

PC/IC/03/23

**Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination under the
European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011
(as amended)
for
Living Streets: Dún Laoghaire
at
Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin**

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council is proposing to enhance the attractiveness, liveability, connectivity, and economic vibrancy of Dún Laoghaire Town via the Living Streets: Dún Laoghaire project.

The site of proposed works is located in Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin (Grid Reference O 24324 28493). Living Streets Dún Laoghaire is a mobility and public realm improvement project which aims to enhance the attractiveness, liveability, connectivity, and economic vibrancy of Dún Laoghaire Town. Following on from the temporary measures implemented during the summer of 2021, the proposed scheme will permanently upgrade the urban realm in Dún Laoghaire.

The principal objectives of the scheme are:

- To make walking, cycling, and public transport more convenient, enjoyable, and safer for all.
- To improve connections between bus, rail, and active travel facilities to make it easier for people to get around.
- Improve the environment by reducing traffic and related noise and air pollution and increasing planting in public spaces.
- To promote equitable travel options and urban design that creates a safe and welcoming experience for all members of society, regardless of age, gender, ability, or income.
- To enhance the economic vibrancy of Dún Laoghaire as a mixed-use town and its attractiveness as a destination by facilitating the sustainable and efficient movement of people and goods, and by creating an environment that people want to linger in.
- To promote health and well-being in the community by enabling safer active travel and enhancing the public realm for outdoor play, recreation, and social interaction

The scheme will involve an upgrade of 1.2 km of George's Street from the junction of De Vesci Terrace on Cumberland Street to the junction by the People's Park including the pedestrianisation of part of George's Street Lower from the junction with Patrick Street to St. Michael's Hospital and a section of Sussex Street and Convent Road. The works also include Marine Road, Library Road, and Clarence Street. Works have also been proposed at Cross Avenue, Tivoli Road, and Clarinda Park in the form of modal filters. As part of this scheme a major upgrade is proposed to Clarinda Park to return it to its historical boundaries. This scheme also involves some additional road safety measures at Glenageary Road Lower

and York Road. Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) will be used wherever possible to improve treatment and attenuation of surface water, prior to entering the existing drainage network.

Having regard to the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC), the Council determines that the proposal does not need to be subject to a Stage Two Appropriate Assessment (Natura Impact Statement).

It is considered that the Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report prepared by MKO Planning and Environmental Consultancy gives full consideration to the Directives.

Through an assessment of the pathways for effects and an evaluation of the project characteristics, taking account of the processes involved and the distance of separation from European sites, it has been evaluated that there are no likely significant adverse effects on the qualifying interests, special conservation interest or the conservation objectives of any designated European site.

Given the nature and scale of the proposed works to Dun Laoghaire Town, the proposed development will not lead to significant in-combination effects with any other plans or projects.

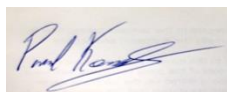
This evaluation is made in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species for which these sites have been designated. It is concluded that the proposed development will not give rise to any significant adverse effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects¹, in the absence of mitigation. Consequently, a Stage Two AA / Natura Impact Statement is not required for the project.

Signature



Senior Engineer

Signatory (Approved Officer)



Date

24/10/23

¹ Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be:

- a) No alternative solution available,
- b) Imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and
- c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.