



**PROVISION OF INFORMATION REGARDING APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING  
PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, PARK CLOSE,  
SALLYNOGGIN, CO. DUBLIN.**

**PREPARED FOR DÚN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COUNCIL**

<b>Project Reference:</b>		<b>150165</b>			
<b>Rev.</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Reviewed By</b>	<b>Approved By</b>	<b>Issue Date</b>
D01	Draft	DB	ACr	PS	31.08.15

Scott Cawley, College House, Rock Road, Blackrock, Co. Dublin. Ireland

---

Tel+353(1)676-9815 Fax +353(1) 676-9816

---

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1 Introduction ..... 3  
 2 Methodology..... 3  
 3 Conclusions of the Screening Assessment..... 20  
 References ..... 21

**LIST OF TABLES**

Table 1 Overview of the Proposed Development and its Receiving Environment ..... 6  
 Table 2 Analysis of European sites within 15km..... 11

**LIST OF FIGURES AND APPENDICES**

Figure 1. All European sites within 15km of the site ..... 19

## 1 Introduction

The information in this report forms part of, and should be read in conjunction with the documentation accompanying the Part VIII application for the proposed residential development at Park Close, Sallynoggin, Co. Dublin.

This report which contains information required for the competent authority (in this instance Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council) to undertake a screening exercise for Appropriate Assessment (AA), was prepared by Scott Cawley Ltd. It provides information on and assesses the potential for the proposed development to significantly affect European sites (hereafter 'European sites'<sup>1</sup>).

It is necessary that the proposal has regard to Article 6 of the *Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora* (as amended) (hereafter "the Habitats Directive"). This is transposed in Ireland primarily by the *European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477/2011)* (hereafter the Birds and Habitats Regulations) and the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act, 2010 as amended.

An AA is required if likely significant effects on European sites arising from a proposed development cannot be ruled out at the screening stage, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

Following the preparation of this report it was objectively concluded that there was no likelihood of any significant effects on any European sites arising from the proposed development, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Therefore it was our view that an Appropriate Assessment was not required in this instance. The information in the tables below provide a summary of the information gathered for this screening exercise and the conclusions made.

## 2 Methodology

This Screening Statement for Appropriate Assessment was prepared with regard to the following guidance documents, where relevant:

- *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland - Guidance for Planning Authorities*. (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2010 revision);
- *Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive: Guidance for Planning Authorities*. Circular NPW 1/10 & PSSP 2/10;
- *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 Directorate-General, 2001); hereafter referred to as the EC Article 6 Guidance Document. The guidance within this document provides a non-mandatory methodology for carrying out assessments required under Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive;
- *Guidance Document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC. Clarification of the Concepts of Alternative Solutions, Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest, Compensatory Measures, Overall Coherence*. Opinion of the European Commission (European Commission, January 2007);
- *Managing Natura 2000 Sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitat's Directive 92/43/EEC* (EC Environment Directorate-General, updated April 2015); hereafter referred to as MN2000;

---

<sup>1</sup> Natura 2000 sites are defined under the Habitats Directive (Article 3) as a European ecological network of special area of conservation composed of sites which host the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the protected species listed in Annex II. The aim of the network is to aid the long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats. In Ireland these sites are designated as *European sites* – defined under the Planning Acts and/or Birds and Habitats Regulations as (a) a candidate site of Community importance, (b) a site of Community importance, (c) a candidate special area of conservation, (d) a special area of conservation, (e) a candidate special protection area, or (f) a special protection area. They are commonly referred to in Ireland as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

- *Guidelines for Good Practice Appropriate Assessment of Plans under Article 6(3) Habitats Directive*. Findings of an international workshop on Appropriate Assessment in Oxford, December 2009<sup>2</sup>; and,
- *Communication from the Commission on the precautionary principle*. European Commission (2000b).

The above referenced guidance sets out a staged process for carrying out Appropriate Assessment. To determine if Appropriate Assessment is required, documented screening is required. Screening identifies the likely effects on European sites, if any, which would arise from a proposed plan or project, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects, and further considers whether these effects are likely to adversely affect the integrity of any European sites.

