.</p> <p>Development Management requirement under Section 12.7.2 “Biodiversity” The Planning Authority may require, where appropriate, Visitor/Management Plans to be submitted as part of the Development Management process for development proposals within or adjacent to an ecological sensitive site, as appropriate. The Visitor/Management Plan shall include appropriate measures to avoid significant negative effects and loss of habitat and associated disturbance to the ecological sensitive site.</p>
10 Environmental Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caveats added under Policy Objectives EI7, EI23 and Section 10.2.1.4 to ensure consistency with Habitats Directive and Water Framework Directive. <p>Policy Objective EI20: Overhead Cables It is a Policy Objective to seek the undergrounding of all electricity, telephone and television cables wherever possible, in the interests of visual amenity and public health. Overhead cables detract from visual amenity and therefore it is Council policy to seek the placing underground of cables. It is the intention of the Council to co-operate with other agencies as appropriate, and to use its development management powers in the implementation of this policy. Where undergrounding of cables is being pursued, proposals should demonstrate that environmental impacts including the following are minimised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat loss as a result of removal of field boundaries and hedgerows (right of way preparation) followed by topsoil stripping (to ensure machinery does not destroy soil structure and drainage properties); • Short to medium term impacts on the landscape where, for example, hedgerows are encountered; • Impacts on underground archaeology; • Impacts on soil structure and drainage; and • Impacts on surface waters as a result of sedimentation.
13 Land Use Zoning Objectives	<p>13.1.1 Purpose of Use Zoning Objectives The purpose of land use zoning is to indicate the development management objectives of the Council for all lands in its administrative area. Nineteen such zones are indicated in this Plan. They are identified by letter and colour on the Development Plan Maps. The land use zones used and the various objectives for these areas are detailed in Tables Nos.13.1.1– 13.1.19. In addition to land use zones being indicated, the accompanying maps detail various other considerations including, but not limited to, environmental, heritage, and locational specific considerations. An objective is also outlined for the Cherrywood Strategic Development Zone.</p>

Appropriate Assessment of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028

Chapter	Recommended Text Integrated into the Plan
	<p>Normal black text like this was already part of the emerging Draft Plan; Green text like this was proposed to be added to the Plan; Red strikethrough text like this was proposed to be deleted from the Plan</p> <p>Table Nos. 13.1.1– 13.1.19 inclusive are intended as guidelines in assessing development proposals. However, they relate only to land use. Factors such as making the most efficient use of land, density, height, massing, traffic generation, public health regulations, design criteria, visual amenity, environmental considerations, flooding and potential nuisance by way of noise, odour or air pollution are also of importance in establishing whether or not a development proposal conforms to the proper planning and sustainable development of an area. General guidelines are set out in subsequent paragraphs of this part of the Written Statement and targeted policy objectives and development management standards are detailed across Chapters 2-12 and 14.</p> <p>Table Nos. 13.1.1– 13.1.19. list the land use activities most commonly encountered in the County and each is defined in Section 13.2 at the end of this chapter. They are intended as a general guideline and the uses listed are not exhaustive. An applicant is advised to consult with the Planning Authority prior to submitting an application for development in order to ascertain any specific considerations relating to the subject site (see Chapter 12, Development Management, Section 12.1.1.1).</p>
Chapter Specific Objectives 14 Local	<p>SLO115 - To provide an open seawater pool as a part of the next phase of the development at the Dún Laoghaire Baths site. This provision shall take into account environmental feasibility, including ecological, water and cultural heritage sensitivities. Any proposals shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive and shall ensure the protection and preservation of all designated SACs, SPAs, and pNHA(s) in Dublin Bay and the surrounding area.</p> <p>SLO116 - To provide a cultural and heritage centre in the environs of the Dún Laoghaire Harbour that focusses on the unique history of emigration from the Carlisle Pier, the construction of the harbour the role of the harbour in the development of amateur watersports and the celebration of the first suburban rail line and mail boat service. Any proposals shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive and shall ensure the protection and preservation of all designated SACs, SPAs, and pNHA(s) in Dublin Bay and the surrounding area.</p> <p>SLO117 - The feasibility of incorporating the East Coast Cycle Trail into any coastal protection works required between Corbawn Lane and the proposed DART station at Woodbrook should be investigated. Such works shall be carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Coastal Defence Strategy (2010) or any future Strategy. Any proposals shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive and shall ensure the protection and preservation of all designated SACs, SPAs, and pNHA(s) in Dublin Bay and the surrounding area.</p>

Section 6 Conclusion

Implementation of the Plan³⁴ to be adopted has the potential to result in effects to the integrity of any European Sites, if unmitigated.

The risks to the safeguarding and integrity of the qualifying interests, special conservation interests and conservation objectives of the European Sites have been addressed by the inclusion of mitigation measures that will prioritise the avoidance of effects in the first place and mitigate effects where these cannot be avoided. In addition, all lower level plans and projects arising through the implementation of the Plan will themselves be subject to AA/screening for AA when further details of design and location are known.

In-combination effects from interactions with other plans and projects was considered in the assessment and the mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan, are seen to be robust to ensure there will be no significant effects as a result of the implementation of the Plan either alone or in-combination with other plans/projects.

Having incorporated mitigation measures, it is concluded that the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028 is not foreseen to give rise to any significant effects on the integrity of any designated European Sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects³⁵. This evaluation is made in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species, for which these sites have been designated.

The AA process is ongoing and will inform and be concluded at adoption of the Plan.

³⁴ Incorporating: the Draft Plan; all alterations and any Chief Executive's Recommendations from 2022 included in Section 5 "Mitigation Measures" in this report; any other further modification considered by the AA process; and any other Chief Executive's Recommendations from 2022. Note that the numbering of individual Plan provisions referenced in this report may be updated during the finalisation of the Plan, including formatting and graphic design.

³⁵ Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.

Appendix I Background information on European Sites

List of European Sites considered by the assessment; including the Qualifying features (Qualifying Interests or Special Conservation Interests) and Site Vulnerability/Sensitivity

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000199	Baldoye Bay SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima)</i>) [1330]	I01, E01, X, K03.06, F02.03.01, J02.01.02, K02.03, E03, G02.01, D01.02, G01.01.02, G01.02, F03.01	Invasive non-native species, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Antagonism with domestic animals, Bait digging or collection, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Eutrophication (<i>natural</i>), Discharges, Golf course, Roads, motorways, Non-motorized nautical sports, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Hunting
000202	Howth Head SAC	European dry heaths [4030], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230]	G05.04, I01, G01.02, D01.01, X, C01, A04.03, E01, J01.01, C01.01.01	Vandalism, Invasive non-native species, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Mining and quarrying, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Burning down, Sand and gravel quarries
000205	Malahide Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima)</i>) [1330], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (<i>grey dunes</i>) [2130], Cord-grass swards (<i>Spartina swards (Spartinion maritima)</i>) [1320], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (<i>white dunes</i>) [2120]	G01.03, G01.01, F03.01, J02.01.02, G02.01, A08, G01.02, D01.02, X, E01, I01, D01.05	Motorised vehicles, Nautical sports, Hunting, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Golf course, Fertilisation, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Roads, motorways, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Invasive non-native species, Bridge, viaduct
000206	North Dublin Bay SAC	Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima)</i>) [1330], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (<i>grey dunes</i>) [2130], Humid dune slacks [2190], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Shifting dunes (<i>Embryonic shifting dunes</i>) [2110], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (<i>white dunes</i>) [2120], Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>) [1395]	K03.06, E01, A04, I01, F02.03.01, E02, H01.03, J01.01, G02.01, G01.02, H01.09, F02.03, E03, G05.05, G01.01	Antagonism with domestic animals, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Grazing, Invasive non-native species, Bait digging or collection, Industrial or commercial areas, Other point source pollution to surface water, Burning down, Golf course, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to other sources not listed, Leisure fishing, Discharges, Intensive maintenance of public parks or cleaning of beaches, Nautical sports
000210	South Dublin Bay SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Shifting dunes (<i>Embryonic shifting dunes</i>) [2110]	D01.01, M01, E03, K02.02, D01.02, K02, F02.03.01, E01, J02.01.02, G01.02, E02, G01.01.02, H03, G01.01	Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Changes in abiotic conditions, Discharges, Accumulation of organic material, Roads, motorways, Biocenotic evolution, succession, Bait digging or collection, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Industrial or commercial areas, Non-motorized nautical sports, Marine water pollution, Nautical sports
000713	Ballyman Glen SAC	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220], Alkaline fens [7230]	A01, A08, C01.01, H01.03, A04, E01.01, E01.02, D01.02, B01, E03.01, A10.01, H02.01	Cultivation, Fertilisation, Sand and gravel extraction, Other point source pollution to surface water, Grazing, Continuous urbanisation, Discontinuous urbanisation, Roads, motorways, Forest planting on open ground, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Groundwater pollution by leakages from contaminated sites
000714	Bray Head SAC	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230], European dry heaths [4030]	E01, A04.02.01, G05.04, D01.01, J01.01, K01.01, A10.01, G01.03, K02.01	Urbanised areas, human habitation, Non intensive cattle grazing, Vandalism, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Burning down, Erosion, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Motorised vehicles, Species composition change (<i>succession</i>)
000716	Carrigower Bog SAC	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	A04.03, J02.01, B01, A04.02.03, K02.01, E01.03, A08, J02.08	Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Forest planting on open ground, Non intensive horse grazing, Species composition change (<i>succession</i>), Dispersed habitation, Fertilisation, Raising the groundwater table or artificial recharge of groundwater
000719	Glen of the Downs SAC	Western acidic oak woodland (<i>Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</i>) [91A0]	J01.01, G02.01, A04, G05.06, G05.04, G05.07, D01.02, I01, G02.06, G01.02	Burning down, Golf course, Grazing, Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees, Vandalism, Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, Roads, motorways, Invasive non-native species, Attraction park, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles
000725	Knocksink Wood SAC	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220]	B01, E01.02, E03.01, D01.02, A04, G05.07, G03, B01.02, G01.02, D05, G05.04, D01.01, I01, G05.06, G02.08, B02.03	Forest planting on open ground, Discontinuous urbanisation, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Roads, motorways, Grazing, Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, Interpretative centres, Artificial planting on open ground (<i>non-native trees</i>), Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Improved access to site, Vandalism, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Invasive non-native species, Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees, Camping and caravans, Removal of forest undergrowth
001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (<i>* important orchid sites</i>) [6210], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>) [6410]	A03.03, B02.02, C01.03, B01.02, D01.03, A03, A04.02.03, A04, A04.02.02, H02.07, B02.01.02, B01.01, A08, A04.02.01, F02.03, E01.02, H01.05, I01, J02, D01, H01.08	Abandonment or lack of mowing, Forestry clearance, Peat extraction, Artificial planting on open ground (<i>non-native trees</i>), Car parks and parking areas, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Non intensive horse grazing, Grazing, Non intensive sheep grazing, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to non-sewered population, Forest replanting (<i>non native trees</i>), Forest planting on open ground (<i>native trees</i>), Fertilisation, Non intensive cattle grazing, Leisure fishing, Discontinuous urbanisation, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Invasive non-native species, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Roads, paths and railroads, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters
002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	Western acidic oak woodland (<i>Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</i>) [91A0], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Blanket bogs (<i>* if active bog</i>) [7130], European dry heaths [4030], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Calaminarian grasslands of the <i>Violetalia calaminariae</i> [6130], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (<i>Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani</i>) [8110], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) [3110], Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (<i>and submountain areas in Continental Europe</i>) [6230], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160]	A05.02, B06, D01.01, G01.04, G05.04, G01.03.02, G05.06, C01.03, G05.09, G01.02, B02.05, G05.01, F03.02.02, I01, J01.01, K01.01, L05, E03.01, G04.01, K04.05, E01, A04, F03, G05.07, G02.09, F04.02, G01	Stock feeding, Grazing in forests or woodland, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Mountaineering, rock climbing, speleology, Vandalism, Off-road motorized driving, Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees, Peat extraction, Fences, fencing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Non-intensive timber production (<i>leaving dead wood or old trees untouched</i>), Trampling, overuse, Taking from nest (<i>e.g. falcons</i>), Invasive non-native species, Burning down, Erosion, Collapse of terrain, landslide, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Military manoeuvres, Damage by herbivores (<i>including game species</i>), Urbanised areas, human habitation, Grazing, Hunting and collection of wild animals (<i>terrestrial</i>), Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, Wildlife watching, Collection (<i>fungi, lichen, berries etc.</i>), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities

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Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002193	Ireland's Eye SAC	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]	A04.03, J01, G02.09, G05.01, X, G01.01, G01.02	Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Fire and fire suppression, Wildlife watching, Trampling, overuse, Nautical sports, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles
002249	The Murrrough Wetlands SAC	Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Alkaline fens [7230], Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Atlantico-salicetum maritimum</i>) [1330], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]	B, K01.01, E03.02, A04, A08, D01.04, G01.02, J02.05.01, J02.12.01, D01.01, C01.01	Sylviculture, forestry, Erosion, Disposal of industrial waste, Grazing, Fertilisation, Railway lines, TGV, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Modification of water flow (<i>tidal & marine currents</i>), Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Sand and gravel extraction
003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	Reefs [1170], Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>) [1351]	E03, H06.01, J02.11, D02, F02.02, J02.02, D03.02, X	Discharges, Noise nuisance, noise pollution, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Utility and service lines, Professional active fishing, Removal of sediments (<i>mud...</i>), Shipping lanes, No threats or pressures
004006	North Bull Island SPA	Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137], Common shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Ruff (<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>) [A151], Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>) [A222], Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Red knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143], Eurasian oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169], Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Common greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>) [A164]	E03, D01.05, G01.01, G02.01, G01.02, G03, F02.03.01, D03.02, E01.04, D01.02, E01.01, E02	Discharges, Bridge, viaduct, Nautical sports, Golf course, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Interpretative centres, Bait digging or collection, Shipping lanes, Other patterns of habitation, Roads, motorways, Continuous urbanisation, Industrial or commercial areas
004016	Baldoye Bay SPA	Eurasian oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130], Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137], Common shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Red knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143], Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157], Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Common greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>) [A164], Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144]	G02.01, D01.02, K02.03, F03.01, F02.03.01, G01.02, A08, E01, J02.01.02, I01	Golf course, Roads, motorways, Eutrophication (<i>natural</i>), Hunting, Bait digging or collection, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Fertilisation, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Invasive non-native species
004024	Sandymount Strand/Tolka Estuary SPA	Red knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143], Mediterranean gull (<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>) [A176], Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194], Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169], Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Roseate tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192], Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144], Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157], Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137], Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193], Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069], Eurasian oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130]	G01.01, G01.02, K02.03, J02.01.02, E03, E02, F02.03, D01.02, E01, F02.03.01	Nautical sports, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Eutrophication (<i>natural</i>), Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Discharges, Industrial or commercial areas, Leisure fishing, Roads, motorways, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Bait digging or collection
004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	Wood warbler (<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>) [A314], Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) [A103], Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) [A098]	G03, B, A04, G01.02, C01.03, D01.01	Interpretative centres, Sylviculture, forestry, Grazing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Peat extraction, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks
004063	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA	Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Lesser black-backed gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183], Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067]	F03.01, G01.01, B01, F02.03, D01.05	Hunting, Nautical sports, Forest planting on open ground, Leisure fishing, Bridge, viaduct
004113	Howth Head Coast SPA	Common guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) [A199], Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) [A103], Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>) [A200], Northern fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>) [A009], Black-legged kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188]	J01, G01.02	Fire and fire suppression, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles
004117	Ireland's Eye SPA	Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>) [A200], Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) [A103], Northern fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>) [A009], Northern gannet (<i>Morus bassanus</i>) [A016], Common guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) [A199], Atlantic puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>) [A204], Black-legged kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017]	G01.02, F02.03	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Leisure fishing
004172	Dalkey Islands SPA	Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194], Roseate tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192], Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193]	G01.01, E01, G01.02, A04	Nautical sports, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Grazing
004186	The Murrrough SPA	Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Sandwich tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>) [A191], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Little egret (<i>Egretta garzetta</i>) [A026], Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Ruff (<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>) [A151], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137], Common shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048], Short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>) [A222], Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184], Common greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>) [A164], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Red-throated diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>) [A001], Little tern (<i>Sterna albibifrons</i>) [A195], Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>) [A051], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017]	G01.02, D01.04, A08	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Railway lines, TGV, Fertilisation

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List of all Qualifying Interests of SACs that have undergone Assessment including Summaries of Current Threats and Sensitivity to Effects

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Alkaline fens	[7230]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Alpine and Boreal heaths	[4060]	Abandonment; overgrazing; burning; outdoor recreation; quarries; communication networks; and wind farm developments.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
Annual vegetation of drift lines	[1210]	Grazing; sand and gravel extraction; recreational activities; coastal protection works.	Overgrazing and erosion. Changes in management.
Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>)	[1330]	Overgrazing; erosion; invasive species, particularly common cordgrass (<i>Spartina anglica</i>); infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Overgrazing, erosion and accretion.
Blanket bogs (* if active bog)	[7130]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Calaminarian grasslands of the <i>Violetalia calaminariae</i>	[6130]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Calcareous fens with species of the <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and <i>Caricion davallianae</i>	[7210]	Hydrological changes, pollution to surface waters, urbanisation, roads development, groundwater interactions, grazing and cultivation practices and the inappropriate use of pesticides.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8210]	Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Embryonic shifting dunes	[2110]	Natural erosion processes exacerbated by recreation and sand extraction. Coastal protection interfering with natural processes.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
European dry heaths	[4030]	Afforestation, overburning, over-grazing, under-grazing and bracken invasion.	Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (<i>grey dunes</i>)	[2130]	Recreation; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing; non-native plant species, particularly sea buckthorn (<i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>).	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Humid dune slacks	[2190]	Agricultural improvement; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing; forestry; recreational activity.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management. Sensitive to hydrological change.
Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	[1355]	Decrease in water quality: Use of pesticides; fertilization; vegetation removal; professional fishing (including lobster pots and fyke nets); unting; poisoning; sand and gravel extraction; mechanical removal of peat; urbanised areas; human habitation; continuous urbanization; drainage; management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes; and canalization or modifying structures of inland water course.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Sensitivity to pollution.
Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinia caeruleae</i>)	[6410]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	[1140]	Aquaculture, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works and invasive species, particularly cord-grass; hard coastal defence structures; sea-level rise.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.
Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	[3160]	Nutrient alterations; management shifts in the associated peatland habitat, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>	[4010]	Reclamation, afforestation and burning; overstocking; invasion by non-heath species; exposure of peat to severe erosion.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	[91A0]	The introduction of alien species; sub-optimal grazing patterns; general forestry management; increases in urbanisation and human habitation adjacent to oak woodlands; and the construction of communication networks through the woodland.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.
Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>)	[3110]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Perennial vegetation of stony banks	[1220]	Disruption of the sediment supply, owing to the interruption of the coastal processes, caused by developments such as car parks and coastal defence structures including rock armour and sea walls. The removal of gravel.	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity and gravel removal.
Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>)	[1395]	There are no significant impacts affecting this species.	None identified.
Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>)	[7220]	Ground water interactions, on site management activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Harbour Porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	[1351]	Pressures acting on the species in Irish waters mainly involve commercial vessel-based activities such as impacts arising from geophysical seismic exploration or from local/regional prey removal from fisheries.	Sensitive to disturbance, prey availability and pollution.
Reefs	[1170]	Professional fishing; taking for fauna; taking for flora; water pollution; climate change; and change in species composition.	Sensitive to disturbance and pollution.
Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	[1310]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Marine water dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Infilling, reclamation, invasive species.
Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites)	[6210]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (<i>white dunes</i>)	[2120]	Recreation and coastal defences, which may interfere with local sediment dynamics.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8220]	Pressures associated with the non-native invasive species New Zealand willowherb (<i>Epilobium brunnescens</i>).	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (<i>Androsacetalia alpinae</i> and <i>Galeopsietalia ladani</i>)	[8110]	Overgrazing, undergrazing and succession were recorded as medium-importance pressures in this reporting period, and Structure and functions were again assessed as Inadequate, the trend is considered to be stable rather than improving. This change is due to improved knowledge and the habitat is considered to have been stable since before the last assessment.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Spartina swards (<i>Spartinion maritima</i>)	[1320]	None identified by the NPWS in the 2019 publication of the Status of EU protected habitats and species in Ireland.	Changes in hydrological characteristics, invasive species, grazing, interspecific floral competition and abiotic natural processes

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Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (<i>and submountain areas, in Continental Europe</i>)	[6230]	Bracken encroachment, succession, inappropriate grazing, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Transition mires and quaking bogs	[7140]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Erosion, land-use changes.
Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	[1230]	A number of significant pressures were identified, including trampling by walkers, invasive non-native species, gravel extraction, and sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change. There have been no significant losses in sea cliff habitat since the Directive came into force.	Land use activities such as tourism and/or agricultural practices. Direct alteration to the habitat or effects such as burning or drainage.

