NATURA IMPACT REPORT

IN SUPPORT OF THE
APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

FOR THE

DRAFT
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 Natura Impact Report (NIR) has been prepared in support of the Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Draft 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”).

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, when Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council finalises the AA at adoption of the Plan.

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 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 literature 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).

In addition to being informed by these reports, the Natura impact Report was also informed by the Council’s new Draft County Development Plan 2022-2028 and accompanying the SEA Environmental Report and the Council’s current County Development Plan 2016-2022 and associated SEA Environmental Report and AA Natura Impact Report.

All of these data sources are likely to be useful for AAs that must be undertaken for lower-tier plans/projects under the Plan.

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:

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1 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.
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).

The assessment of potential effects on European Sites is conducted following a standard source-pathway-receptor2 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:

- "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

The scope of the AA was informed by the submissions received on the scope of the accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment3 (SEA) process being undertaken on the Draft Plan, including a submission from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht that provided various information and suggestions relevant to the AA.

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2 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.

3 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme before a decision is made to adopt it.
Section 2 Description of the Draft Plan

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 and Recreation
- Chapter 10: Environmental Infrastructure
- Chapter 11: Heritage
- 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, 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.
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 habitat\(^4\) or species\(^5\) 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 hydrological 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:


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\(^4\) 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.

\(^5\) 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.

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.
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 cliffs. 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.

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.

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6 The Dalkey Islands Conservation Plan 2014-2024
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 Loughlinstown 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 Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waterbody Name (EPA Identification Code)</th>
<th>Waterbody Type</th>
<th>WFD Surface Waterbody Status (2013-2018)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kill of the Grange Stream_010</td>
<td>River</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrickmines Stream_010</td>
<td>River</td>
<td>Moderate. This waterbody is identified to be under pressure from urban run-off sources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dargle_030</td>
<td>River</td>
<td>Moderate. This waterbody is identified to be under pressure from urban wastewater sources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dodder_050</td>
<td>River</td>
<td>Moderate. This waterbody is identified to be under pressure from hydromorphological, urban run-off and urban wastewater sources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwestern Irish Sea - Killiney Bay (HA10)</td>
<td>Coastal</td>
<td>Moderate. No pressures identified.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: [https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/](https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/) and [https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/Water](https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/Water).

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’.

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 Draft 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 Draft 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Code</th>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Distance (km)</th>
<th>Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interest and Special Conservation Interests)</th>
<th>Potential Effects</th>
<th>Pathway for Significant Effects</th>
<th>Potential for In-Combination Effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>000210</td>
<td>South Dublin Bay SAC</td>
<td>Within</td>
<td>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 (Embryonic shifting dunes) [2110]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000713</td>
<td>Ballym Half SAC</td>
<td>Within</td>
<td>Alkaline fens [7230], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000725</td>
<td>Knocktsink Wood SAC</td>
<td>Within</td>
<td>Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>002122</td>
<td>Wicklow Mountains SAC</td>
<td>Within</td>
<td>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030], Western acidic oak woodland ([Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Bieldun in the British Isles] [91A0], Calcareous rocky slopes with xeromorphic vegetation [8210], Siliceous rocky slopes with xeromorphic vegetation [8220], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androscapetalia alpina and Galiopeetalia ladani) [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 siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in Continental Europe) [6230], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1351], Continental Europe) [6230], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1351], Oligotrophic lakes containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androscapetalia alpina and Galiopeetalia ladani) [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 siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in Continental Europe) [6230], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1351]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>003000</td>
<td>Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC</td>
<td>Within</td>
<td>Reefs [1170], Harbour porpoise (Phocoena phocoena) [1351]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004024</td>
<td>South Dunl by and River Tolka Estuary SPA</td>
<td>Within</td>
<td>Eurasian oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130], Great crested grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005], Great cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Bar-tailed godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Arctic tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A193], Roseate tern (Sterna dougallii) [A192], Ringed plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Mew gull (Larus canus) [A182], Ruddy turnstone ( Arenaria interpres) [A169], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Sandeering (Calidris alba) [A194], Mediterranean gull (Larus melanocephalus) [A176], Common redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Grey plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Red knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Red-breasted merganser (Mergus serrator) [A089], Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus) [A179]</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>004040</td>
<td>Wicklow Mountains SPA</td>
<td>Within</td>
<td>Peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus) [A103], Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098], Wood warbler (Phylloscopus sibilatrix) [A314]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004172</td>
<td>Dalkey Islands SPA</td>
<td>Within</td>
<td>Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Roseate tern (Sterna dougallii) [A192], Arctic tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A194]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Code</td>
<td>Site Name</td>
<td>Distance (km)</td>
<td>Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interest and Special Conservation Interests)</td>
<td>Potential Effects (refer also to Sections 3.5.2 and 3.5.3 above)</td>
<td>Pathway for Significant Effects</td>
<td>Potential for In-Combination Effects</td>
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<tr>
<td>000714</td>
<td>Bray Head SAC</td>
<td>1.76</td>
<td>Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230], European dry heaths [4030]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>001209</td>
<td>Glenasmole Valley SAC</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuca-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A168], Eurasian wigeon (Anas penelope) [A056], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A085], Grey plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Red-breasted merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069], Common shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A08], Northern spoonbill (Anas clypeata) [A056], Northern pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Ruddy turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Mew gull (Larus canus) [A182], Common greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Short-eared owl (Asio flammeus) [A222], Common redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Bar-tailed godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus) [A179]</td>
<td>The SAC is designated for terrestrial coastal 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.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004006</td>
<td>North Bull Island SPA</td>
<td>4.69</td>
<td>Ruff (Philomachus pugnax) [A151], Eurasian oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130], Ringed plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144], Eurasian teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Red knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], European golden plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A168], Eurasian wigeon (Anas penelope) [A056], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A085], Grey plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Red-breasted merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069], Common shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A08], Northern spoonbill (Anas clypeata) [A056], Northern pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Ruddy turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Mew gull (Larus canus) [A182], Common greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Short-eared owl (Asio flammeus) [A222], Common redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Bar-tailed godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus) [A179]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000206</td>
<td>North Dublin Bay SAC</td>
<td>4.72</td>
<td>Petalwort (Petalophyllum raffsii) [1395], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (&quot;grey dunes&quot;) [2130], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Atlantic salt meadows (Atlantic salt marshes) (Glaucoc-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Shifting dunes (Embryonic shifting dunes) [2110], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (&quot;white dunes&quot;) [2120], Humid dune slacks [2190]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000719</td>
<td>Glen of the Downs SAC</td>
<td>6.12</td>
<td>Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles) [91A0]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000202</td>
<td>Howth Head SAC</td>
<td>7.15</td>
<td>European dry heaths [4030], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004113</td>
<td>Howth Head Coast SPA</td>
<td>8.13</td>
<td>Black-legged kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188], Common guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199], Peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus) [A103], Northern fulmar (Pulmarus gladius) [A009], Razorbill (Alca toro) [A200]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Code</td>
<td>Site Name</td>
<td>Distance (km)</td>
<td>Qualifying Feature</td>
<td>Potential Effects</td>
<td>Pathway for Significant Effects</td>
<td>Potential for In-Combination Effects</td>
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<tr>
<td>000199</td>
<td>Baldoyle  Bay SAC</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>Atlantic salt meadows ([<em>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</em>]) ([1330], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand ([1310]), Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide ([1140]))</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004016</td>
<td>Baldoyle  Bay SPA</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>Northern lapwing (<em>Vanellus vanellus</em>) [A142], Mallard (<em>Anas platyrhynchos</em>) [A053], Red-breasted merganser (<em>Mergus serrator</em>) [A069], Ringed plover (<em>Charadrius hiaticula</em>) [A137], Eurasian oystercatcher (<em>Haematopus ostralegus</em>) [A130], Sanderling (<em>Calidris alba</em>) [A144], Eurasian teal (<em>Anas crecca</em>) [A052], Grey knot (<em>Calidris canutus</em>) [A143], Bar-tailed godwit (<em>Limosa lapponica</em>) [A157], Common redshank (<em>Tringa totanus</em>) [A162], Northern pintail (<em>Anas acuta</em>) [A054], Ruddy turnstone (<em>Arenaria interpres</em>) [A169], Grey plover (<em>Pluvialis squatarola</em>) [A141], Common shelduck (<em>Tadorna tadorna</em>) [A048], European golden plover (<em>Pluvialis apricaria</em>) [A140], Eurasian curlew (<em>Numenius arquata</em>) [A160], Great crested grebe (<em>Podiceps cristatus</em>) [A065], Common greenshank (<em>Tringa nebularia</em>) [A164]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000716</td>
<td>Carrigower  Bog SAC</td>
<td>10.14</td>
<td>Transition mires and quaking bogs ([7146])</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>002249</td>
<td>The Murrough  Wetlands SAC</td>
<td>10.92</td>
<td>Calcareous fens with <em>Cladium mariscus</em> and species of the <em>Canon davallianae</em> ([7210], Annual vegetation of drift lines ([1120]), Alkaline fens ([7230], Atlantic salt meadows ([<em>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</em>]) ([1330], Perennial vegetation of stony banks ([1220]),</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004117</td>
<td>Ireland’s  Eye SPA</td>
<td>11.23</td>
<td>Great cormorant (<em>Phalacrocorax carbo</em>) [A017], Northern fulmar (<em>Fulmarus glacialis</em>) [A009], Atlantic puffin (<em>Fratercula arctica</em>) [A204], Razorbill (<em>Alca torda</em>) [A200], Black-legged kittiwake (<em>Rissa tridactyla</em>) [A188], Northern gannet (<em>Morus bassanus</em>) [A016], Common guillemot (<em>Uria aalge</em>) [A199], Peregrine falcon (<em>Falco peregrinus</em>) [A003]</td>
<td>The SCI species for this site are sensitive to localised effects such as disturbance and land use management. These habitats identified as being cliff-top 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.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>002193</td>
<td>Ireland’s  Eye SAC</td>
<td>11.61</td>
<td>Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts ([1230], Perennial vegetation of stony banks ([1220])</td>
<td>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 cliff-top 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.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004186</td>
<td>The Murrough  SPA</td>
<td>11.87</td>
<td>Common redshank (<em>Tringa totanus</em>) [A162], Back-headed gull (<em>Larus ridibundus</em>) [A179], Northern lapwing (<em>Vanellus vanellus</em>) [A142], Mallard (<em>Anas platyrhynchos</em>) [A053], Short-eared owl (<em>Asio flammeus</em>) [A222], Common greenshank (<em>Tringa nebularia</em>) [A164], Herring gull (<em>Larus argentatus</em>) [A184], Greylag goose (<em>Anser anser</em>) [A043], Little tern (<em>Sternula albifrons</em>) [A195], Eurasian wigeon (<em>Anas penelope</em>) [A050], Eurasian curlew (<em>Numenius arquata</em>) [A160], Ringed plover (<em>Charadrius hiaticula</em>) [A137], Whooper swan (<em>Cygnus cygnus</em>) [A038], Ruddy turnstone (<em>Arenaria interpres</em>) [A169], Sandwich tern (<em>Sternula sandvicensis</em>) [A191], Greylag goose (<em>Anser anser</em>) [A043], European golden plover (<em>Pluvialis apricaria</em>) [A140], Little egret (<em>Egretta garzetta</em>) [A026], Ruff (<em>Philomachus pugnax</em>) [A151], Great cormorant (<em>Phalacrocorax carbo</em>) [A017], Greenland white-fronted goose (<em>Anser albifrons flavirostris</em>) [A395], Northern shoveler (<em>Anas clypeata</em>) [A056], Red-throated diver (<em>Gavia stellata</em>) [A001], Gadwall (<em>Anas strepera</em>) [A051], Eurasian teal (<em>Anas crecca</em>) [A052], Common shelduck (<em>Tadorna tadorna</em>) [A048]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Code</td>
<td>Site Name</td>
<td>Distance (km)</td>
<td>Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interest and Special Conservation Interests)</td>
<td>Potential Effects (refer also to Sections 3.5.2 and 3.5.3 above)</td>
<td>Pathway for Significant Effects</td>
<td>Potential for In-Combination Effects</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>004063</td>
<td>Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA</td>
<td>13.24</td>
<td>Great crested grebe (<em>Podiceps cristatus</em>); Eurasian teal (<em>Anas crecca</em>); Greylag goose (<em>Anser anser</em>); Mallard (<em>Anas platyrhynchos</em>); Greylag goose (<em>Anser anser</em>); Black-headed gull (<em>Larus ridibundus</em>); Eurasian curlew (<em>Numenius arquata</em>); Eurasian wigeon (<em>Anas penelope</em>); Great cormorant (<em>Phalacrocorax carbo</em>)</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000205</td>
<td>Malahide Estuary SAC</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>Cord-grass swards (<em>Spartina</em>); Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <em>Ammophila arenaria</em> (white dunes); Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand; <em>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</em>; Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (<em>grey dunes</em>)</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 Draft 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 RSE 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 RSE 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 Draft 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: [Signature]