If the conclusions at the end of screening are that there is no likelihood of significant effects occurring on any European sites, as a result of the proposed plan or project, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects, then there would be no requirement to undertake Appropriate Assessment.

However, even if screening makes a finding of no significant effects, and therefore concludes that Appropriate Assessment is not required, these findings must be clearly documented in order to provide transparency of decision-making, and to ensure the application of the 'precautionary principle'<sup>3</sup>.

Screening for Appropriate Assessment involves the following:

- Determining whether a project or plan is directly connected with or necessary to the conservation management of any European sites<sup>4</sup>;
- Describing the details of the project/plan proposals and other plans or projects that may cumulatively affect any European sites (see Table 1);
- Describing the characteristics of relevant European sites (Table 2); and
- Assessing the likelihood and significance of effects on relevant European sites (see Table 2).

The information that was collected to allow the competent authority to screen the proposal was based on a desktop study carried out on 31st August 2015. Information relied upon included the following information sources, which included maps, ecological and water quality data:

- Ordnance Survey of Ireland mapping and aerial photography available from [www.osi.ie](http://www.osi.ie);
- Online data available on European sites as held by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) from [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie);
- Information on land-use zoning from the online mapping of the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government <http://www.myplan.ie/en/index.html>;
- Information on water quality in the area available from [www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie);
- Information on the Eastern River Basin District from [www.wfdireland.ie](http://www.wfdireland.ie);
- Information on soils, geology and hydrogeology in the area available from [www.gsi.ie](http://www.gsi.ie);
- Information on the location, nature and design of the proposed development supplied by the applicant's design team;
- Information on the status of EU protected habitats and species in Ireland (National Parks & Wildlife Service, 2013a & 2013b);

---

<sup>2</sup> Available online at <http://www.levett-therivel.co.uk/AAguidelines.htm> Accessed April 2013

<sup>3</sup> One of the primary foundations of the precautionary principle, and globally accepted definitions, results from the work of the Rio Declaration. Principle #15 declaration notes:

*"In order to protect the environment, the precautionary approach shall be widely applied by States according to their capabilities. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation."*

<sup>4</sup> In this instance the proposed development is not directly connected with or necessary to the conservation management of any European sites.

The following planning and policy documents were relevant to the subject lands, in particular with regard to the assessment of other plans and projects with potential for cumulative effects:

- *Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2010-2016*; and
- *Eastern River Basin District, River Basin Management Plan 2009 – 2015*.

**Table 1 Overview of the Proposed Development and its Receiving Environment**

<p>Site Description</p>	<p>The subject lands are located at Park Close, Sallynoggin, Co. Dublin (centred on Irish Grid Ref: O 24332 26514).</p> <p>A review of Ordnance Survey aerial photography of the site and locality indicates that the site itself appears to be comprised of disturbed, bare ground, rough grassland and a few scattered trees. In the vicinity of the proposed site, there are residential and commercial properties and amenity grassland.</p>
<p>Features of the surrounding environment</p>	<p>The desktop study found no records of any species for which European Sites are designated within or immediately adjacent to the proposed development site<sup>5</sup>.</p> <p>The nearest records (within 2km of the proposed development) of species for which European Sites (listed in Table 2) are designated include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> (2011);</li> <li>▪ Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> located (2013);</li> <li>▪ Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (2010);</li> <li>▪ Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> (2015);</li> <li>▪ Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i> located (2014);</li> <li>▪ Black-headed Gull <i>Croicocephalus ridibundus</i> (2014);</li> <li>▪ Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i> (2012)</li> <li>▪ Peregrine Falcon <i>Falco peregrinus</i> located (2015);</li> <li>▪ Kittiwake <i>Rissa tridactyla</i>(2012);</li> <li>▪ Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> (2015);</li> <li>▪ Common Guillemot <i>Uria aalge</i> (2013);</li> <li>▪ Razorbill <i>Alca torda</i> (2012);</li> <li>▪ Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i> (2006);</li> </ul>