List of all Special Conservation Interest of SPAs that have undergone Assessment including Summaries of Current Threats and Sensitivity to Effects

Current threats to Qualifying Interests		Vulnerabilities of species of conservation interest
Red-throated diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>) [A001] Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005] Northern fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>) [A009] Northern gannet (<i>Morus bassanus</i>) [A016] Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017] Little egret (<i>Egretta garzetta</i>) [A026] Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038] Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043] Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser [Iceland/UK/Ireland]</i>) [A043] Common shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050] Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>) [A051] Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053] Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054] Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056] Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067]	Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069] Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) [A098] Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) [A103] Eurasian oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142] Red knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] Ruff (<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>) [A151] Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160] Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] Common greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>) [A164] Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169] Mediterranean gull (<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>) [A176]	Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179] Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182] Lesser black-backed gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183] Herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184] Black-legged kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188] Sandwich tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>) [A191] Roseate tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192] Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194] Little tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) [A195] Common guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) [A199] Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>) [A200] Atlantic puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>) [A204] Short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>) [A222] Wood warbler (<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>) [A314] Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395]
Wetlands for waterbirds [A999]		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bird species are particularly vulnerable to direct disturbance due to noise and/or vibration. These effects are localised, and disturbance effects are foreseen to be low at distances beyond 2km. Direct habitat loss is a serious concern for bird species, as well as the reduction in habitat quality. Habitat degradation could occur through effects such as local enrichment due to agricultural practices or damage to habitat through activities such as trampling. Prey species diversity and availability is a key element of species conservation. Community dynamics and ecosystem functionality are complex concepts and require site specific information. The site synopsis and conservation objectives for the SPAs identified within the ZOI were used to identify any specific prey sensitivities. Availability of nesting/roosting habitat. Vegetation composition, structure and functionality Direct land take is a common vulnerability to all sites; as well as significant water quality effects. The conservation objective of all SPAs designated for Wetland and Waterbirds is to maintain the favourable conservation condition of the wetland habitat as a resource for the regularly-occurring migratory waterbirds using it.

Appendix II Relationship Other Plans and Programmes

This appendix is not intended to be a full and comprehensive review of EU Directives, the transposing regulations or the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. The information is not exhaustive and it is recommended to consult the Directive, Regulation, Plan or Programme to become familiar with the full details of each.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
International/European Level			
SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. Provide for a high level of protection of the environment by carrying out an environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out an environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive. Prepare an environmental report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives that consider the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme. Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission. Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects. Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme. Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive. Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. Aims to assess and implement avoidance or mitigation measures to eliminate environmental effects, before consent is given of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to a requirement for development consent and an assessment with regard to their effects. Those projects are defined in Article 4. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA. For projects listed in Annex II, a “screening procedure” is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account Annex III. The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor. Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of community interest. Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species. Establish a network of European sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, to enable the natural habitat types and the species’ habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range. Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present. Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats. Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation. The species included in Annex I shall be the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1. Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas). Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones, re-establish destroyed biotopes and creation of biotopes. Measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I is required as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. The protection of wetlands and particularly wetlands of international importance. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and – preventing further such pollution. 	<p>Ireland’s Nitrates Action Programme is designed to prevent pollution of surface waters and ground water from agricultural sources and to protect and improve water quality. Ireland’s third NAP came into operation in 2014. Each Member State’s NAP must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a limit on the amount of livestock manure applied to the land each year set periods when land spreading is prohibited due to risk set capacity levels for the storage of livestock manure 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
EU Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive (2008/1/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of this Directive is to achieve integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from the activities listed in Annex I. It lays down measures designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions in the air, water and land from the abovementioned activities, including measures concerning waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole, without prejudice to Directive 85/337/EEC and other relevant Community provisions. 	<p>The IPPC Directive is based on several principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an integrated approach best available techniques, flexibility; and public participation 	<p>framework for environmental protection and management.</p> <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Directive aims at reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment by introducing different targets, tools and measures such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM) or National Action Plans (NAPs). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Framework Directive applies to pesticides which are plant protection products. Regarding pesticide application equipment already in professional use, the Framework Directive introduces requirements for the inspection and maintenance to be carried out on such equipment. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
EU Renewables Directive (2009/28/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Renewable Energy Directive establishes an overall policy for the production and promotion of energy from renewable sources in the EU. It requires the EU to fulfil at least 20% of its total energy needs with renewables by 2020 – to be achieved through the attainment of individual national targets. All EU countries must also ensure that at least 10% of their transport fuels come from renewable sources by 2020. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Directive promotes cooperation amongst EU countries (and with countries outside the EU) to help them meet their renewable energy targets. The Directive specifies national renewable energy targets for each country, taking into account its starting point and overall potential for renewables. EU countries set out how they plan to meet these targets and the general course of their renewable energy policy in national renewable energy action plans. Progress towards national targets is measured every two years when EU countries publish national renewable energy progress reports. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Indirect Land Use Change Directive (2012/0288 (COD))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 3(4) of Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (3) requires Member States to ensure that the share of energy from renewable energy sources in all forms of transport in 2020 is at least 10 % of their final energy consumption. The blending of biofuels is one of the methods available for Member States to meet this target, and is expected to be the main contributor. Other methods available to meet the target are the reduction of energy consumption, which is imperative because a mandatory percentage target for energy from renewable sources is likely to become increasingly difficult to achieve sustainably if overall demand for energy for transport continues to rise, and the use of electricity from renewable energy sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit the contribution that conventional biofuels (with a risk of ILUC emissions) make towards attainment of the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive; Improve the greenhouse gas performance of biofuel production processes (reducing associated emissions) by raising the greenhouse gas saving threshold for new installations subject to protecting installations already in operation on 1st July 2014; Encourage a greater market penetration of advanced (low-ILUC) biofuels by allowing such fuels to contribute more to the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive than conventional biofuels; Improve the reporting of greenhouse gas emissions by obliging Member States and fuel suppliers to report the estimated indirect land-use change emissions of biofuels. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (2014/94/EU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive establishes a common framework of measures for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure in the Union in order to minimise dependence on oil and to mitigate the environmental impact of transport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive sets out minimum requirements for the building-up of alternative fuels infrastructure, including recharging points for electric vehicles and refuelling points for natural gas (LNG and CNG) and hydrogen, to be implemented by means of Member States' national policy frameworks, as well as common technical specifications for such recharging and refuelling points, and user information requirements. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
EU Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes a set of binding measures to help the EU reach its 20% energy efficiency target by 2020. Under the Directive, all EU countries are required to use energy more efficiently at all stages of the energy chain, from production to final consumption. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy distributors or retail energy sales companies have to achieve 1.5% energy savings per year through the implementation of energy efficiency measures EU countries can opt to achieve the same level of savings through other means, such as improving the efficiency of heating systems, installing double glazed windows or insulating roofs The public sector in EU countries should purchase energy efficient buildings, products and services Every year, governments in EU countries must carry out energy efficient renovations on at least 3% (by floor area) of the buildings they own and occupy 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory</p>

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy consumers should be empowered to better manage consumption. This includes easy and free access to data on consumption through individual metering National incentives for SMEs to undergo energy audits Large companies will make audits of their energy consumption to help them identify ways to reduce it Monitoring efficiency levels in new energy generation capacities. 	framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive lays down rules for the prevention of major accidents which involve dangerous substances, and the limitation of their consequences for human health and the environment, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection throughout the Union in a consistent and effective manner. 	<p>The Seveso Directive is well integrated with other EU policies, thus avoiding double regulation or other administrative burden. This includes the following related policy areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals; The Union's Civil Protection Mechanism; The Security Union Agenda including CBRN-E and Protection of critical infrastructure; Policy on environmental liability and on the protection of the environment through criminal law; Safety of offshore oil and gas operations. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Union Biodiversity Strategy to 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims to halt or reverse biodiversity loss and speed up the EU's transition towards a resource efficient and green economy. Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them in so far as feasible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines six targets and twenty actions to aid European Union in halting the loss to biodiversity and eco-system services. The six targets cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity Maintaining, enhancing and protecting for ecosystems, and green infrastructure Ensuring sustainable agriculture, and forestry Sustainable management of fish stocks Reducing invasive alien species Addressing the global need to contribute towards averting global biodiversity loss 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Green Infrastructure Strategy	Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas. Supporting EU-level GI projects. Improving access to finance for GI projects. Improving information and promoting innovation. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UNESCO (1972) The Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> links concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties; and recognizes the way in which people interact with nature, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sets out the duties of States Parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them; each country pledges to conserve not only the World Heritage sites situated on its territory, but also to protect its national heritage; encourages to integrate the protection of the cultural and natural heritage into regional planning programmes, set up staff and services at their sites, undertake scientific and technical conservation research and adopt measures which give this heritage a function in the day-to-day life of the community. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN (1992) The Convention on Biological Diversity	An overall objective is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	<p>The Convention has three main goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity); the sustainable use of its components; and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN (1992) Framework Convention on Climate Change	It is aimed at stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.	The Convention acknowledges the vulnerability of all countries to the effects of climate change and calls for special efforts to ease the consequences, especially in developing countries which lack the resources to do so on their own.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-