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 website11.

4.3 Identifying and Characterising Potential Significant Effects

The following parameters can be used when characterising impacts12:

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 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 approach.

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 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

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13 Including: Any development proposals for sites designated as, or immediately adjacent to, a pHHA, 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 legalisation 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 6.7.1.5 Policy Objective GIB2).

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.
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 though 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 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.

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 2019. 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 Network14) 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 will 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 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

14 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.
- 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.
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 Environ 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 Sites and Policy Objective GIB22: Non-Designated Areas of Biodiversity Importance.

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).

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15 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.”

16 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 Plans17, EI8: Groundwater Protection and Appropriate Assessment18 and EI11: Rathmichael Groundwater and Surface Water Protection19 and Special Local Objective 9320.

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.

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17 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 Brockley 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.”

18 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).

19 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).

20 To refuse planning permission for any new developments, which include on-site wastewater treatment facilities within this catchment, until the groundwater issues in the area are resolved or ameliorated.
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 Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Code</th>
<th>Site Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>000210</td>
<td>South Dublin Bay SAC</td>
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</tbody>
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The known threats to this site are pathways, tracks, cycling tracks, changes in abiotic conditions, discharges, accumulation of organic material, roads, motorways, biocentric evolution, succession, bait digging or collection, urbanised areas, human habitation, reclamations of land from sea, estuary or marsh, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, industrial or commercial areas, non-motorised nautical sports, marine water pollution and nautical sports.

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.

For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>000713</th>
<th>Ballyman Glen SAC</th>
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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.

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.

For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.

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<tr>
<th>000716</th>
<th>Carrigower Bog SAC</th>
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The known threats to this site are abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, landfill, land reclamations 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.

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.

For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>000725</th>
<th>Knockesink Wood SAC</th>
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</table>

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.

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.

For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>002122</th>
<th>Wicklow Mountains SAC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

The known threats to this site are stock feeding, grazing in forests or woodland, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, mountaining, 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.

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.

For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.