<sup>5</sup> According to NBDC online data [www.biodiversity.ie](http://www.biodiversity.ie) accessed 31-08-2015

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Curelw Numenius arquata</i> (2012);</li> <li>▪ Roseate Tern <i>Sterna dougallii</i> (2012);</li> <li>▪ Common Tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i> (2012);</li> <li>▪ Arctic Tern <i>Sterna paradisaea</i> (2010);</li> <li>▪ Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i> (2015);</li> </ul> <p>The proposed site is located within the Loughlinstown-Coastal Catchment. According to the EPA map viewer <sup>6</sup>, there are no watercourses located within or immediately adjacent to the proposed development site and the bedrock of the area of the proposed site is classified as 'poorly productive bedrock'. The nearest watercourse is the Monkstown stream, which is located c. 800m to the north-west of the proposed development site. The direction of flow of this stream is unclear and there is no information available on its water quality status. The second nearest watercourse is the Kill-O-The-Grange stream, which is located c. 1150m to the west of the proposed development site. From a review of Ordnance Survey aerial photography, this stream appears to flow in a southerly direction on into the River Shanganagh, which then flows in to the Irish Sea at Killiney Bay. The water quality of the Kill-O-The-Grange stream is of 'Poor Status', as recorded at a monitoring station located at a footbridge at Meadowvale. In contrast, the water quality of the River Shanganagh is of 'Good Status', as recorded at a monitoring station located on Commons Road.</p> <p>The most recent available water quality data for Killiney Bay and Dublin Bay's coastal waters indicates that they are 'Unpolluted'. As such, there have been no breaches of the EPA's threshold values for nutrient enrichment, accelerated plant growth, or disturbance of the level of dissolved oxygen normally present under the EPA's "Trophic Status Assessment Scheme" classification (EPA 2015).</p>	
<p><b>Description of the Proposed Development</b></p> <p>Full details of the proposed development can be found in the Part VIII documentation. In brief, the proposed development will involve the construction of 10 no. units, 2no semi-detached and 8 no units in two storey block.</p> <p>Foul effluent generated from the proposed development will be connected to the existing foul water drainage system of Sallynoggin Youth Centre. From there, it will then be discharged into the public sewer network, located on Pearse Street, and carried on to Shanganagh Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP), where it will be treated and then discharged into the Irish Sea at Killiney Bay.</p> <p>It is proposed that surface water collected across the proposed site will either be discharged at a controlled rate into the existing public sewer network (sewers located on Park Close and Pearse Street) or will be discharged to ground using a variety of SuDS techniques. These techniques include a storm attenuation tank, which will contain a hydro brake and full retention petrol interceptor, permeable paving and a soakaway. The attenuated and treated surface water entering the public sewer network will then be carried to Shanganagh WWTP and discharged into the Irish Sea at Killiney Bay.</p>	
<p><b>Potential Cumulative Impacts</b></p> <p><i>Existing Habitat Loss Pressures</i></p> <p>The proposed development site does not overlap with any European Sites. The main habitats on site appear to be disturbed, bare ground and a few</p>	

<sup>6</sup> According to EPA online data [www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie) accessed 31-08-2015

scattered trees. None of these is a habitat listed under Annex 1 of the Habitats Directive and there are no records for qualifying interest species of any European sites either on the site or immediately adjacent to it. Therefore it has been assessed that there will be no potential for cumulative effects upon European sites as a result of habitat loss during this development.

*Existing pressures on water quality within European sites in proximity to the site*

Several intertidal habitats for which European Sites in Dublin Bay are designated are failing to meet favourable conservation status. For some of these, water pollution is considered to be a threat ranked as being of “high importance”<sup>7</sup> (NPWS, 2013).

*Pressures on European sites in Dublin Bay from surface waters*

There is potential for “in-combination” effects of proposed plans and projects within the *Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2010-2016*, *Fingal Development Plan 2011-2017*, *Dublin City Development Plan 2011-2017* and other county level land use plans which can influence conditions in Dublin Bay via rivers and other surface water features. Dublin Bay is of “Unpolluted” water quality status (EPA 2015) and the pollutant content of future surface water discharges to the Bay is considered likely to be decreased in the long-term. This is because it is an objective of the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study, and all development plans within the catchment of Ringsend WWTW to include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems in new development. Together these objectives are considered likely to reduce pressures on designated marine and intertidal species and habitats in Dublin Bay.