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UN Kyoto Protocol (2nd Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement)	<p>The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol.</p> <p>At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II). EU member states implement measures to improve on or complement the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP. Under COP21, governments agreed to come together every 5 years to set more ambitious targets as required by science; report to each other and the public on how well they are doing to implement their targets; track progress towards the long-term goal through a robust transparency and accountability system. 	<p>combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Binding legislation which aims to ensure the European Union meets its climate and energy targets for 2020. Aims to achieve a 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels. Aims to raise the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20%. Achieve a 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency. 	<p>Four pieces of complimentary legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reform of the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) to include a cap on emission allowances in addition to existing system of national caps. Member States have agreed national targets for non-EU ETS emissions from countries outside the EU. Meet the national renewable energy targets of 16% for Ireland by 2020. Preparing a legal framework for technologies in carbon capture and storage. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
EU 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 2030 Framework for climate and energy, including EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period between 2020 and 2030 that has been agreed by European countries. Targets include a 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels, at least a 27% share of renewable energy consumption and at least 27% energy savings compared with the business-as-usual scenario. 	<p>To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A reformed EU emissions trading scheme (ETS). New indicators for the competitiveness and security of the energy system, such as price differences with major trading partners, diversification of supply, and interconnection capacity between EU countries. First ideas for a new governance system based on national plans for competitive, secure, and sustainable energy. These plans will follow a common EU approach. They will ensure stronger investor certainty, greater transparency, enhanced policy coherence and improved coordination across the EU. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC) (EU Air Framework Directive)</p> <p>Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive). Sets new air quality objectives for PM_{2.5} (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives. Accounts for the possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values. Allows the possibility for time extensions of three years (PM₁₀) or up to five years (NO₂, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission. The Fourth Daughter Directive lists pollutants, target values and monitoring requirements for the following: arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets objectives for ambient air quality designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole. Aims to assess the ambient air quality in Member States on the basis of common methods and criteria. Obtains information on ambient air quality in order to help combat air pollution and nuisance and to monitor long-term trends and improvements resulting from national and community measures. Ensures that such information on ambient air quality is made available to the public. Aims to maintain air quality where it is good and improving it in other cases. Aims to promote increased cooperation between the Member States in reducing air pollution. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	<p>The Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source.</p>	<p>The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw up strategic noise maps for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators and use these maps to assess the number of people which may be impacted upon as a result of excessive noise levels; Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise. <p>The Directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess all water courses and coast lines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps outlining the extent or potential of flooding and assets and humans at risk in these areas at River Basin District level (Article 3(2) (b)) and areas covered by Article 5(1) and Article 13(1) (b) in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3. Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above. Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies to include inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater and their dependent wildlife and habitats. Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain “good status” of water bodies. Promote sustainable water usage. The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive Sampling Drinking Water Directive Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive Shellfish Directive Freshwater Fish Directive Groundwater (Dangerous Substances) Directive Dangerous Substances Directive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive. Achieve "good status" for all waters. Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts. Involve the public and streamline legislation. Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas. Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas. Recover costs for water services. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, control and conserve groundwater. Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater. Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive. Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve and maintain the quality of water intended for human consumption. Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set values applicable to water intended for human consumption for the parameters set out in Annex I. Set values for additional parameters not included in Annex I, where the protection of human health within national territory or part of it so requires. The values set should, as a minimum, satisfy the requirements of Article 4(1) (a). Implement all measures necessary to ensure that regular monitoring of the quality of water intended for human consumption is carried out, in order to check that the water available to consumers meets the requirements of this Directive and in particular the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5. Ensure that any failure to meet the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5 is immediately investigated in order to identify the cause. Ensure that the necessary remedial action is taken as soon as possible to restore its quality and shall give priority to their enforcement action. Undertake remedial action to restore the quality of the water where necessary to protect human health. Notify consumers when remedial action is being undertaken except where the competent authorities consider the non-compliance with the parametric value to be trivial. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors. The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban waste water entering collecting systems shall before discharge, be subject to secondary treatment. Annex II requires the designation of areas sensitive to eutrophication which receive water discharges. Establishes minimum requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems in specified agglomerations to include special requirements for sensitive areas and certain industrial sectors. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p>Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC and Directive 2013/30/EU</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent. Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures. Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7. The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive. The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator. The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met. The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing knowledge and new needs. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this (revised) Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study. 	<p>The Valletta Convention makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies. The Convention sets guidelines for the funding of excavation and research work and publication of research findings. It also deals with public access, in particular to archaeological sites, and educational actions to be undertaken to develop public awareness of the value of the archaeological heritage. It also constitutes an institutional framework for pan-European co-operation on the archaeological heritage, entailing a systematic exchange of experience and experts among the various States.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It also affirms the need for European solidarity with regard to heritage conservation and is designed to foster practical co-operation among the Parties. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reinforcement and promotion of policies for protecting and enhancing the heritage within the territories of the parties. The affirmation of European solidarity with regard to the protection of the heritage and the fostering of practical co-operation between states and regions. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes ('Dublin Principles')</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is aimed to assist in the documentation, protection, conservation and appreciation of industrial heritage as part of the heritage of human societies around the World. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (I) Document and understand industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes and their values; (II) Ensure effective protection and conservation of the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; (III) Conserve and maintain the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; and (IV) Present and communicate the heritage dimensions and values of industrial structures, sites, areas and landscapes to raise public and corporate awareness, and support training and research. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro 2005)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time. A heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, to sustain and transmit to future generations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise that rights relating to cultural heritage are inherent in the right to participate in cultural life, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Recognise individual and collective responsibility towards cultural heritage. Emphasise that the conservation of cultural heritage and its sustainable use have human development and quality of life as their goal. Take the necessary steps to apply the provisions of this Convention concerning the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the</p>

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European Landscape Convention 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, together with the practices followed in town and country planning, transport, networks, tourism and recreation, and at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases accelerated the transformation of landscapes. The Convention expresses a concern to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. It aims to respond to the public's wish to enjoy high quality landscapes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. Organise European co-operation on landscape issues. 	<p>achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
The Seventh Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community (2013-2020)	<p>It identifies three key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing 	<p>Four so called "enablers" will help Europe deliver on these objectives (goals):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better implementation of legislation. Better information by improving the knowledge base. More and wiser investment for environment and climate policy. Full integration of environmental requirements and considerations into other policies. <p>Two additional horizontal priority objectives complete the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make the Union's cities more sustainable. To help the Union address international environmental and climate challenges more effectively. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats)	<p>The convention has three main aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats to promote cooperation between states to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species 	<p>The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to ensure the conservation of nature in their countries, paying particular attention to planning and development policies and pollution control. Look at implementing the Bern Convention in central Eastern Europe and the Caucus. Take account of the potential impact on natural heritage by other policies. Promote education and information of the public, ensuring the need to conserve species is understood and acted upon. Develop an extensive number of species action plans, codes of conducts, and guidelines, at their own initiative or in co-operation with other organisations. Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Bali Road Map (2007)	<p>The overall goals of the project are twofold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase national capacity to co-ordinate ministerial views, participate in the UNFCCC process, and negotiate positions within the timeframe of the Bali Action Plan; and To assess investment and financial flows to address climate change for up to three key sectors and/or economic activities. 	<p>The Bali Action Plan is centred on four main building Blocks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> mitigation adaptation technology financing 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Cancun Agreements (2010)	<p>Set of decisions taken at the COP 16 Conference in Cancun in 2010 which addresses a series of key issues in the fight against climate change. Cancun Agreements' main objectives cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigation Transparency of actions Technology Finance Adaptation Forests Capacity building 	<p>Among the most prominent agreements is the establishment of a Green Climate Fund to transfer money from the developed to developing world to tackle the impacts of climate change.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Doha Climate Gateway (2012)	<p>Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which pave the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015 (to come into effect in 2020); Complete the work under Bali Action Plan and to focus on new completing new targets; Strengthen the aim to cut greenhouse gases and help vulnerable countries to adapt; Amend Kyoto Protocol to include a new commitment period for cutting down the greenhouse gases emissions; and Provide the financial and technology support and new institutions to allow clean energy investment and sustainable growth in developing countries. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the</p>