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21 For qualifying features for each European Site (QIs and SCIs), please refer to Table 3.2
22 Inferred by, inter alia, The Status of Protected EU Habitats and Species in Ireland, Overview Volume 1 (NPWS, 2019).
23 Refer to Section 5 for Policy Objectives
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Code</th>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Characterisation of Potential Effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>002249</td>
<td>The Murrough Wetlands SAC</td>
<td>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 &amp; marine currents), sea defence or coast protection works, tidal barrages, paths, tracks, cycling tracks and sand and gravel extraction. 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. The Plan introduces no sources for effects in relation to tidal defence works within the SAC. For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>003000</td>
<td>Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC</td>
<td>The known threats to this site are discharges, noise nuisance, noise pollution, silting rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, utility and service lines, professional active fishing, removal of sediments and shipping lanes. 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. No 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. For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004006</td>
<td>North Bull Island SPA</td>
<td>The known threats to this site are discharges, bridge, vladuct, 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. 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. No 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. For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004016</td>
<td>Baldoyle Bay SPA</td>
<td>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, reclamion of land from sea, estuary or marsh and invasive non-native species. 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. No 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. For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004024</td>
<td>Sandymount Strand/Tolka Estuary SPA</td>
<td>The known threats to this site are nautical sports, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, eutrophisation (natural), reclamion 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. 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. No 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. For further details in relation to mitigation measures incorporated into the Plan please refer to Section 5 below.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Code</td>
<td>Site Name</td>
<td>Characterisation of Potential Effects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004060</td>
<td>Wicklow Mountains SPA</td>
<td>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. 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004062</td>
<td>Poulnabac Reservoir SPA</td>
<td>The known threats to this site are hunting, nautical sports, forest planting on open ground, leisure fishing, bridge and viaduct. 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004113</td>
<td>Howth Head Coast SPA</td>
<td>The known threats to this site are fire and fire suppression, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles. 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004117</td>
<td>Ireland's Eye SPA</td>
<td>The known threats to this site are walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles and leisure fishing. 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004172</td>
<td>Dalkey Islands SPA</td>
<td>The known threats to this site are nautical sports, urbanised areas, human habitation, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles and grazing. 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004186</td>
<td>The Murrough SPA</td>
<td>The known threats to this site are walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, railway lines and fertilisation. 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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Section 5 Mitigation Measures

This section outlines measures that have been incorporated into the Draft 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.

### Table 5.1 Mitigation Measures that will protect European sites\(^{24}\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 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 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. |
| 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 combined road across the County Brook Valley 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 | Requirements under Chapter 12: Development Management, including those under the headings of:  
Impacts on the Environment  
- Environmental Impact Assessment  
- Appropriate Assessment  
- Ecological Impact Assessment  
Environmental Infrastructure  
- Air Pollution  
- Noise Pollution  
- Noise, Odour and Vibration Generating Uses  
- 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 |

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\(^{24}\) 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.

\(^{25}\) 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 23: Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:

Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:

- Drainage and Water Supply
- Flood Risk Management
- Coastal Issues - Erosion/Flooding/Recreation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Biodiversity and flora and fauna</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affecting</td>
<td>Arising from both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of</td>
<td>• Loss of/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;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitat</td>
<td>• Habitat loss, fragmentation and deterioration, including patch size and edge effects; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noise</td>
<td>• Disturbance (e.g. due to noise and lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species such as birds and bats.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See also assessment under Section 4 of this AA Natura Impact Report.

Policy Objective CSB - 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.

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.

Policy Objective GIB7: National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF)

It is a Policy Objective to support the policies and objectives as appropriate and relevant of the forthcoming National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF), with respect to the conservation, management, and protection for a sustainable future for the marine area.

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.

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.

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 Conservation (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.

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.

Policy Objective GIB20: Biodiversity Plan

It is a Policy Objective to support the provisions of the forthcoming DLR County Biodiversity Action Plan, 2021 – 2026.

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.

Policy Objective GIB22: Non-Designated Areas of Biodiversity Importance

It is a Policy Objective to 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, 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).

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.

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.

Policy Objective GIB25: Hedgerows

It is a Policy Objective to retain and protect hedgerows in the County from development, which would impact adversely upon them. 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.

Policy Objective GIB26: Geological Sites

It is a Policy Objective to promote, preserve and protect 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.

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

Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:

25

Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:

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 provisions of the European Communities Birds and Habitats Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477/2011).

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.

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

Policy Objective OSR8: Greenways and Blueways Network:
(consistent with NPO 62 of the NPF).

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. These play facilities will also seek to maximise inclusivity and accessibility, to ensure that the needs of all age groups and abilities -

Policy Objective EI1: Sustainable Management of Water
It is a Policy Objective to work with Irish Water:
• 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 • 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 • 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
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).

Special Local Objective SLO18
To promote the development of the Dublin Bay Trail as a component part of the National East Coast Trail Cycle Route up to the boundary with Co. Wicklow. 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 pNHAs in Dublin Bay and the surrounding area.

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. - To provide an open seawater pool as a part of any future 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.

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 and the celebration of the first suburban rail line. Any proposals shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive.

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

Component: Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:

- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Appropriate Assessment
- Ecological Impact Assessment
- Green Infrastructure
- Sensitive Landscapes and Site Features
- High Amenity Landscapes, Views and Prospects
- Conservation of Aquatic Habitats, Rivers and Waterways
- Principle 6 of the Habitats Directive
- Coastal Zonal Plan
- Development Management

Requirements under Chapter 12: Development Management, including:

- Requirements under Plan Sections 12.9.4 to 12.9.6
- References to the protection of European sites/Appropriate Assessment or the Habitats Directive in the detailed text under:
  - 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

Requirements under Chapter 13: Land Use Zoning Objectives, under the heading of Appropriate Assessment

- Population and Human Health

Also see measures under other environmental components including Soil, Water and Air and Climatic Factors.
### Component 23

**Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:**

- Policy Objective EI25: Coastal Defence
  - 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 implement and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Defence Strategy (2010) for the County where feasible.

- Coastal Protection
  - Policy Objective EI125: Coastal Defence
    - 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 implement and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Defence Strategy (2010) for the County where feasible.

- Water
  - 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).

- Air and Climatic Factors
  - 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.

### Component 24

**Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:**

- 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.

- 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.

- 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.

### Component 25

**Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:**

- Soil
  - Policy Objective EI125: Coastal Defence
    - 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 implement and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Defence Strategy (2010) for the County where feasible.

- Water
  - Policy Objective EI125: Coastal Defence
    - 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 implement and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Defence Strategy (2010) for the County where feasible.

- Air and Climatic Factors
  - 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.

### Component 26

**Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:**

- 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.

- 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.

- 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.

### Component 27

**Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:**

- Soil
  - Policy Objective EI125: Coastal Defence
    - 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 implement and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Defence Strategy (2010) for the County where feasible.

- Water
  - Policy Objective EI125: Coastal Defence
    - 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 implement and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Defence Strategy (2010) for the County where feasible.

- Air and Climatic Factors
  - 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.

### Component 28

**Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:**

- Soil
  - Policy Objective EI125: Coastal Defence
    - 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 implement and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Defence Strategy (2010) for the County where feasible.

- Water
  - Policy Objective EI125: Coastal Defence
    - 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 implement and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Defence Strategy (2010) for the County where feasible.

- Air and Climatic Factors
  - 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.
Appropriate Assessment of the Draft Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028

Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:

Policy Objective CA3: 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. (Policy Objective CA3: Measuring Greenhouse Gas Impacts (QLadSP), 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.

Policy Objective CA4: Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 (DLR CCAP)
It is a Policy Objective to implement the Dún-Laoighaire Rathdown County Council Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 (DLR CCAP) and to transition to a climate resilient low carbon County.

Policy Objective EI1: Sustainable Management of Water
It is a Policy Objective to work with Irish Water:
• 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. (Policy Objective EI1: Sustainable Management of Water)

Policy Objective EI3: Wastewater Treatment Systems
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 pollution.

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.

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.