There are a number of existing and proposed development projects<sup>8</sup> within the vicinity of this site which have the potential to produce “in combination” effects to water quality in Dublin Bay. Given that the site was previously operational as a residential flat complex, and also given the sustainable drainage proposals for the development, this will ensure that operational surface water runoff arising from this development will be treated prior to discharge to the existing surface water sewer. Therefore, the likelihood of impacts arising from this development is deemed to be low.

It is considered extremely unlikely that during construction, a pollution event would occur of a magnitude that would have any adverse effects on water quality in Dublin Bay, or affect the Qualifying Interest/Special Conservation Interests of the European sites therein, due to the distance between the site and Dublin Bay and potential for dilution in the drainage network before entering Dublin Bay. There is therefore no potential for cumulative impacts.

*Existing pressures on water quality within European sites in proximity to the site*

Several intertidal habitats for which European Sites in Killiney Bay are designated are failing to meet favourable conservation status. For some of these, water pollution is considered a threat ranked as being of “high importance” (NPWS, 2013).

<sup>7</sup> For example, “tidal mudflats and sandflats” was of “inadequate” conservation status. This habitat was threatened by water pollution and was a reason for designation of North Dublin Bay SAC, and South Dublin Bay SAC. Under ‘wetlands’, the habitat was also a Special Conservation Interest of the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA, and North Dublin Bay SPA.

<sup>8</sup> Dún Laoghaire County Council Planning Application Search <http://planning.dlrccoco.ie/swiftlg/apas/run/wphabpcriteria.display> Accessed 31/08/15

*Pressures on European sites in Killiney Bay from surface waters*

The section entitled "Features of the Surrounding Environment" of this table describes the baseline environment of receiving coastal waters for the proposed development.

There is potential for "in-combination" effects of proposed plans and projects within the *Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2010-2016* which would influence conditions in Killiney Bay via rivers and other surface water features. However Killiney Bay is of 'Unpolluted' water quality status (EPA 2015) and the pollutant content of future surface water discharges to Killiney Bay are considered likely to be decreased in the long-term. This is because it is an objective of the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study, and development plans within the catchments of Shanganagh WWTP to include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems in new developments. Together these objectives are considered likely to reduce pressures on designated marine and intertidal species and habitats in Killiney Bay.

There are a number of existing and proposed development projects<sup>9</sup> within the vicinity of this site which have the potential to produce "in combination" effects to water quality in the River Shanganagh and Killiney Bay. According to the Myplan.ie map viewer, the proposed site is zoned for existing residential. Areas in the immediate vicinity of the site are zoned for existing residential, open space park, district and neighbourhood centre and industrial, enterprise and employment. However, due to the distance of the proposed development site from Killiney Bay and the small scale of the proposed development, there will be no likelihood of significant impacts arising from this development. Sustainable drainage proposals (including provision for storm water attenuation should a flood event arise) at this site will ensure that any surface water runoff arising from this development will be properly treated and attenuated.

There is a risk that construction related contamination (e.g. through surface run off) could flow overland into the local drainage network. However, such overflows are deemed unlikely to result in significant effects upon water quality in Killiney Bay. This is due to the following circumstances: the small scale of the proposed development; any pollution events will only occur during a short period of time (i.e. <2 years during construction), and are likely to be infrequent (i.e. limited to storm flows) where standard good practice for construction sites have been adhered to; and, due to the distance of the proposed development from Killiney Bay which would mean that any escaped contaminants would be subject to dilution, adsorption and mixing in the River Shanganagh and/or the local drainage network prior to reaching European Sites in Killiney Bay. As such there will be no risk of significant adverse impacts upon European sites occurring.