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
EU Common Agricultural Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve agricultural productivity, so that consumers have a stable supply of affordable food; and To ensure that EU farmers can make a reasonable living. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensuring viable food production that will contribute to feeding the world's population, which is expected to rise considerably in the future; Climate change and sustainable management of natural resources; Looking after the countryside across the EU and keeping the rural economy alive. 	achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances. 	<p>The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation; and Restriction of chemicals. <p>REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Stockholm Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit and/or eliminate the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex A to the Convention Restrict the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex B to the Convention Reduce or eliminate releases from unintentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex C to the Convention Ensure that stockpiles and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs are managed safely and in an environmentally sound manner To target additional POPs Other provisions of the Convention relate to the development of implementation plans, information exchange, public information, awareness and education, research, development and monitoring, technical assistance, financial resources and mechanisms, reporting, effectiveness evaluation and non-compliance 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ramsar Convention	The Convention's mission is "the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world".	Under the "three pillars" of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work towards the wise use of all their wetlands; Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") and ensure their effective management; Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European 2020 Strategy for Growth	<p>Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe's social market economy for the 21st century and puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation; Sustainable growth: promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy; Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion. 	<p>In order to reach these priorities, the Commission proposes five quantitative targets to fulfil by 2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed; 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D; the "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right); the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree; 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The European Green Deal (EGD) 2019	The deal sets out how to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, boosting the economy, improving people's quality of life, caring for nature and leaving no one behind.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It sets out a roadmap with actions to boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy, restore biodiversity and cut pollution. It outlines investments required, financing tools available and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition. In order to meet the goal to become climate neutral by 2050 as part of the European Green Deal, the European Union (EU) Commission proposed on 4th March 2020 to bring 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		about the first European Climate Law and legally bind the target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.	other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU (2020) Biodiversity Strategy	A long-term plan for protecting nature and reversing the degradation of ecosystems across the European Union.	The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea, building upon existing Natura 2000 areas, with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value. • An EU Nature Restoration Plan - a series of concrete commitments and actions to restore degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, and manage them sustainably, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss. • A set of measures to enable the necessary transformative change: setting in motion a new, strengthened governance framework to ensure better implementation and track progress, improving knowledge, financing and investments and better respecting nature in public and business decision-making. • Measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge, demonstrating that the EU is ready to lead by example towards the successful adoption of an ambitious global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package	Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU.	The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030, and contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Level			
Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, the National Planning Framework, (replacing the National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020) and the National Development Plan (2018-2027)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Planning Framework is the Government’s high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of to the year 2040. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for people, and to protect and enhance the environment - from villages to cities, and everything around and in between. • The National Development Plan sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the successful implementation of the new National Planning Framework. This will guide national, regional and local planning and investment decisions in Ireland over the next two decades, to cater for an expected population increase of over 1 million people. 	National Strategic Outcomes as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compact Growth 2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility 3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities 4. Sustainable Mobility 5. A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills 6. High-Quality International Connectivity 7. Enhanced Amenities and Heritage 8. Transition to a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Society 9. Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources 10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040 [in preparation]	The PLUTO will take account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies and will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term; 2. Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and, 3. Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040. 	In preparation	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The core principal objectives of this Act are to amend the Planning Acts of 2000 – 2009 with specific regard given to supporting economic renewal and sustainable development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development, with certain exceptions, is subject to development control under the Planning Acts and the local authorities grant or refuse planning permission for development, including ones within protected areas. There are, however, a range of exemptions from the planning system. Use of land for agriculture, peat extraction and afforestation, subject to certain thresholds, is generally exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission. Additionally, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for a range of classes and large-scale projects. Under planning legislation, Development Plans must include mandatory objectives for the conservation of the natural heritage and for the conservation of European sites and any other sites which may be prescribed. There are also discretionary powers to set objectives for the conservation of a variety of other elements of the natural heritage. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning. These Regulations also amend certain provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to provide the statutory basis for the transposition of the Directive in respect of land-use planning. Transposition in respect of the land-use planning sector is contained in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004). 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011, as amended)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These Regulations provide a new for the implementation in Ireland of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on habitats and protection of wild fauna and flora (as amended) and for the implementation of Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of wild birds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> They provide, among other things, for: the appointment and functions of authorized officers; identification, classification and other procedures relative to the designation of Community sites. The Regulations have been prepared to address several judgments of the CJEU against Ireland, notably cases C-418/04 and C-183/05, in respect of failure to transpose elements of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive into Irish law. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Waste Management Act 1996, as amended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make provision in relation to the prevention, management and control of waste; to give effect to provisions of certain acts adopted by institutions of the European communities in respect of those matters; to amend the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992, and to repeal certain enactments and to provide for related matters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Waste Management Act contains a number of key legal obligations, including requirements for waste management planning, waste collection and movement, the authorisation of waste facilities, measures to reduce the production of waste and/or promote its recovery. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
European Communities Environmental Objectives (FPM) Regulations 2009 (S.I 296 of 2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set environmental quality objectives for the habitats of the freshwater pearl mussel populations named in the First Schedule to these Regulations that are within the boundaries of a site notified in a candidate list of European sites, or designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 94/1997). Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of measures to achieve these objectives. Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I 9 of 2010), as amended (S.I. No. 366 of 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) to make further provision to implement Commission Directive 2014/80/EU of 20 June 2014 amending Annex II to Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration. 	<p>The substances and threshold values set out in Schedule 5 to S.I. No. 9 of 2010 have been reviewed and amended where necessary, based on existing monitoring information and international guidelines on appropriate threshold values.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part A of Schedule 6 has been amended to include changes to the rules governing the determination of background levels for the purposes of establishing threshold values for groundwater pollutants and indicators of pollution. Part B of Schedule 6 has been amended to include nitrites and phosphorus (total) / phosphates among the minimum list of pollutants and their indicators which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must consider when establishing threshold values. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 31 of 2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These Regulations, which give effect to Ireland's 3rd Nitrates Action Programme, provide statutory support for good agricultural practice to protect waters against pollution from agricultural sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part C of Schedule 6 amends the information to be provided to the Minister by the EPA with regard to the pollutants and their indicators for which threshold values have been established. <p>The Regulations include measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Periods when land application of fertilisers is prohibited Limits on the land application of fertilisers Storage requirements for livestock manure; and Monitoring of the effectiveness of the measures in terms of agricultural practice and impact on water quality. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Act to provide for the approval of plans by the Government in relation to climate change for the purpose of pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy. 	<p>When considering a plan or framework, for approval, the Government shall endeavour to achieve the national transition objective within the period to which the objective relates and shall, in endeavouring to achieve that objective, ensure that such objective is achieved by the implementation of measures that are cost effective and shall, for that purpose, have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ultimate objective specified in Article 2 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change done at New York on 9 May 1992 and any mitigation commitment entered into by the European Union in response or otherwise in relation to that objective, The policy of the Government on climate change, Climate justice, Any existing obligation of the State under the law of the European Union or any international agreement referred to in section 2; and The most recent national greenhouse gas emissions inventory and projection of future greenhouse gas emissions, prepared by the Agency. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
The Sustainable Development Goals National Implementation Plan (2018 – 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Implementation Plan 2018 - 2020 is in direct response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a whole-of-government approach to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Plan provides an 'SDG Matrix' which identifies the responsible Government Departments for each of the 169 targets. It also includes an 'SDG Policy Map' indicating the relevant national policies for each of the targets. 	<p>The Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness: raise public awareness of the SDGs; Participation: provide stakeholders opportunities to engage and contribute to follow-up and review processes, and further develop national implementation of the Goals; Support: encourage and support efforts of communities and organisations to contribute towards meeting the SDGs, and foster public participation; and Policy alignment: develop alignment of national policy with the SDGs and identify opportunities for policy coherence. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Infrastructure and Capital Investment Plan (2016-2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> €27 billion multi-annual Exchequer Capital Investment Plan, which is supported by a programme of capital investment in the wider State sector, and which over the period 2016 to 2021 will help to lay the foundations for continued growth in Ireland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Capital Plan reflects the Government's commitment to supporting strong and sustainable economic growth and raising welfare and living standards for all. It includes allocations for new projects across a number of key areas and funding to ensure that the present stock of national infrastructure is refreshed and maintained. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-Fisheries) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 290 of 2013)	<p>These regulations have been drafted to implement the responsibilities of the Minister for Agriculture Food and the Marine in relation to sea fisheries in Natura 2000 sites, in accordance with the Habitats and Birds Directives as transposed by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation 3 provides for the submission of a Fisheries Natura Plan in relation to planned fisheries; Regulation 4 provides for a screening of a Fisheries Natura Plan to determine whether or not an appropriate assessment is required; Regulation 5 provides for an appropriate assessment of a Fisheries Natura Plan and also provides for public and statutory consultation; Regulation 6 provides for the Minister to make a determination to adopt a Fisheries Natura Plan. The Minister may amend, withdraw or revoke a plan; Regulation 7 provides for publication of the adopted Fisheries Natura Plan; Regulation 8 provides for a Risk Assessment of unplanned fisheries and also provides for public and statutory consultation on the assessment; Regulation 9 provides for the issue of a Natura Declaration to prohibit, restrict including restricting by permit, control, etc. of sea fishing activities; Regulation 10 provides for Natura Permits to be issued where required by Natura Declarations; and 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Ireland's National Renewable Energy Action Plan 2010 (Irish Government submission to the European Commission)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) sets out the Government's strategic approach and concrete measures to deliver on Ireland's 16% target under Directive 2009/28/EC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulations 11 to 31 deal with functions of authorised officers and related matters, offences, etc. The NREAP sets out the Member State's national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020, and demonstrates how the Member State will meet its overall national target established under the Directive. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Strategy for Renewable Energy (2012-2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government's overarching strategic objective is to make renewable energy an increasingly significant component of Ireland's energy supply by 2020, so that at a minimum it will achieve its legally binding 2020 target in the most cost-efficient manner for consumers. Of critical importance is the role which the renewable energy sector plays in job creation and economic activity as part of the Government's action plan for jobs. 	<p>This document sets out five strategic goals, reflecting the key dimensions of the renewable energy challenge to 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing on and offshore wind, Building a sustainable bioenergy sector, Fostering R&D in renewables such as wave & tidal, Growing sustainable transport; and Building out robust and efficient networks. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Policy Position provides a high-level policy direction for the adoption and implementation by Government of plans to enable the State to move to a low carbon economy by 2050. Statutory authority for the plans is set out in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015. 	<p>National climate policy in Ireland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognises the threat of climate change for humanity; Anticipates and supports mobilisation of a comprehensive international response to climate change, and global transition to a low-carbon future; Recognises the challenges and opportunities of the broad transition agenda for society; and Aims, as a fundamental national objective, to achieve transition to a competitive, low carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Clean Air Strategy [in preparation]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Clean Air Strategy will provide the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having a National Strategy will provide a policy framework by which Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation. The Strategy should also help tackle climate change. The Strategy will consider a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture. In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people's health is paramount and this will be a strong theme of the Strategy. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EirGrid's Grid25 Strategy and associated Grid25 Implementation Programme 2017-2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EirGrid's mission is to develop, maintain and operate a safe, secure, reliable, economical and efficient transmission system for Ireland; <i>"Our vision is of a grid developed to match future needs, so it can safely and reliably carry power all over the country to the major towns and cities and onwards to every home, farm and business where the electricity is consumed and so it can meet the needs of consumers and generators in a sustainable way."</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grid25, EirGrid's roadmap to uprate the electricity transmission grid by 2025, continues to be implemented so as to increase the capacity of the grid, to satisfy future demand, and to help Ireland meet its target of 40 per cent of electricity from renewable energy by 2020. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
All Island Grid Study 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The All Island Grid Study is the first comprehensive assessment of the ability of the electrical power system and, as part of that, the transmission network ("the grid") on the island of Ireland to absorb large amounts of electricity produced from renewable energy sources. The objective of this five-part study is to assess the technical feasibility and the relative costs and benefits associated with various scenarios for increased shares of electricity sourced from renewable energy in the all island power system. 	<p>Key conclusions of the study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presented results indicate that the differences in cost between the highest cost and the lowest cost portfolios are low (7%), given the assumptions made and costs included in the Study. All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to significant reductions of CO2 emissions compared to portfolio 1 All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to reductions on the dependency of the all island system on fuel and electricity imports. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The limitations of the study may overstate the technical feasibility of the portfolios analysed and could impact the costs and benefits resulting. Further work is required to understand the extent of such impact. Timely development of the transmission networks, requiring means to address the planning challenge, is a precondition for implementation of the portfolios considered. Market mechanisms must facilitate the installation of complementary, i.e. flexible, dispatchable plant, so as to maintain adequate levels of system security. 	framework for environmental protection and management.
Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The objective of this Strategy is to assist in the strategic development of nationally and regionally significant Greenways in appropriate locations constructed to an appropriate standard in order to deliver a quality experience for all Greenways users. It also aims to increase the number and geographical spread of Greenways of scale and quality around the country over the next 10 years with a consequent significant increase in the number of people using Greenways as a visitor experience and as a recreational amenity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Strategic Greenway network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and/or link with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure; Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in activity tourism to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors, domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity; Greenways that provide a substantially segregated off road experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; and Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Water Resources Plan [in preparation]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NWRP is a plan on how to provide a safe, secure and reliable water supply to customers for the next 25 years, without causing adverse impact on the environment. The objective of the NWRP is to set out how we intend to maintain the supply and demand for drinking water over the short, medium and long term whilst minimising the impact on the environment. 	<p>The key objectives of the plan are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account normal and extreme weather conditions Assess the current and future water demand from homes, businesses, farms, and industry Consider the impacts of climate change on Ireland’s water resources Develop a drought plan advising measures to be taken before and during drought events Develop a plan detailing how we deal with the material that is produced as a result of treating drinking water Identify, develop and assess options to help meet potential shortfalls in water supplies Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Development (2014-2020)	<p>Vision: <i>“Aquaculture in RC is economically, socially and ecologically sustainable, with a developed infrastructure, strong human potentials and an organized market. The consumption of aquaculture products is equal or above EU average, while the technological development of the sector is among the best in the EU.”</i></p>	<p>General development and growth objectives of marine and freshwater aquaculture (2014 – 2020):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the social, business and administrative environment for aquaculture development Increase in the total production to 24,050 tonnes while adhering to the principles of economic, social and ecological sustainability Improvement of the perception and increase in the national consumption of National products 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry. The Strategy aims both to increase the capacity of the sector to create and maintain jobs, and to deliver a sustainable sector, operating at an appropriate level. It seeks to learn the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated. 	<p>This Strategy therefore addresses issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A strategic approach to the provision of housing, based on real and measured needs, with mechanisms in place to detect and act when things are going wrong; Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements; The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects; Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms; Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety; Ensuring a fit for purpose sector supported by a highly skilled workforce achieving high quality and standards; and Ensuring opportunities are provided to unemployed former construction workers to contribute to the recovery of the sector. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland (1997)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The overall aim of this Strategy is to ensure that economy and society in Ireland can develop to their full potential within a well-protected environment, without compromising the quality of that environment, and with responsibility towards present and future generations and the wider international community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Strategy addresses all areas of Government policy, and of economic and societal activity, which impact on the environment. It seeks to re-orientate policies as necessary to ensure that the strong growth Ireland enjoys and seeks to maintain will be environmentally sustainable. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character Assessment (pending preparation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Landscape Strategy will be used to ensure compliance with the European Landscape Convention and to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change. It will provide a high-level policy framework to achieve balance between the protection, management and planning of the landscape by way of supporting actions. Landscape Strategy Vision: <i>"Our landscape reflects and embodies our cultural values and our shared natural heritage and contributes to the well-being of our society, environment and economy. We have an obligation to ourselves and to future generations to promote its sustainable protection, management and planning."</i> 	<p>The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the European Landscape Convention by integrating landscape into the approach to sustainable development; Establish and embed a public process of gathering, sharing and interpreting scientific, technical and cultural information in order to carry out evidence-based identification and description of the character, resources and processes of the landscape; Provide a policy framework, which will put in place measures at national, sectoral - including agriculture, tourism, energy, transport and marine - and local level, together with civil society, to protect, manage and properly plan through high quality design for the sustainable stewardship of the landscape; Ensure that we take advantage of opportunities to implement policies relating to landscape use that are complementary and mutually reinforcing and that conflicting policy objectives are avoided in as far as possible. 	<p>framework for environmental protection and management.</p> <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2014-2020	<p>This Plan sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous plan and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous plan was published. Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996 as amended, sets out the overarching objectives for the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan. In this context, the following objectives are included as priorities for the revised Plan period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To prevent and reduce the generation of hazardous waste by industry and society generally; To maximise the collection of hazardous waste with a view to reducing the environmental and health impacts of any unregulated waste; To strive for increased self-sufficiency in the management of hazardous waste and to minimise hazardous waste export; To minimise the environmental, health, social and economic impacts of hazardous waste generation and management. 	<p>The revised Plan makes 27 recommendations under the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention Collection Self-sufficiency Regulation Legacy issues North-south cooperation Guidance and awareness Implementation 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department produces a range of guidelines designed to help planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála, developers and the general public and cover a wide range of issues amongst others, architectural heritage, child care facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minister issues statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act which planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to in the performance of their planning functions. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vision is: <i>"A Healthy Ireland, where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone's responsibility."</i> 	<p>These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012	<p>A medium to long term framework for advancing sustainable development and the green economy in Ireland. It identifies spatial planning as a key challenge for sustainable development and sets a series of measures to address these challenges.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out the challenges facing us and how we might address them in making sure that quality of life and general wellbeing can be improved and sustained in the decades to come. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future – A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2020 (2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines a policy for how a sustainable travel and transport system can be achieved. Sets out five key goals: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Others lower level aims include: 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To reduce overall travel demand. ○ To maximise the efficiency of the transport network. ○ To reduce reliance on fossil fuels. ○ To reduce transport emissions. ○ To improve accessibility to transport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ reduce distance travelled by private car and encourage smarter travel, including focusing population growth in areas of employment and to encourage people to live in close proximity to places of employment ○ ensuring that alternatives to the car are more widely available, mainly through a radically improved public transport service and through investment in cycling and walking ○ improving the fuel efficiency of motorised transport through improved fleet structure, energy efficient driving and alternative technologies ○ strengthening institutional arrangements to deliver the targets 	<p>combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Investing in our Future: A Strategic Framework for Investment in Land Transport (SFILT) – Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SFILT sets out a set of priorities to guide the allocation of the State’s investment to best develop and manage Ireland’s land transport network over the coming decades. 	<p>The three priorities stated in SFILT are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 1: Achieve steady state maintenance (meaning that the maintenance and renewal of the existing transport system is at a sufficient level to maintain the system in an adequate condition); • Priority 2: Address urban congestion; and • Priority 3: Maximise the value of the road network. <p>In delivering on the steady state maintenance objective set out in SFILT, the Plan includes for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planned replacement programme for the bus fleet operated under Public Service Obligation (“PSO”) contracts; • Tram refurbishment and asset renewal in the case of light rail; and • To the extent within the Authority’ remit, support for the operation of the existing rail network within the GDA. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland – The Energy Policy Framework 2007 – 2020 (2007)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White paper setting out a framework for delivering a sustainable energy future in Ireland. • Outlines strategic Goals for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Security of Supply ○ Sustainability of Energy ○ Competitiveness of Energy Supply 	<p>The underpinning Strategic Goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that electricity supply consistently meets demand • Ensuring the physical security and reliability of gas supplies to Ireland • Enhancing the diversity of fuels used for power generation • Delivering electricity and gas to homes and businesses over efficient, reliable and secure networks • Creating a stable attractive environment for hydrocarbon exploration and production • Being prepared for energy supply disruptions 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2018 and associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAF specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities in their administrative areas in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptation under this Framework should seek to minimise costs and maximise the opportunities arising from climate change. • Adaptation actions range from building adaptive capacity (e.g. increasing awareness, sharing information and targeted training) through to policy and finance-based actions. • Adaptation actions must be risk based, informed by existing vulnerabilities of our society and systems and an understanding of projected climate change. • Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Governments White Paper ‘Ireland’s Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future’ (2015 – 2030)</p>	<p>The White Paper sets out a vision and a framework to guide Irish energy policy between now and 2030. A complete energy policy update informed by the vision to transform Ireland into a low carbon society and economy by 2050.</p>	<p>2030 will represent a significant milestone, meaning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced GHG emissions from the energy sector by between 80% and 95% • Ensuring that secure supplies of competitive and affordable energy remain available to citizens and businesses. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>National Renewable Energy Action Plan (2010)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets out the Member State’s national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020, and demonstrates how the Member State will meet its overall national target established under the Directive. 	<p>Including Ireland’s 16% target of gross final consumption to come from renewables by 2020.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland (2009 – 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the second National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Plan reviews the original 90 actions outlined in the first Plan and updates/renews/removes them as appropriate. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Wildlife Act of 1976 Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems Give statutory protection to NHAs Enhances wildlife species and their habitats Includes more species for protection 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Actions for Biodiversity (2017-2021) Ireland's National Biodiversity Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out strategic objectives, targets and actions to conserve and restore Ireland's biodiversity and to prevent and reduce the loss of biodiversity in Ireland and globally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To mainstream biodiversity in the decision-making process across all sectors. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity. To increase awareness and appreciation of biodiversity and ecosystem services. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider countryside. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the marine environment. To expand and improve on the management of protected areas and legally protected species. To substantially strengthen the effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Broadband Plan (2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out the strategy to deliver high speed broadband throughout Ireland. 	<p>The Plan sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High-Speed Broadband. Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high-speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered. The strategy and interventions that will underpin the successful implementation of these targets. A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of 2003) European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014) European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation. Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water. Identifies the competent authorities in charge of water policy (amended to Irish Water in 2013) and gives EPA and the CER the authority to regulate and supervise their actions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implements River basin districts and characterisation of RBDs and River Basin Management Plans. Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on RBDs. Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies. Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body. Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances. Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater. Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies. Outlines surface water quality standards. Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations of 2010 (SI 9 of 2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transpose the requirements of the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC into Irish Legislation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for groundwater bodies of groundwater against pollution and deterioration in quality. Sets groundwater quality standards. Outlines threshold values for the classification and protection of groundwater. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Water Pollution Acts 1977 to 1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division. 	<p>The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prosecute for water pollution offences. Attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters. Issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution. issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remedying of any effects of the pollution in the manner and within the period specified in such notices; Seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects. Prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas. 	<p>achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> <p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Water Services Act 2007 Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012 Water Services Act (No. 2) 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides the water services infrastructure. Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services. Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and waste water supply. Irish Water was given the responsibility of the provision of water and waste water services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland. 	<p>Key strategic objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring Irish Water delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector. Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services in the gateways and hubs listed in the National Spatial Strategy, and in other locations where services need to be enhanced. Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary waste water treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Waste water Treatment Directive. Promoting water conservation through Irish Water's Capital Investment Plan, the Rural Water Programme and other measures. Monitoring the on-going implementation of septic tanks inspection regime and the National Inspection Plan for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems. Ensuring a fair funding model to deliver water services. Overseeing the establishment of an economic regulation function under the CER. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Irish Water's Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and associated Proposed Capital Investment Plan (2014-2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Water Services Strategic Plan sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040. It details current and future challenges which affect the provision of water services and identifies the priorities to be tackled in the short and medium term. 	<p>Six strategic objectives as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet Customer Expectations. Ensure a Safe and Reliable Water Supply. Provide Effective Management of Waste water. Protect and Enhance the Environment. Support Social and Economic Growth. Invest in the Future. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims to meet nature conservation obligations while having regard to national and local economic, social and cultural needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the implications of management choices for water levels, quantity and quality are fully explored, understood and factored into policy making and land use planning. Review the current raised bog NHA network in terms of its contribution to the national conservation objective for raised bog habitats and determine the most suitable sites to replace the losses of active raised bog habitat and high bog areas within the SAC network and to enhance the national network of NHAs. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Food Harvest 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Harvest 2020 is a roadmap for the Irish food industry, as it seeks to innovate and expand in response to increased global demand for quality foods. It sets out a vision for the potential growth in agricultural output after the removal of milk quotas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Agri-vision 2015 Action Plan	Outlines the vision for agricultural industry to improve competitiveness and response to market demand while respecting and enhancing the environment	not applicable	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS) Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS) Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection. GLAS is the new replacement for REPS and AEOS which are both expiring. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation. Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats. Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment. Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans. Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Rural Development Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas 	<p>At a more detailed level, the programme also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation; Aims to improve the environment, biodiversity and the amenity value of the countryside by support for land management through funds such as Natura 2000 payments etc.; and Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as non-agricultural activities 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Forestry Programme (2014-2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represents Ireland's proposals for 100% State aid funding for a new Forestry Programme for the period 2014 – 2020. 	<p>Measures include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Afforestation and Creation of Woodland NeighbourWood Scheme Forest Roads Reconstitution Scheme Woodland Improvement Scheme Native Woodland Conservation Scheme Knowledge Transfer and Information Actions Producer Groups Innovative Forest Technology Forest Genetic Reproductive Material Forest Management Plans 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
River Basin Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> River Basin Management Plans set out the measures planned to maintain and improve the status of waters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aim to protect and enhance all water bodies in the RBD and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Water Framework Directive. Identify and manages water bodies in the RBD. Establish a programme of measures for monitoring and improving water quality in the RBD. Involve the public through consultations. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)	This Strategy aims to provide a long-term framework within which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and economic contribution to the well-being of this and future generations.	<p>Objectives of the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To give direction to Ireland's approach to peatland management. To apply to all peatlands, including peat soils. To ensure that the relevant State authorities and state-owned companies that influence such decisions contribute to meeting cross-cutting objectives and obligations in their policies and actions. To ensure that Ireland's peatlands are sustainably managed so that their benefits can be enjoyed responsibly. To inform appropriate regulatory systems to facilitate good decision making in support of responsible use. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To inform the provision of appropriate incentives, financial supports and disincentives where required. To provide a framework for determining and ensuring the most appropriate future use of cutover and cutaway bogs. <p>To ensure that specific actions necessary for the achievement of its objectives are clearly identified and delivered by those involved in or responsible for peatlands management or for decisions affecting their management.</p>	
Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive. 	CFRAM Studies have been undertaken for all River Basin Districts. The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. Flood Risk and Hazard mapping, including Flood Extent Mapping, was finalised in 2017. The final outputs from the studies are the CFRAM Plans, finalised in 2018. The Plans define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 - 2020	<p>The Draft Bioenergy Plan sets out a vision as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bioenergy resources contributing to economic development and sustainable growth, generating jobs for citizens, supported by coherent policy, planning and regulation, and managed in an integrated manner. 	<p>Three high level goals, of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To harness the market opportunities presented by bioenergy in order to achieve economic development, growth and jobs. To increase awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits of developing bioenergy. To ensure that bioenergy developments do not adversely impact the environment and its living and non-living resources. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE) 2016	<p>Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2009/28/EC: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.</p>	<p>Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017- 2030	<p>This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.</p>	<p>Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFV forecasts Electricity targets Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets Hydrogen targets Biofuels targets LPG targets Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Food Wise 2025 (DAFM)	<p>Food Wise 2025 sets out a ten-year plan for the agri-food sector. It underlines the sector's unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further.</p>	<p>Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 85% increase in exports to €19 billion. 70% increase in value added to €13 billion. 60% increase in primary production to €10 billion. The creation of 23,000 additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high-end value-added product development. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Cycle Network Scoping Study 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines objectives and actions aimed at developing a strong cycle network in Ireland Sets out 19 specific objectives, and details the 109 actions, aimed at ensuring that a cycling culture is developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets a target where 10% of all journeys will be made by bike by 2020 Proposes the planning, infrastructure, communication, education and stakeholder participations measures required to implement the initiative 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply

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			with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Policy Framework for Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport represents the first step in communicating our longer-term national vision for decarbonising transport by 2050, the cornerstone of which is our ambition that by 2030 all new cars and vans sold in Ireland will be zero-emissions capable. By 2030 it is envisaged that the movement in Ireland to electrically-fuelled cars and commuter rail will be well underway, with natural gas and biofuels developing as major alternatives in the freight and bus sectors. 	<p>This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce overall travel demand Maximise the efficiency of the transport network Reduce reliance on fossil fuels Reduce transport emissions Improve accessibility to transport <p>These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021	The Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021 sets out actions that the Tourism Leadership Group has identified as priorities to be progressed until 2021 in order to maintain sustainable growth in overseas tourism revenue and employment. Each action involves specific tourism stakeholders, both in the public and private sectors, all of whom we expect to proactively work towards the completion of actions within the specified timeframe.	<p>The Plan contains 27 actions focusing on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy Context Marketing Ireland as a Visitor Destination Enhancing the Visitor Experience Research in the Irish Tourism Sector Supporting Local Communities in Tourism Wider Government Policy International Context Co-ordination Structures 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025	The main goal of this policy statement is to have a vibrant, attractive tourism sector that makes a significant contribution to employment across the country; is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable; helps promote a positive image of Ireland overseas, and is a sector in which people want to work.	<p>The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overseas tourism revenue of €5 billion per year net of inflation excluding carrier receipts; 250,000 people employed in tourism; and 10 million overseas visitors to Ireland per year. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE)	Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2009/28/EC: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.	<p>Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.</p> <p>Methodology: Development of the Policy and Development Framework is to be informed by the carrying out of an SEA, including widespread consultation with stakeholders and public, and with AA under the Habitats Directive.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DITAS) 2017- 2030	This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.	<p>Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFV forecasts Electricity targets Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets Hydrogen targets Biofuels targets LPG targets Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
People Place and Policy - Growing Tourism to 2025, (DITAS, 2014)	Growing Tourism to 2025 is a policy framework for the development of tourism within the Country.	<p>The framework establishes the overall tourism goal of Government;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment in the tourism sector will be 250,000 by 2025, compared with around 200,000 at present. There will be 10 million visits to Ireland annually by 2025. <p>The Government's ambition is that overseas tourism revenue will reach €5 billion in real terms by 2025.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and