Policy Objective EI13: Waste Management Infrastructure, Prevention, Reduction, Reuse and Recycling
It is a Policy Objective:
• 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.
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Recommended Text Integrated into the Plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ecosystems Services Approach and Natural Capital</td>
<td>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:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Transport and Mobility</td>
<td>8.7.1.2 Policy Objective GIB19: Habitats Directive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Policy Objective CS7 - Ecosystems Services Approach

It is a policy objective to promote an Ecosystem Services Approach in the preparation of lower-level plans, strategies and Development Management.

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 defined 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.

- 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

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:

9 Open Space and Recreation

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.

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.

10 Environmental Infrastructure

Caveats added under Policy Objectives EI7, EI23 and Section 10.2.1.4 to ensure consistency with Habitats Directive and Water Framework Directive.

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:

- 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

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.

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 considerations, 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 development management standards are detailed across Chapters 2-12 and 14.

Table Nos. 13.1.1–13.1.19 list the land use activities most commonly encountered in the County and each is defined at Section 13.1.19 of this chapter. They are intended as a general guideline and the uses listed are not exhaustive. An applicant is advised to consult 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).

14 Specific Local Objectives

SL015 - To provide an open seawater pool as a part of any future 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.

SL016 - 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 and the celebration of the first suburban rail line. 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.

SL017 - 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.
Section 6 Conclusion

Stage 1 AA Screening and Stage 2 AA of the Draft Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan has been carried out. Implementation of the Draft Plan 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 Draft 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 Draft Plan either alone or in-combination with other plans/projects.

Having incorporated mitigation measures, it is concluded that the Draft Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028 is not foreseen to give rise to any significant effects on designated European Sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects27. 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.

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27 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Code</th>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Qualifying Feature</th>
<th>Known Threats and Pressures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>000199</td>
<td>Baldoyle Bay SAC</td>
<td>Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310]. Atlantic salt meadows (Salicornia europaea) [1330].</td>
<td>Invasive non-native species, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Antagonism with domestic animals, Beach damage to property, Cattle grazing, Coastal erosion, Collapsing of salt marsh habitats, Coastal flooding, Erosion, Habitat modification, Intensive horse grazing, Intensive sheep grazing, Intensive urbanisation, Marine water pollution, Peat extraction, Pollution of ground and surface waters due to non-sewered population, Roads, paths and railroads, Stock feeding, Vandalism, Wetland drainage and filling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000202</td>
<td>Howth Head SAC</td>
<td>European dry heaths [4030], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230].</td>
<td>Vandalism, Invasive non-native species, Walking, horse riding 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 pebbles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000206</td>
<td>Malahide Estuary SAC</td>
<td>Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Atlantic salt meadows (Salicornia europaea) [1330], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (&quot;grey dunes&quot;) [2130], Eutrophication non-motorised vehicles, Industrial or commercial areas, Non-motorized nautical sports, Marine water pollution, Nautical sports.</td>
<td>Motorised vehicles, Nautical sports, Hunting, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Golf course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000208</td>
<td>North Dublin SAC</td>
<td>Atlantic salt meadows (Salicornia europaea) [1330], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (&quot;grey dunes&quot;) [2130], Humid dune slacks [2190], Annual vegetation of drift lines [2110].</td>
<td>Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Grazing, Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees,paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Abandonment or lack of mowing, Forestry clearance, Peat extraction, Artificial planting on open ground, Intensive horse grazing, Grazing, Non intensive sheep grazing, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to non-sewered population, Forest replanting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000210</td>
<td>South Dublin SAC</td>
<td>Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Atlantic salt meadows (Salicornia europaea) [1330].</td>
<td>Antagonism with domestic animals, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Grazing, Invasive non-native species, Batt digging or collection, Industrial or commercial areas, Other point source pollution to surface water.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000713</td>
<td>Ballinamna Glen SAC</td>
<td>Petrifying springs with tufta formation ([Cratoneurion] [7220], Alkaline fens [7230].</td>
<td>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, Non-motorised nautical sports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000714</td>
<td>Bray Head SAC</td>
<td>Petrifying sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230], European dry heaths [4030].</td>
<td>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 (succession).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000716</td>
<td>Carrigower Bog SAC</td>
<td>Petrifying springs with tufta formation ([Cratoneurion] [7220], Alkaline fens [7230].</td>
<td>Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Forest planting on open ground, Non intensive sheep grazing, Species composition change (succession), Ecological change (succession).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000719</td>
<td>Glen of the Downs SAC</td>
<td>Western acidic oak woodland, (Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles) [91A0].</td>
<td>Burning down, Golf course, Grazing, Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees, Vandalism, Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, Roads, motorways.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000725</td>
<td>Knockbeg drumlin SAC</td>
<td>Petrifying springs with tufta formation ([Cratoneurion] [7220], Alkaline fens [7230].</td>
<td>Cultivation, Fertilisation, Sand and gravel extraction, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Non-motorised nautical sports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>001209</td>
<td>Glenasmole Valley SAC</td>
<td>Petrifying springs with tufta formation ([Cratoneurion] [7220], Alkaline fens [7230].</td>
<td>Abandonment or lack of mowing, Forestry clearance, Peat extraction, Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), Car parks and paring areas, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Non intensive sheep grazing, Grazing, Non intensive horse grazing, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to non-sewered population, Forest replanting (non-native trees), Forest planting on open ground (native trees).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>001212</td>
<td>Wicklow Mountains SAC</td>
<td>Western acidic oak woodland, (Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles) [91A0].</td>
<td>Stock feeding, Grazing in forests or woodlands, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Mountain engineering, 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 wale or old trees untouched).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CAAS for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
### Known Threats and Pressures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Site Code</th>
<th>Qualifying Feature</th>
<th>Pressures Codes</th>
<th>Known Threats and Pressures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dalkey Island SAC</td>
<td>00030</td>
<td>Rockabill</td>
<td>E03, H01.01, D02.11, D02.02, 002.02, 002.03, X</td>
<td>Discharges, Noise nuisance, noise pollution, Situation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Utility and service lines, Professional active fishing, Removal of sediments (mut.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Bull Island SPA</td>
<td>00006</td>
<td></td>
<td>D01.00, G01.01, G01.02, D01.01, E01.04, D01.02, E01.01, E02</td>
<td>Discharges, Bridge, viaduct, Nautical sports, Golf course, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Interpretative centres, Bait digging or collection, Walking lanes, Other patterns of occupation, Roads, motorways, suburbanisation, Industrial or commercial areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baldyse Bay SPA</td>
<td>00036</td>
<td></td>
<td>G02.01, D02.03, G03.01, F03.01, G02.03.01, G03.02, D02.03, E01, J01.02.01, E01</td>
<td>Golf course, Roads, motorways, Eutrophication (natural), Hunting, Bait digging or collection, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Fertilisation, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Recreation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Invasive non-native species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wicklow Mountains SPA</td>
<td>00040</td>
<td></td>
<td>G03, B, A04, G01.02, C01.03, D01.01</td>
<td>Interpretative centres, Sylviiculture, Forestry, Grazing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Peat extraction, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lough Inagh</td>
<td>00063</td>
<td></td>
<td>F03.01, G01.01, B01, F02.03, D01.02, E01, J01.02.01, E01</td>
<td>Hunting, Nautical sports, Forest planting on open ground, Leisure fishing, Bridge, viaduct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howth Head</td>
<td>00013</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Fire and fire suppression, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalkey Islands SPA</td>
<td>00017</td>
<td></td>
<td>G01.02, F02.03</td>
<td>Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Leisure fishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Murrough SPA</td>
<td>00018</td>
<td></td>
<td>G01.01, E01, G01.02, A04</td>
<td>Nautical sports, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Grazing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Fire and fire suppression, Wildlife watching, Trampling, overuse, Nautical sports, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles | 002139 | Ireland's Eye SAC | Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1220], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Fire and fire suppression, Wildlife watching, Trampling, overuse, Nautical sports, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles |
| The Murrough Wetlands SAC | 002149 | Colleenous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Cattail family [2120], Alkaline fens [2130], Atlantic salt meadows (Glaucoc-Fuscietalia maritimae) [1330], Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Fire and fire suppression, Wildlife watching, Trampling, overuse, Nautical sports, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles | 04A.03, X01, G02.09, G05.01.1, G01.01, G01.02 | Sylviiculture, forestry, Erosion, Deposits of industrial waste, Grazing, Fertilisation, Railway lines, TGV, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Modification of water flow (tidal & marine currents), Sea defense or cost protection works, tidal barrages, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Sand and gravel extraction |
| Rosbeg Agricultural SAC | 00300 | | E03, H01.01, D02.11, D02.02, 002.02, 002.03, X | Discharges, Bridge, viaduct, Nautical sports, Golf course, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Interpretative centres, Bait digging or collection, Walking lanes, Other patterns of occupation, Roads, motorways, suburbanisation, Industrial or commercial areas |
| North Bull Island SPA | 00006 | | D01.00, G01.01, G01.02, D01.01, 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, Walking lanes, Other patterns of occupation, Roads, motorways, suburbanisation, Industrial or commercial areas |
| The Murrough SPA | 00018 | | G01.02, D01.06, A08 | Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Railway lines, TGV, Fertilisation |
## List of all Qualifying Interests of SACs that have undergone Assessment including Summaries of Current Threats and Sensitivity to Effects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualifying Interests</th>
<th>EU Code</th>
<th>Current threats to Qualifying Interests</th>
<th>Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alkaline fens</td>
<td>[7230]</td>
<td>Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.</td>
<td>Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpine and Boreal heaths</td>
<td>[4060]</td>
<td>Abandonment; overgrazing; burning; outdoor recreation; quarries; communication networks; and wind farm developments.</td>
<td>Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual vegetation of drift lines</td>
<td>[1210]</td>
<td>Grazing; sand and gravel extraction; recreational activities; coastal protection works.</td>
<td>Overgrazing and erosion. Changes in management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic salt meadows (Distichlis-Puccinellietalia maritima)</td>
<td>[1330]</td>
<td>Overgrazing; erosion; invasive species, particularly common cordgrass (Spartina anglica); trampling and reclamations.</td>
<td>Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Overgrazing, erosion and accretion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanket bogs ('fragmented bog')</td>
<td>[7130]</td>
<td>Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.</td>
<td>Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcareous grasslands of the Vaccinium calaminare</td>
<td>[6130]</td>
<td>Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.</td>
<td>Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcareous fens with species of the Carex pubescens and Carex davallianae</td>
<td>[7210]</td>
<td>Hydrological changes, pollution to watercourses, urbanisation, roads development, groundwater interactions, grazing and cultivation practices and the inappropriate use of pesticides.</td>
<td>Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcareous rocky slopes with phasmatophyceous vegetation</td>
<td>[8210]</td>
<td>Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.</td>
<td>Erosion; overgrazing and recreation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)</td>
<td>[2130]</td>
<td>Recreation; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing; non-native plant species, particularly sea daffodil (Hippophae rhamnoides).</td>
<td>Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otter (Lutra lutra)</td>
<td>[3155]</td>
<td>Decrease in water quality: Use of pesticides; Fertilisation; vegetation removal; professional fishing (including lobster pots and fish nets); use of water; 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 courses.</td>
<td>Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Sensitivity to pollution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt soils (Molinio caeruleae)</td>
<td>[6410]</td>
<td>Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.</td>
<td>Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Sensitivity to pollution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds</td>
<td>[3150]</td>
<td>Nutrient alterations; management shifts in the associated peatland habitat; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.</td>
<td>Surface and marine water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix</td>
<td>[4910]</td>
<td>Reclamation, afforestation and burning; overstocking; invasion by non-native species; exposure of peat to severe erosion.</td>
<td>Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</td>
<td>[9140]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)</td>
<td>[3110]</td>
<td>Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.</td>
<td>Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perennial vegetation of stone banks</td>
<td>[1220]</td>
<td>Disruption of the sediment supply, owing to the interruption of the proceeding processes; caused by developments such as car parks and coastal defence structures including rock armour and sea walls. The removal of gravel.</td>
<td>Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity and gravel removal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petalwort (Petalophyllum ralfsii)</td>
<td>[1395]</td>
<td>There are no significant impacts affecting this species. None identified.</td>
<td>None identified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pitching springs with tuft formation (Cetebrion)</td>
<td>[7220]</td>
<td>Ground water interactions, on-site management activities.</td>
<td>Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbour Porpoise (Phocoena phocoena)</td>
<td>[1351]</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Sensitive to disturbance, prey availability and pollution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reefs</td>
<td>[1170]</td>
<td>Professional fishing; taking for fauna; taking for flora; water pollution; climate change; and change in species composition.</td>
<td>Sensitive to disturbance and pollution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites)</td>
<td>[6210]</td>
<td>Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.</td>
<td>Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)</td>
<td>[9210]</td>
<td>Recreation and coastal defences, which may interfere with local sediment dynamics.</td>
<td>Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siliceous areas of the montane to show levels (Androsaceae alpinae and Galeopsis tetrahit)</td>
<td>[8110]</td>
<td>Overgrazing, undergrounding 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.</td>
<td>Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spratina swales (Spartinum maritima)</td>
<td>[1320]</td>
<td>None identified by the NPWS in the 2019 publication of the Status of EU protected habitats and species in Ireland.</td>
<td>Changes in hydrological characteristics, invasive species, grazing, interspecific floral competition and altic natural processes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Qualifying Interests