*Pressures on European sites in Killiney Bay from effluent*

The Shanganagh WWTP was upgraded in 2012. The upgrade involved the provision of a full secondary treatment of waste and the construction of a transfer pipeline from Bray pumping station to the plant. The plant now has a wastewater treatment capacity of 186,000 population equivalent (P.E.) with the potential of increasing its capacity to 248,000 P.E., if required in the future. The treated effluent from the plant is now consistently exceeding the standards laid down in the Urban Wastewater Directive<sup>10</sup>.

<sup>9</sup> Dublin City Council Planning Portal – Location Publisher <http://www.dublincity.ie/LocationPublisher/default.aspx?topicname=Planning&MapName=Planning>

<sup>10</sup> According to information on Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council Website. Available at: <http://www.dlrcco.ie/aboutus/councildepartments/corporateservices/communicationsoffice/excellenceinlocalgovernmentawards2013/shanganaghwastewatertreatmentplant/>  
Accessed 11-07-2014

*Conclusion for potential in-combination effects from surface and/or foul waters*

There will be no likelihood of significant effects on any European sites, and there will be no adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites during the construction or operation of the proposed development, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. This judgement was reached on the basis of the items discussed above which in summary are that:

- The proposed development site does not overlap with any European Sites, appears to contain only habitats which would not correspond to habitats listed under Annex 1 of the Habitats Directive, and there are no records for qualifying interest species of any European sites either on the site or immediately adjacent to it.
- The coastal waters in Killiney Bay are classed as 'Unpolluted' by the EPA;
- It is an objective of all development plans within the catchment of Shanganagh WWTP to include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems for all new development and same will be included in the proposed development;
- The recent upgrade at Shanganagh WWTP has ensured that the 'Unpolluted' water quality status of coastal waters at Killiney Bay are maintained, despite potential pressures from future development;
- Due to the distance of the proposed development site from Killiney Bay, the small scale of the proposed development, the short-term nature of the construction works (i.e. less than 2 years), the likely low frequency of any escape of contaminants/silt during construction (i.e. limited to storm flows) and the adherence to standard good practice for construction sites there will be no risk of significant adverse impacts upon European sites occurring.

European sites within 15km of the proposed development site are shown in Figure 1 in Appendix A.

**Table 2 Analysis of European sites within 15km.**

Site name and code	Distance from Proposed Development (approximate)	Reasons for designation <sup>11</sup> (*= Priority Habitat) (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 for SACs and 4.0 for SPAs, unless otherwise stated).	Relevant source-pathway-receptor links between proposed development and European site?  No sites are "Relevant" to the Proposed Development. (European sites are "Relevant" where a relevant source-pathway-receptor link <sup>12</sup> exists).
<b>Special Areas of Conservation</b>			
South Dublin Bay SAC (000210)	ca. 2.6 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Version 1.0 (22/08/13)</b></p> <p><b>Annex I Habitats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]</li> </ul>	<p>The proposed development will not result in likely significant effects on the SAC. This is due to the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large distance that lies between the site and the SAC; and substantial marine open water buffer that exists between the Shanghanagh WWTP outfall pipe and the SAC.</li> </ul>
North Dublin Bay SAC (000206)	ca. 7.4 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Version 1.0 (06/11/13)</b></p> <p><b>Annex I Habitats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]</li> <li>• Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]</li> <li>• <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310]</li> <li>• Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>) [1330]</li> <li>• <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i> [1395]</li> </ul>	<p>As above for South Dublin Bay SAC.</p>

<sup>11</sup> "Qualifying Interests" for SACs and "Special Conservation Interests" for SPAs based on relevant Statutory Instruments for each SPA, and NPWS Conservation Objectives for SACs downloaded from [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie) in March 2015.

<sup>12</sup> For significant effects to arise, there must be a risk enabled by having a 'source' (e.g. construction works at a proposed development site), a 'receptor' (e.g. a SAC), and a pathway between the source and the receptor (e.g. a watercourse connecting a proposed development site to a SAC). The identification of a pathway does not automatically mean significant effects will arise. The likelihood for significant effects will depend upon the characteristics of the source (e.g. duration of construction works), the characteristics of the pathway (e.g. water quality status of watercourse receiving run-off from construction) and the characteristics of the receptor (e.g. the ecology including conservation status of the SAC reason for designation). When expert judgment determines, that significant effects are likely to arise, both the pathway, and the European site are considered "Relevant", and an Appropriate Assessment is triggered.