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Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan 2016-2020	The overarching aim of the Plan is to: <i>"Identify and protect the unique waterways heritage and promote its sustainable use for the enjoyment of this and future generations"</i> .	Four objectives of the Plan include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective 1: Fostering partnerships to continue building waterway heritage knowledge through storing information, undertaking research and developing best practice. Objective 2: Promoting awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of our waterway heritage with a focus on community engagement. Objective 3: Promoting the integrated management, conservation, protection and sustainable use of the inland navigable waterway asset. Objective 4: To develop Waterways Ireland as a heritage organisation committed to achieving the aim of this plan. 	cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Development and Innovation – A strategy for Investment 2016-2022, (Fáilte Ireland, 2016)	This strategy sets out the framework and mechanism for the delivery of investment to cities, towns, villages, communities and businesses across the country. It identifies priorities to support innovation in the sector to retain and grow the country's competitiveness in the marketplace. Its ultimate aim is to strengthen the appeal of Ireland for international visitors.	The objectives of the Tourism Development and Innovation Strategy are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To successfully and consistently deliver a world class visitor experience; To support a tourism sector that is profitable and achieves sustainable levels of growth and delivers jobs; To facilitate communities to play an enhanced role in developing tourism in their locality, thereby strengthening and enriching local communities; and To recognise, value and enhance Ireland's natural environment as the cornerstone of Irish tourism. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Marine Planning Development Management Bill (General Scheme), 2019	The Bill seeks to establish in law a completely new regime for the maritime area which will replace existing State and development consent regimes and streamline arrangements on the basis of a single consent principle.	One of the aims is to establish a legal basis for An Bord Pleanála and coastal local authorities to consent to development in the maritime area, while retaining existing foreshore and planning permission provisions for aquaculture and sea fisheries related development. It will also provide for a single environmental impact assessment (EIA) and a single appropriate assessment (AA), where applicable.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Aquaculture Acts 1997 to 2006 : (Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 (8/2006), s. 1(3)) Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997 (23/1997) Fisheries and Foreshore (Amendment) Act 1998 (54/1998), ss. 2, 3 and 4 Fisheries (Amendment) Act 2001 (40/2001) Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 (8/2006)	The Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division ensures the efficient and effective management of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing in respect of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities.	The Strategic Objectives of the Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to develop and manage an efficient and effective regulatory framework in respect of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities; to secure a fair financial return from the State's foreshore estate in the context of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing in respect of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities; to progressively reduce arrears in the clearing of licence applications.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Foreshore Acts 1933 to 2011	The Foreshore Acts require that a lease or licence must be obtained from the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government for the carrying out of works or placing structures or material on, or for the occupation of or removal of material from, State-owned foreshore, which represents the greater part of the foreshore. Construction of permanent structures on privately owned foreshore also required the prior permission of the Minister under the Foreshore Act.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developments on the foreshore require planning permission in addition to a Foreshore Lease/Licence/Permission. All Foreshore Leases, Licences Permissions are without prejudice to the powers of the local planning authority. Applicants should, therefore, consult initially with the local planning authority regarding their proposal. In the case of developments on foreshore for, by or on behalf of a Local Authority where an EIS is required, applications should be made to An Bord Pleanála under Part XV, Planning and Development Act 2000. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Appropriate Assessment of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p>National Seafood Programme (2014-2020) Operational</p>	<p>The Operational Programme (OP) supported by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) in Ireland aims at achieving key national development priorities along with the EU's "Europe 2020" objectives. The OP supports the general reform of the EU's Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and the development of its Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) in Ireland.</p> <p>The OP strategy is designed around the Irish national priorities in the agri-food sector: 'Act Smart' by encouraging knowledge and innovation, 'Think Green' through a responsible and sustainable use of resources, 'Achieve Growth' in order to maintain and create jobs.</p>	<p>The Irish OP is organised around the following priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Union Priority 1 (UP1): €67 million (28% of the total allocation) aim at assuring the sustainable development of fishing activities, while protecting the marine environment. • Union Priority 2 (UP2): €30 million (12% of the total allocation) will support the Irish National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture that aims at boosting the competitiveness of the aquaculture sector. • Union Priority 3 (UP3): €84.8 million (35.4% of the total allocation) will go towards compliance with CFP rules regarding control and data collection. • Union Priority 4 (UP4): €12 million (5% of the total allocation) will support local development initiatives — a substantial, eleven-fold increase compared to the 2007-2013 funding period. • Union Priority 5 (UP5): €33 million (13.8% of the total allocation) will go towards creating scale in the Irish marketing and processing sectors, starting from the base of very small-scale businesses. • Union Priority 6 (UP6): €10.6 million (4% of the total allocation) will be used on measures to improve the knowledge on the state of the marine environment and the level of protection of marine areas. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth: An Integrated Marine Plan for Ireland 2012</p>	<p>Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth is an Integrated Marine Plan (IMP), setting out a roadmap for the Government's vision, high-level goals and integrated actions across policy, governance and business to enable our marine potential to be realised. Implementation of this Plan will see Ireland evolve an integrated system of policy and programme planning for our marine affairs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable economic growth of marine/ maritime sectors; • Increase the contribution to the national GDP; • Deliver a business friendly yet robust governance, policy and planning framework; • Protect and conserve our rich marine biodiversity and ecosystems; • Manage our living and non-living resources in harmony with the ecosystem; • Implement and comply with environmental legislation; • Building on our maritime heritage, strengthen our maritime identity; • Increase our awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits; and • Engagement and participation by all. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Regional/ County/Local Level			
<p>Eastern and Midland Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy 2019-2031</p>	<p>The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy provides a long-term strategic planning and economic framework for the Eastern and Midlands Region in order to support the implementation of the National Planning Framework.</p>	<p>The Eastern and Midland Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its 12 constituent local authorities: Fingal County Council; Dublin City Council; South Dublin County Council; Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council; Louth County Council; Kildare County Council; Meath County Council; Wicklow County Council; Longford County Council; Laois County Council; Offaly County Council; and Westmeath County Council.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Integrated Implementation Plan 2019-2024</p>	<p>The Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035, which established an overall framework for transport investment over the next two decades and was subject to full SEA and Stage 2 AA, is a key policy shaping the six-year Integrated Infrastructure Plan. The priorities in the Integrated Infrastructure Plan align with the objectives and priorities set out in the Transport Strategy, focused on improving public and sustainable transport.</p>	<p>The Implementation Plan identifies investment proposals for a number of areas including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus • Light Rail; • Heavy Rail; • Integration Measures and Sustainable Transport Investment; • Integrated Service Plan; and • Integration and Accessibility. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Greater Dublin Area (GDA) Transport Strategy (2016-2035)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Strategy sets out how transport will be developed across the Greater Dublin Area, covering Dublin, Meath, Wicklow and Kildare. • Vision Statement: "The GDA by 2022 is an economically vibrant, active and sustainable international Gateway Region, with strong connectivity across the GDA Region, nationally and worldwide; a region which fosters communities living in attractive, accessible places well supported by 	<p>Core principles deriving from the strategic vision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dublin as the capital city of Ireland and a major European centre shall grow and progress, competing with other cities in the EU, and serving a wide range of international, national, regional and local needs. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and</p>