**EU Code** | **Current threats to Qualifying Interests** | **Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests**
--- | --- | ---
5230 | Bracken encroachment, succession, inappropriate grazing, afforestation, drainage; and infrastructural development. | Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
7140 | Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change. | Surface and groundwater dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Erosion, land-use changes.
1230 | A number of significant pressures were identified, including trampling by walkers, invasive non-native species, gravel extraction, and seal-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

- Red-throated diver (Gavia stellata) [A001]
- Great crested grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005]
- Northern fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]
- Northern gannet (Morus bassanus) [A016]
- Great cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]
- Little egret (Egretta garzetta) [A025]
- Whooper swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]
- Greylag goose (Anser anser) [A043]
- Greylag goose (Anser anser [Iceland/UK/Ireland]) [A043]
- Common shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]
- Eurasian wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]
- Gadwall (Anas strepera) [A051]
- Eurasian teal (Anas crecca) [A052]
- Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053]
- Northern pintail (Anas acuta) [A054]
- Northern shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056]
- Common goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067]
- Red-breasted merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069]
- Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098]
- Peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus) [A103]
- Eurasian oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130]
- Ringed plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137]
- European golden plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]
- Grey plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]
- Northern lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]
- Red knot (Calidris canutus) [A143]
- Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144]
- Ruff (Philomachus pugnax) [A151]
- Bar-tailed godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]
- Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]
- Common redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]
- Common greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164]
- Ruddy turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169]
- Mediterranean gull (Larus melanocephalus) [A176]
- Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus) [A179]
- Mew gull (Larus canus) [A182]
- Lesser black-backed gull (Larus fuscus) [A183]
- Herring gull (Larus argentatus) [A184]
- Black-legged kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188]
- Sandwich tern (Sterna sandvicensis) [A191]
- Roseate tern (Sterna dougallii) [A192]
- Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193]
- Arctic tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A194]
- Little tern (Sterna albifrons) [A195]
- Common guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199]
- Razorbill (Alca torda) [A200]
- Atlantic puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204]
- Short-eared owl (Asio flammeus) [A222]
- Wood warbler (Phylloscopus sibilatrix) [A314]
- Greenland white-fronted goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]

#### Vulnerabilities of species of conservation interest

- 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 ZOIs were used to identify any specific prey sensitivities.
- Availability of nesting/roosting habitat.
- Vegetation composition, structure and functionality.