Table 2 Analysis of European sites within 15km.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410]</li> <li>• Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]</li> <li>• Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes") [2120]</li> <li>• *Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes") [2130]</li> </ul> <p>Humid dune slacks [2190]</p>	
Baldoyle Bay SAC (000199)	ca. 13.6 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Version 1.0 (19/11/12)</b></p> <p><b>Annex I Habitats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]</li> <li>• <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310]</li> <li>• Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330]</li> <li>• Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410]</li> </ul>	As above for South Dublin Bay SAC.
Howth Head SAC (000202)	ca. 10.3 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 (13/02/15)</b></p> <p><b>Annex I Habitats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]</li> <li>• European dry heaths [4030]</li> </ul>	As above for South Dublin Bay SAC.
Ireland's Eye SAC (002193)	ca. 14.7 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 (13/02/15)</b></p> <p><b>Annex I Habitats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]</li> <li>• Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]</li> </ul>	As above for South Dublin Bay SAC.
Glenasmole Valley SAC (001209)	ca. 15 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 (13/02/15)</b></p> <p><b>Annex I Habitats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [6210] Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco Brometalia</i>)(* important orchid sites)</li> <li>• [6410] <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>)</li> <li>• [7220] * Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>)</li> </ul>	No, due to the substantial distance and the absence of any hydrological or other potential impact pathways between the proposed development and the European site.

Table 2 Analysis of European sites within 15km.

<p>Wicklow Mountains SAC (002122)</p>	<p>ca. 10.1 km</p>	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 (05/03/15)</b>  <b>Annex I Habitats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i> [3130]</li> <li>• Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160]</li> <li>• Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010]</li> <li>• European dry heaths [4030]</li> <li>• Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]</li> <li>• Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and sub-mountain areas, in Continental Europe) [6230]</li> <li>• Blanket bogs (* if active only) [7130]</li> <li>• Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (<i>Androsacetalia alpinae</i> and <i>Galeopsietalia ladani</i>) [8110]</li> <li>• Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210]</li> <li>• Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220]</li> <li>• Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex II Species:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Otter - <i>Lutra lutra</i> [1355]</li> </ul>	<p>No, due to the substantial distance and the absence of any hydrological or other potential impact pathways between the proposed development and the European site.</p>
<p>Knocksink Wood SAC (000725)</p>	<p>ca. 8.4 km</p>	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 (13/02/15)</b>  <b>Annex I Habitats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220]</li> <li>• *Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)</li> </ul>	<p>No, due to the substantial distance and the absence of any hydrological or other potential impact pathways between the proposed development and the European site.</p>
<p>Ballyman Glen SAC (000713)</p>	<p>ca. 7.9 km</p>	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 (12/02/15)</b>  <b>Annex I Habitats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220]</li> </ul>	<p>No, due to the substantial distance and the absence of any hydrological or other potential impact pathways between the proposed development and the European site.</p>

**Table 2 Analysis of European sites within 15km.**

Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (003000)	ca. 3.2km	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alkaline fens [7230]</li> </ul> <p><b>Detailed Conservation Objectives Version 1.0</b></p> <p><b>Annex I Habitats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reefs [1170]</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex II Species:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocaena</i>) [1351]</li> </ul>	<p>Whilst there is a potential linkage between the proposed development and the European site, no significant effects are predicted.</p> <p>1. Surface waters generated during construction and operation could carry silt, oils, or other chemicals into the local surface water sewer network which discharges to Killiney Bay via Shanganagh WWTP. However, there will be no significant effects on the reasons for designation of the European site in view of the relevant conservation objectives. This judgement was informed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The temporary and likely infrequent nature of any discharges related to construction of the site and short term duration of construction works;</li> <li>- the small scale of the proposed development and the adherence to standard good practice for construction; and</li> <li>- The use of SUDS on the site during operation</li> </ul> <p>2. Foul waters generated during operation will be treated at Shanganagh WWTP and discharged into Killiney Bay within the European site. No significant effects were predicted for the reasons set out under 'Potential for Cumulative effects upon European Sites' (See Table 1).</p>
Glen of the Downs (000719)	ca. 14.6km	<p><b>Annex I Habitats:</b></p> <p>[91A0] Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles</p>	<p>No, due to the substantial distance and the absence of any hydrological or other potential impact pathways between the proposed development and the European site</p>

Table 2 Analysis of European sites within 15km.