Appropriate Assessment of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	<p>community infrastructure and enjoying high quality leisure facilities; and promotes and protects across the GDA green corridors, active agricultural lands and protected natural areas.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full SEA and Stage 2 AA have been undertaken on this Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Dublin and Mid-East Regions will be attractive, vibrant locations for industry, commerce, recreation and tourism and will be a major focus for economic growth within the Country. • The GDA, through its ports and airport connections will continue to be the most important entry/exit point for the country as a whole, and as a Gateway between the European Union and the rest of the World. Access to and through the GDA will continue to be a matter of national importance. • Development in the GDA shall be directly related to investment in integrated high-quality public transport services and focused on compact urban form. • Development within the existing urban footprint of the Metropolitan Area will be consolidated to achieve a more compact urban form • Development in the Hinterland Area will be focused on the high-quality integrated growth and consolidation of development in key identified towns, separated from each other by extensive areas of strategic green belt land devoted to agriculture and similar uses. 	<p>cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the quality of waters covered by the plan is maintained. • Maintain and improve the quantity and quality of water included in the Plan scope. 	<p>Aims to identify and determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Urban Cycle Network at the Primary, Secondary and Feeder level. • The Inter-Urban Cycle Network linking the relevant sections of the Urban Network including the elements of the National Cycle Network within the Greater Dublin Area including linkages to key transport locations outside of urban areas such as airports and ports. • The Green Route Network being cycle routes for development of tourist, recreational and leisure purposes. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs</p>	<p>Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site • To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest • To describe the site and its management • To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site • To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation objectives for SACs and SPAs (i.e. sites within the Natura 2000 network) have to be set for the habitats and species for which the sites are selected. • These objectives are used when carrying out appropriate assessments for plans and projects that might impact on these sites. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Groundwater Protection Schemes</p>	<p>A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Groundwater Protection Scheme aims to maintain the quantity and quality of groundwater, and in some cases improve it, by applying a risk assessment-based approach to groundwater protection and sustainable development. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs), including the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown LECP 2016-2021</p>	<p>The overarching vision for each LECP is: “to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of the LECP, as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development of the relevant local authority area, both by itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Appropriate Assessment of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Land Use Plans in force within Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and in other adjoining planning authorities. This includes Development Plans³⁶, Local Area Plans³⁷ and Planning Schemes³⁸	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline planning objectives for land use development. Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies. Set out the policies and proposals to guide development in the specific Local Authority area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify future infrastructure, development and zoning required. Protect and enhances amenities and environment. Guide planning authority in assessing proposals. Aim to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development. Aim to promote sustainable development. Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Biodiversity Plan 2009-2013	Aims to protect, conserve, enhance and restore heritage, biodiversity and ecosystem services across all spectrums.	Plan's objectives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> gathering information on the biodiversity resource managing the resource education and awareness cooperation to achieve objectives 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Tree Strategy 2011-2015	It aims to standardise and guide the Council's approach to trees throughout the county, provide clarity to actions and decisions, and encourage the balanced consideration of individual expectations, public amenity and best practice.	The tree strategy has four overall aims, each with a series of objectives. Specific actions and timescales will be developed on a cyclical basis so that progress can be measured: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and Care for our trees Plant more trees, in the right place Promote education and awareness of trees Cooperate and engage 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Heritage Plan 2013-2019	The Plan's overarching aim is 'Contributing towards quality of life'.	The Plan details a number of actions and initiatives aimed at ensuring that heritage continues to make a significant contribution to quality of life and remains an important part of the social and cultural infrastructure of the County.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
County Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Character Assessment	Characterises the geographical dimension of the landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area. Guides strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Eastern and Midlands Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021	These plans give effect to national and EU waste policy, and address waste prevention and management (including generation, collection and treatment) over the period 2015-2021.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To manage wastes in a safe and compliant manner, a clear strategy, policies and actions are required. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and

³⁶ Including Development Plans for Counties Wicklow and South Dublin.

³⁷ Including Local Area Plans for Ballyogan and Environs and Stillorgan.

³⁸ There is one Planning Scheme in force in the Plan area, for Cherrywood. The Scheme was approved in 2014 and has been amended since. The front-loading of significant transport and social infrastructure (parks and schools) outlined in the Planning Scheme will ensure that the area to which the Scheme relates will be transformed into a new vibrant community.

Appropriate Assessment of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan 2018-2023	Noise Action Plans are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, Statutory Instrument 140 of 2006. These Regulations give effect to the EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. This Directive sets out a process for managing environmental noise in a consistent manner across the EU and the Noise Regulations set out the approach to meeting the requirements of the Directive in Ireland.	The main purpose of Noise Action Plans is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures which may be considered to address noise problems Address strategic noise issues by requiring competent authorities to draw up action plans to manage noise issues and their effects Reduce noise, where possible, and maintain the environmental acoustic quality where it is good 	cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024	Respond to the impact that climate change is having, and will continue to have. Attempt to climate change adaptation and mitigation.	The Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 features a range of actions across sectors including: Energy and Buildings; Flood Relief and Resilience; Transport; Resource Management; Coastal Protection and nature-based solutions; and Communities. The four main targets of the Plan are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make Dublin a climate-resilient region by reducing the impacts of future climate change-related events; • Actively engage and inform our citizens on climate change; • 33% improvement in the Council's energy efficiency by 2020; and • 40% reduction in the Council's greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Tourism Strategy and Marketing Plan 2017-2022	The Vision for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown as a tourism destination is: <i>"A highly attractive and accessible tourism destination, steeped in culture and maritime heritage, combining a breath-taking coast, inviting villages and towns, and Dublin Mountains adventures, delivering memorable and distinct experiences for visitors."</i>	The Strategy is underpinned by five strategic objectives each supported by a number of proposals to enable each of the objectives to be realised.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Fáilte Ireland Tourism plans, strategies, including those relating to the Ireland's Ancient East and Dublin: A Breath of Fresh Air/Come Here To Me Dublin brands	Fáilte Ireland's work includes preparing various plans and strategies for Ireland's Hidden Heartlands, the Wild Atlantic Way, Ireland's Ancient East and other brands and initiatives. These plans are subject to their own environmental assessment processes and any project arising is required to be consistent with and conform with the provisions of all adopted/approved Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes, including provisions for the protection and management of the environment.	Some of Fáilte Ireland's plans and strategies include various projects relating to land use and infrastructural development, including those relating to development of land or on land and the carrying out of land use activities. Many of these projects exist already while some are not currently in existence. The Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes that provide for different projects undergo a variety of environmental assessments. These assessments ensure that environmental effects are considered, including: those arising from new and intensified uses and activities; and those arising from various sectors such as tourism.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Various existing, planned and emerging projects provided for by the above plans and programmes	These projects have been provided for by higher-level plans and programmes.	These projects will contribute towards the development of the area to which the Plan relates and/or wider area and will contribute towards environmental protection and management.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 4.3.1) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