### Wetlands for waterbirds [A999]

- 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.
### Relationships 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 or Programme to become familiar with all details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Directive/Regulation/Programme</th>
<th>Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.</th>
<th>Relevance to the Plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEPA Directive (2001/42/EC)</td>
<td>Carry out and environmental assessment of plans or programmes referred to in individual EU Directives, providing information on available development plans and programmes and a review of the likely significant effects of the environment by virtue of Directive 2001/42/EC. The Plan provides an environmental assessment report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the Plan. This includes a consideration of the other measures taken with all environmental legislation and align with the objectives of the regulatory framework, the Plan and the Programme. In addition, the Plan and the Programme should be consistent with all relevant authorities, stakeholders and public, allowing sufficient time to make a submission.</td>
<td>Individual EU Directives, the transposing regulations or the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)</td>
<td>Prepare an environmental report to identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the Plan or Programme. Where new land use developments or activities occur, and where they are likely to have significant effects on the environment, the Plan and Programme need 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.</td>
<td>Environmental protection and management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)</td>
<td>Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of the natural habitats and wild fauna and flora. Ensure the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements.</td>
<td>Environmental protection and management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitats Directive (92/43/EC)</td>
<td>Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of the natural habitats and wild fauna and flora. Ensure the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements.</td>
<td>Environmental protection and management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Birds Directive (79/409/EEC)</td>
<td>Controlling the capture or exploitation or trade in wild birds and their eggs and young, and the laying and trading of wild bird eggs. For the purposes of this Directive, the &quot;exploitation of wild birds&quot; includes all operations, directly or indirectly, aimed at, or likely to contribute to, the capture, killing or trapping of such birds or the laying or taking of their eggs or their young.</td>
<td>Environmental protection and management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)</td>
<td>Implement the Plan and the Programme in accordance with the Economic, Social, Cultural and Regional requirements.</td>
<td>Environmental protection and management.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### EU Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive (2008/1/EC)
- 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.

The IPPC Directive is based on several principles:
- an integrated approach
- best available techniques,
- flexibility; and
- public participation

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 Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC
- 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).

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.

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 Renewables Directive (2009/28/EC)
- 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 fuel comes from renewable sources by 2020.

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.

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.

### Indirect Land Use Change Directive (2012/288 (COD))
- 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.

The Directive limits 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 17 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.

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.

### Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (2014/94/EU)
- 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.

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.

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 Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU)
- 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.

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.

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 Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)
- 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.

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:
- Certification, 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 operators.

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
- 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.

Outlines six targets and twenty actions to aid European Union in halting the loss to biodiversity and eco-system services.

- The six targets cover:
  - 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.

Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas.

- 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
- 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.

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.

The Convention has three main goals:
- 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-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
### Appropriate Assessment of the Draft Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028

#### Relevance to the 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.

### UN Kyoto Protocol (2nd Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement)

The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and implement the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol. 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.

- The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II).
- EU member states implement measures to improve on or complies with 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.

Four pieces of complimentary legislation:

- 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.

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 2020 Climate and Energy Package

- 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.

EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package:

- To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030:
  - 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 within 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.
  - 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.

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 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy

- 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.

#### To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030:

- 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 within 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.

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 Clean Air for Europe Directive (EU Air Framework Directive)


- The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive).
- Sits new air quality objectives for PM10 (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 (NOx, 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.

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.

### Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)

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 sources.

The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to:

- 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 quality where it is good and enforce. Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise.

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.

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.

### Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)

- Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks.

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

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<td>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.</td>
<td>Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive.</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<td>Protect, control and conserve groundwater.</td>
<td>Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex I of Directive.</td>
<td>Where new land uses or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plans, programmes, 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.</td>
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<td>Set values applicable to water intended for human consumption for the parameters set out in Annex I.</td>
<td>Where new land uses or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plans, programmes, 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.</td>
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<td><strong>Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EC)</strong></td>
<td>This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Where new land uses or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plans, programmes, 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.</td>
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<td>The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Where new land uses or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plans, programmes, 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.</td>
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<td><strong>Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC</strong></td>
<td>Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Where new land uses or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plans, programmes, 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.</td>
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<td>European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>ICOMOS (2001) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes (‘Dublin Principles’)</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>(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) Promote 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro 2005)</td>
<td>• 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 identity. 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.</td>
<td>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. Greater synergy of competences among all the public, institutional and private actors concerned.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td><strong>European Landscape Convention 2000</strong></td>
<td>- 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.</td>
<td>- Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. - Organise European co-operation on landscape issues.</td>
<td>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 43.1) 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.</td>
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<td><strong>The Seventh Environmental Action Programme (EAAP of the European Community (2013-2020)</strong></td>
<td>It identifies three key objectives: - 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</td>
<td>Four so called “enablers” will help Europe deliver on these objectives (goals): - 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.</td>
<td>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 43.1) 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.</td>
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<td><strong>Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats)</strong></td>
<td>The convention has three main aims: - 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</td>
<td>The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations; they also: - 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 Caucasus. - 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 conduct, 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.</td>
<td>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 43.1) 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.</td>
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<td><strong>Bali Road Map (2007)</strong></td>
<td>The overall goals of the project are twofold: - 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.</td>
<td>The Bali Action Plan is centred on four main building Blocks: mitigation - adaptation - technology - financing</td>
<td>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 3.6 and 43.1) 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.</td>
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<td><strong>Cancun Agreements (2010)</strong></td>
<td>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' objectives cover: - Mitigation - Transparency of actions - Technology - Finance - Adaptation - Biodiversity - Capacity building</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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 43.1) 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.</td>
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<td><strong>Doha Climate Gateway (2012)</strong></td>
<td>Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which paved the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015.</td>
<td>- 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.</td>
<td>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 43.1) 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.</td>
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<td>EU Common Agricultural Policy</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006)</td>
<td>• Aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment by better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances.</td>
<td>The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely: • Registration; • Evaluation; • Authorization; and • Restriction of chemicals. REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Stockholm Convention</td>
<td>• The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Ramsar Convention</td>
<td>The Convention’s mission is “the conservation and wise use of all wetlands as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world”. Under the “three pillars” of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to: • 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.</td>
<td></td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>European 2020 Strategy for Growth</td>
<td>Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe’s social market economy for the 21st century and puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities: • 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. In order to reach these priorities, the Commission proposes five quantitative targets to fulfil by 2020: 1. 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed; 2. 3% of the EU’s GDP should be invested in R&amp;D; 3. the “20(2020) climate-energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right); 4. the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree; 5. 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty.</td>
<td></td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>The European Green Deal (EGD) 2019</td>
<td>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. • 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 about the first European Climate Law and legally bind the target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.</td>
<td></td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>EU (2020) Biodiversity Strategy</td>
<td>A long-term plan for protecting nature and reversing the degradation of ecosystems across the European Union.</td>
<td>The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including:</td>
<td>Where raw 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.</td>
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<td>EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package</td>
<td>Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Where raw 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.</td>
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| Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, the National Planning Framework, (replacing the National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020) and the National Development Plan (2018-2027) | • The National Planning Framework is the Government’s high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of Ireland to 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:  
  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 Amenity 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 raw 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 plans:  
  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 raw 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 and Development Act 2000 (as amended) | 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. | 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. | Where raw 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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<td>European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011</td>
<td>These Regulations provide a new for the implementation in Ireland of Directive 92/43/EC on habitats and protection of wild fauna and flora (as amended) and for the implementation of Directive 2009/14/EC and the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of wild birds.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plans, 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.</td>
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<td>European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 4770 of 2011, as amended)</td>
<td>The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plans, 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.</td>
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<td>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. 9 of 2010)</td>
<td>To amend the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) to make further provision to implement Commission Directive 2006/118/EC of 20 June 2004 amending Annex II to Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration.</td>
<td>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. 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. 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.</td>
<td>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plans, 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.</td>
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<td>Waste Management Act 1996, as amended</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plans, 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.</td>
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<td>European Communities Environmental Objectives (FPM) Regulations 2000 (S.I 296 of 2009)</td>
<td>To amend the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC, as amended, to provide statutory support for good agricultural practice to protect waters against pollution from agricultural sources.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plans, 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.</td>
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**Summary of high-level aim/purpose/objective**

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:

- 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.

Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential incombination 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.

**Relevance to the Plan**

**Framework for environmental protection and management.**

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- National Implementation Plan 2018 – 2020 is in direct response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a whole-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.

The Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide implementation:

- 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.

Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential incombination 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.

**Infrastructure and Capital Investment Plan (2016-2021)**

- €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.
- 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.

Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential incombination 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 (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-Fisheries) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 290 of 2013)**

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 for the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011).

- 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 Nature 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
- Regulations 11 to 31 deal with functions of authorised officers and related matters, offences, etc.

Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential incombination 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 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.

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

**Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.**

- 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 for energy from renewable sources.
- Where new land use developments or activities occur individually or in combination with others, potential in- or combined 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 contribute to achieving the objectives of the relevant environmental strategies.

#### Key conclusions of the study:

- **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, to transport, deliver and consume a sustainable and competitive mix of power from renewable and non-renewable 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.”**

- **The limitations of the study may overstate the technical feasibility of the portfolios included in the Study.** Further work is required to understand the extent of such impacts. A Strategic Approach to Grid25, EirGrid’s roadmap to upgrade 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.

- **The Strategy will aim to reduce air pollution and promote and encourage the uptake and use of low and zero-emission vehicles and fuels across the island.”**

- **The Strategy should also help tackle climate change.** 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.

- **Grid25, EirGrid’s roadmap to upgrade 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.”**

- **The objective of the future development of the National and Regional Greenways will be to foster a National Strategy for the development of a network of National Greenways and Regional Greenways, with a view to promote continued and increased physical activity.”**

- **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.”**
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<td><strong>Greenways</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</td>
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<td><strong>National Water Resources Plan (in preparation)</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>The key objectives of the plan are to: Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account other potential water uses and interdependencies; 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td><strong>National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Development (2014-2020)</strong></td>
<td>Vision: “Aquaculture in Ireland 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.”</td>
<td>General development and growth objectives of marine and freshwater aquaculture (2014-2020): Strengthen the social, business and administrative environment for aquaculture development; Increase in the total production to 28,000 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td><strong>Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>This Strategy therefore addresses issues including: 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td><strong>Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland (1997)</strong></td>
<td>The overall aim of the 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td><strong>National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character Assessment (pending preparation)</strong></td>
<td>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: “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.”</td>
<td>The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to: 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;</td>
<td>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.</td>
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Appropriate Assessment of the Draft Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028

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<td>National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2014-2020</td>
<td>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 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:</td>
<td>• 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 as far as possible.</td>
<td>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential incombination 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.</td>
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<td>Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential incombination 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.</td>
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<td>HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025</td>
<td>The vision is: &quot;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.&quot; These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive:</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential incombination 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.</td>
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<td>Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential incombination 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.</td>
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<td>Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2020 (2009)</td>
<td>Outlines a policy for how a sustainable travel and transport system can be achieved.</td>
<td>• Other lower level aims include:</td>
<td>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential incombination 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.</td>
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<td>Investing in our Future: A Strategic Framework for Transport (SFILT) – Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport</td>
<td>SFILT sets out a set of priorities to guide the allocation of the State's best development and manage Ireland's land transport network over the coming decades. The three priorities stated in SFILT are:</td>
<td>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential incombination 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.</td>
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<td>• Priority 2: Address urban congestion; and • Priority 3: Maximise the value of the road network.</td>
<td>In delivering on the steady state maintenance objective set out in SFILT, the Plan includes for: • Planned replacement programme for the bus fleet operated under Public Service Obligation (&quot;PSO&quot;) contracts; • Tram refurbishment and asset renewal in the case of light rail; and • To the extent within the Authority’s remit, support for the operation of the existing rail network within the GDA.</td>
<td>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-cumulative contribution 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.</td>
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<td>Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland – The Energy Policy Framework 2007 – 2020 (2007)</td>
<td>• White paper setting out a framework for delivering a sustainable energy future in Ireland. • Outlining the Strategic Goals for: o Security of Supply o Sustainability of Energy o Competitiveness of Energy Supply</td>
<td>The underpinning Strategic Goals are: • 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</td>
<td>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-cumulative contribution 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.</td>
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<td>National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2018 and associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans</td>
<td>• 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</td>
<td>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</td>
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<td>Governments White Paper ‘Ireland’s Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future’ (2015 – 2030)</td>
<td>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. 2030 will represent a significant milestone, meaning: • Reduced GHG emissions from the energy sector by between 80% and 95% including Ireland’s 16% target of gross final consumption to come from renewables by 2020.</td>
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<td>National Renewable Energy Action Plan (2010)</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>Including Ireland’s 16% target of gross final consumption to come from renewables by 2020.</td>
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<td>National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland (2009 – 2020)</td>
<td>• This is the second National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland.</td>
<td>The Plan reviews the original 90 actions outlined in the first Plan and updates, removes/ new elements as appropriate.</td>
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<td>Wildlife Act of 1976</td>
<td>• The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna.</td>
<td>• Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems</td>
<td>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 43.1) 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.</td>
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<td>Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000</td>
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<td>• Give statutory protection to NHA's</td>
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<td>• Enhances wildlife species and their habitats</td>
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<td>• Includes more species for protection</td>
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<td>Actions for Biodiversity (2017–2021)</td>
<td>Ireland's National Biodiversity Plan</td>
<td>• Sets out strategic objectives, targets and actions to conserve and restore biodiversity and to prevent and reduce the loss of biodiversity in Ireland and globally.</td>
<td>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 43.1) 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.</td>
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<td>National Broadband Plan (2012)</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Sets out the strategy to deliver high speed broadband throughout Ireland.</td>
<td>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 43.1) 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.</td>
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<td>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of 2003)</td>
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<td>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014)</td>
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<td>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009)</td>
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<td>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations of 2010 (SI 9 of 2010)</td>
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<td>Water Services Act 2007</td>
<td>Provides the water services infrastructure.</td>
<td>• Issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remediating 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.</td>
<td>achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</td>
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<td>Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012</td>
<td>Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water 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.</td>
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<td>Water Services Act (No. 2) 2013</td>
<td>Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and waste water supply.</td>
<td>• 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 Strategic, 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 ongoing 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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Irish Water's Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and associated Proposed Capital Investment Plan (2014-2016)</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Six strategic objectives as follows: • 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Areas</td>
<td>Aims to meet nature conservation obligations while having regard to national and local economic, social and cultural needs</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Food Harvest 2020</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Agri-vision 2015 Action Plan</td>
<td>Outlines the vision for agricultural industry to improve competitiveness and response to market demand while respecting and enhancing the environment</td>
<td>not applicable</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS)</td>
<td>• Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection.</td>
<td>• Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS)</td>
<td>• GLAS is the new replacement for REPS and AEOS which are both expiring.</td>
<td>• Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats.</td>
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<td>Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS)</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>National Rural Development Programme</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>Measures include the following: • Afforestation and Creation of Woodland • Neighborhood 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</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>National Forestry Programme (2014-2020)</td>
<td>• Represents Ireland’s proposals for 100% State aid funding for a new Forestry Programme for the period 2014 – 2020.</td>
<td>• Afforestation and Creation of Woodland • Neighborhood 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</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>River Basin Management Plan</td>
<td>• River Basin Management Plans set out the measures planned to maintain and improve the status of waters.</td>
<td>• 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Objectives of the Strategy: • 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. • 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. 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk</td>
<td>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 CREAM 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</td>
<td>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-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment and Management Programme</td>
<td>intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 - 2020</td>
<td>The Draft Bioenergy Plan sets out a vision as follows: 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.</td>
<td>Three high level goals, of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified: • 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE) 2016</td>
<td>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 resource.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017 - 2030</td>
<td>This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure, with specific reference to 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.</td>
<td>Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: • AV targets • Electricity targets • Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets • Hydrogen targets • Biofuels targets • LPG targets • Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Food Wise 2025 (DAFM)</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including: • 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>National Cycle Network Scoping Study 2010</td>
<td>• Outlines objectives and actions aimed at developing a strong cycling network in Ireland • Sets out 19 specific objectives, and details the 109 actions, aimed at ensuring that a cycling culture is developed</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>National Policy Framework for Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>This policy sets out to achieve five key goals in transport: - Reduce overall travel demand - Maximise the efficiency of the transport network - Reduce reliance on fossil fuels - Reduce transport emissions - Improve accessibility to transport</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>The Plan contains 27 actions focusing on the following areas: - Policy Context - Marketing Ireland as a Visitor Destination - Enhancing the Visitor Experience - Research in the Irish Tourism Sector - Supporting Local Communities in Tourism - Widener Government Policy - International Context - Co-ordination Structures</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025: - 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>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 Ráisala. 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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport Sectors (DTTAS) 2017 - 2030</td>
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<td>Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: - AFV forecasts - Electricity targets - Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets - Hydrogen targets - Biofuels targets - LPG targets - Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets</td>
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<td>People Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025, (DTTAS, 2014)</td>
<td>Growing Tourism to 2025 is a policy framework for the development of tourism within the country.</td>
<td>The framework establishes the overall tourism goal of Government; - 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. The Government’s ambition is that overseas tourism revenue will reach €5 billion in real terms by 2025.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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The overarching aim of the Plan is to: Identify and protect the unique waterways heritage and promote its sustainable use for the enjoyment of this and future generations. Four objectives of the Plan include the following:

- Objective 1: Fostering partnerships to continue building waterway heritage 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 their plans etc – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

- Objective 2: Promoting awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of our waterway heritage with a focus on community engagement. 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 tourists.

- Objective 3: Promoting the integrated management, conservation, protection and sustainable use of the inland navigable waterway asset. To support a tourism sector that is profitable and achieves sustainable levels of growth and delivers jobs; 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.

- Objective 4: To develop Waterways Ireland as a heritage organisation – a strategy for Investment 2016–2022, (Fáilte Ireland, 2016) To develop Waterways Ireland as a heritage organisation – a strategy for Investment 2016–2022, (Fáilte Ireland, 2016) 

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- Objective 4: To develop Waterways Ireland as a heritage organisation – a strategy for Investment 2016–2022, (Fáilte Ireland, 2016) 

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.

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 tourists.

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- Objective 3: Promoting the integrated management, conservation, protection and sustainable use of the inland navigable waterway asset. To support a tourism sector that is profitable and achieves sustainable levels of growth and delivers jobs; 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.

- Objective 4: To develop Waterways Ireland as a heritage organisation – a strategy for Investment 2016–2022, (Fáilte Ireland, 2016) 

The Strategic Objectives of the Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division are:

- to develop and manage an efficient and effective regulatory framework in respect of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing in respect 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.

- to promote aquaculture development and the protection of the marine environment.

According to the National Seafood Operational Programme, the implementation of the OP in Ireland aims at achieving key national development objectives set by 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. The OP is designed around the Irish national priorities in the agri-food sector: ‘Act Smart’ by encouraging knowledge and innovation, ‘Think Green’ in order to maintain and create jobs.

- Developments on the foreshore require planning permission in addition to a Foreshore Lease/Licence/Permission. All Foreshore Leases, Licences and Permissions will be subject 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 their plans etc – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

- The Irish OP is organised around the following priorities

- Union Priority 3 (UP3): 694.8 million (35.4% of the total allocation) will go towards compliance with CFP rules regarding control and data collection.

- 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 their plans etc – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Appropriate Assessment of the Draft Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.

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<td>Union Priority 4 (UP4): €12 million (3% of the total allocation) will support local development initiatives — a substantial, eleven-fold increase compared to the 2007, 2013 funding period.</td>
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<td>Union Priority 5 (UP5): €23 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.</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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Hannering 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.

Regional/ County/Local Level

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.

Integrating Implementation Plan

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.

Greater Dublin Area (GDA) Transport Strategy (2016-2035)

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 community infrastructure and enjoying high quality leisure facilities; and promotes and protects across the GDA green corridors, active agricultural lands and protected natural areas."

Full SEA and Stage 2 AA have been undertaken on this Strategy.

Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan

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.

CAAS for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
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<td>including linkages to key transport locations outside of urban areas such as airports and ports.</td>
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<td>The Green Route Network being cycle routes for development of tourist, recreational and leisure purposes.</td>
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<td>NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs</td>
<td>Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include:</td>
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<td>To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site</td>
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<td>To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest</td>
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<td>To describe the site and its management</td>
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<td>To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site</td>
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<td>To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<td>Groundwater Protection Schemes</td>
<td>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 this location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<td>Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs), including the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown LECP 2016-2021</td>
<td>The overarching vision for each LECP is: &quot;to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land Use Plans in force within Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and in other adjoining planning authorities. This includes Development Plans28, Local Area Plans29 and Planning Schemes30</td>
<td>Outline planning objectives for land use development.</td>
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<td>Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies.</td>
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<td>Set out the policies and proposals to guide development in the specific Local Authority area.</td>
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<td>Identify future infrastructure, development and zoning required.</td>
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<td>Protect and enhances amenities and environment.</td>
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<td>Guide planning authority in assessing proposals.</td>
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<td>Aim to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development.</td>
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<td>Aim to promote sustainable development.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage.</td>
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<td>Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Biodiversity Plan 2009-2013</td>
<td>Aims to protect, conserve, enhance and restore heritage, biodiversity and ecosystem services across all spectrums.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Plans objectives include:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>gathering information on the biodiversity resource</td>
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<td></td>
<td>managing the resource</td>
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<td>education and awareness</td>
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<td></td>
<td>cooperation to achieve objectives</td>
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28 Including Development Plans for Counties Wicklow and South Dublin.
29 Including Local Area Plans for Ballyogan and Environs and Stillorgan.
30 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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislation, Plan, etc.</th>
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<th>Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.</th>
<th>Relevance to the Plan</th>
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| **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:  
- 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** | Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape. \n� \nLights the way for the future development of the landscape. | Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape. \nLights the way 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. | 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 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. |
| **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:  
� 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 reducing noise, where possible, and maintain the environmental acoustic quality where it is good | 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:  
� 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 2030; 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. |
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<td>Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Tourism Strategy and Marketing Plan 2017-2022</td>
<td>The Vision for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown as a tourism destination is: “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.”</td>
<td>The Strategy is underpinned by five strategic objectives each supported by a number of proposals to enable each of the objectives to be realised.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>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</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Various existing, planned and emerging projects provided for by the above plans and programmes</td>
<td>These projects have been provided for by higher-level plans and programmes.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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