Bray Head SAC (000714)	ca. 9.3 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 (15/02/15)</b></p> <p><b>Annex I Habitats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]</li> <li>• European dry heaths [4030]</li> </ul>	<p>As above for Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC., and in the case of European dry heaths the fact that this habitat is located above the shoreline and therefore there is no hydrological connection to it.</p>
<b>Special Protection Areas</b>			
North Bull Island SPA (004006)	ca. 8.1 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 (13/02/15)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] [wintering]</li> <li>• Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] [wintering]</li> <li>• Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] [wintering]</li> <li>• Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054] [wintering]</li> <li>• Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056] [wintering]</li> <li>• Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] [wintering]</li> <li>• Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] [wintering]</li> <li>• Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141][wintering]</li> <li>• Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] [wintering]</li> <li>• Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] [wintering]</li> <li>• Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] [wintering]</li> <li>• Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] [wintering]</li> <li>• Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] [wintering]</li> <li>• Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160] [wintering]</li> <li>• Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] [wintering]</li> <li>• Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169] [wintering]</li> <li>• Black-headed Gull (<i>Craicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] [wintering]</li> <li>• Wetlands &amp; Waterbirds [A999]</li> </ul>	<p>The proposed development will not result in likely significant effects on the SPA. This is due to the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large distance that lies between the site and the SPA; and</li> <li>• Substantial marine open water buffer that exists between the Shanganagh WWTP outfall pipe and the SPA.</li> </ul> <p>There is no risk of disturbance to Special Conservation Interest bird species given the distance between the proposed development and the European site.</p>
South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	ca. 2.6 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 (13/02/15)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] [wintering]</li> </ul>	<p>As above for North Bull Island SPA.</p>

Table 2 Analysis of European sites within 15km.

(004024)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] [wintering]</li> <li>• Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] [wintering]</li> <li>• Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A140] [wintering]</li> <li>• Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] [wintering]</li> <li>• Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] [wintering]</li> <li>• Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] [wintering]</li> <li>• Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] [wintering]</li> <li>• Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] [wintering]</li> <li>• Black-headed Gull (<i>Croicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] [wintering]</li> <li>• Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192] [passage]</li> <li>• Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] [breeding]</li> <li>• Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194] [passage]</li> <li>• Wetlands &amp; Waterbirds [A999]</li> </ul>	
Baldoyle Bay SPA (04016)	ca. 13.1 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Version 1 (21/02/13)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] [wintering]</li> <li>• Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] [wintering]</li> <li>• Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] [wintering]</li> <li>• Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] [wintering]</li> <li>• Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] [wintering]</li> <li>• Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] [wintering]</li> <li>• Wetlands &amp; Waterbirds [A999]</li> </ul>	As above for North Bull Island SPA.
Howth Head Coast SPA (004113)	ca. 10.6 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 (13/02/15)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188] [breeding]</li> </ul>	As above for North Bull Island SPA.
Ireland's Eye SPA (004117)	ca. 14.5 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 (13/02/15)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017] [breeding]</li> <li>• Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184] [breeding]</li> <li>• Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188] [breeding]</li> </ul>	As above for North Bull Island SPA.

Table 2 Analysis of European sites within 15km.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) [A199] [breeding]</li> <li>• Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>) [A200] [breeding]</li> </ul>		
Wicklow Mountains SPA (004040)	ca. 10.5 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 (13/02/15)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) [A098] [breeding]</li> <li>• Peregrine (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) [A103] [breeding]</li> </ul>		<p>The proposed development will not result in likely significant effects on the SPA. This is due to the:</p> <p>Absence of any hydrological or other connection between the proposed site and the cSAC and the large distance that lies between the site and SPA.</p>
Dalkey Islands SPA (04127)	ca. 3 km	<p><b>Conservation Objectives Generic Version 4.0 (13/02/15)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roseate Tern <i>Sterna dougalii</i> [A192] [passage]</li> <li>• Common Tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i> [A193] [passage]</li> <li>• Arctic Tern <i>Sterna paradisaea</i> [A194] [passage]</li> </ul>		<p>Whilst there is a potential linkage between the proposed development and the European site, no significant effects are predicted.</p> <p>1. Surface waters generated during construction and operation could carry silt, oils, or other chemicals into the local surface water sewer network which discharges to Killiney Bay via Shanganagh WWTP. However, there will be no significant effects on the reasons for designation of the European site in view of the relevant conservation objectives. This judgement was informed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The temporary and likely infrequent nature of any discharges related to construction of the site and short term duration of construction works;</li> <li>- the small scale of the proposed development and the adherence to standard good practice for construction; and</li> <li>- The use of SUDS on the site during operation.</li> </ul> <p>2. Foul waters generated during operation will be treated at Shanganagh WWTP and discharged into Killiney Bay within the European site. No significant effects were predicted for the reasons</p>

**Table 2 Analysis of European sites within 15km.**

			set out under 'Potential for Cumulative effects upon European Sites' (See Table 1).



### 3 Conclusions of the Screening Assessment

Following an analysis of the proposed development and potential relationships with European sites, it was our professional opinion that there will be no likelihood of significant effects on any European sites and no impacts to European site integrity, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Therefore it is our view that an Appropriate Assessment is not required.

## References

- BirdLife International (2013).** IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> in November 2013.
- Colhoun K. & Cummins S. (2013).** *Birds of Conservation Concern in Ireland 2014–2019*. BirdWatch Ireland.
- Council of the European Communities (1992)** *Council Directive of 21 May 1992 on The Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC)*. O. J. L 206/35, 22 July 1992.
- DoEHLG (2010).** *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland - Guidance for Planning Authorities* (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Rev Feb 2010).
- Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council (2010a).** Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2010-2016.
- DoAHG (2011).** *Actions for Biodiversity, National Biodiversity Plan*.
- Eastern River Basin District (2009).** Eastern River Basin District, River Basin Management Plan 2009 – 2015.
- Environmental Protection Agency (2015).** *Water Quality in Ireland. 2010-2012*. Available online at [http://www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/water/waterqua/wqr20102012/#.VeQvR\\_IViko](http://www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/water/waterqua/wqr20102012/#.VeQvR_IViko)
- European Commission (EC) (updated April 2015).** *Managing Natura 2000 sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC* (EC Environment Directorate-General, 2000); hereinafter referred to as “MN2000”.
- European Commission (EC) (2000b).** *Communication from the Commission on the precautionary principle*.
- European Commission (EC) (2001).** *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 Directorate-General).
- European Commission (EC) (2007).** *Guidance Document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC. Clarification of the Concepts of Alternative Solutions, Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest, Compensatory Measures, Overall Coherence*. Opinion of the European Commission.
- European Parliament and European Council (2009).** *Directive 2009/147/EC of 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009 on the Conservation of Wild Birds (2009/147/EC)*. O.J. L20/7, 26<sup>th</sup> January 2010.
- Irish Water (2014).** *North Lotts and Grand Canal Docks SDZ Oral Hearing Evidence* (24<sup>th</sup> February 2014).
- NPWS (2010).** Circular NPW 1/10 & PSSP 2/10 *Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive: Guidance for Planning Authorities*. (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, March 2010).
- NPWS (2013a).** *The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland*. Habitats Assessments Volume 2, Version 1.1. Unpublished Report, National Parks & Wildlife Services. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Dublin, Ireland.
- NPWS (2013b).** *The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland*. Species Assessments Volume 3, Version 1.1. Unpublished Report, National Parks & Wildlife Services. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Dublin, Ireland.

