

Appropriate Assessment Screening for a Proposed Development of Sports & Community Facilities at Cabinteely Park, Co. Dublin.



7th August 2024

Prepared by: Bryan Deegan (MCIEEM) of Altemar Ltd. **On behalf of:** Dún Laoghaire—Rathdown County Council

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Introduction

The following Appropriate Assessment (AA) (Screening Stage) has been prepared by **Altemar Ltd.** at the request of Dún Laoghaire—Rathdown Council for the proposed development of Sports & Community facilities at Cabinteely Park, Co. Dublin.

An Appropriate Assessment is an assessment of the potential effects of a proposed project or plan, on its own, or in combination with other plans or projects, on one or more European sites. European sites are those sites designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) or Special Protection Areas (SPA).

The AA (screening stage) examines the likely significant effects of a plan or project, either on its own, or in combination with other plans and projects, upon a European site and considers whether, on the basis of objective scientific evidence, it can be concluded that there are no likely significant effects on any European site, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of the relevant European sites.

Altemar Ltd.

Since its inception in 2001, Altemar has been delivering ecological and environmental services to a broad range of clients. Operational areas include: residential; infrastructural; renewable; oil & gas; private industry; Local Authorities; EC projects; and, State/semi-State Departments. Bryan Deegan, the managing director of Altemar, is an Environmental Scientist and Marine Biologist with 30years' experience working in Irish terrestrial and aquatic environments, providing services to the State, Semi-State and industry.

Bryan is currently contracted to Inland Fisheries Ireland as the sole "External Expert" to environmentally assess internal and external projects. He is also chair of an internal IFI working group on environmental assessment. Bryan Deegan (MCIEEM) holds a MSc in Environmental Science, BSc (Hons.) in Applied Marine Biology, NCEA National Diploma in Applied Aquatic Science and a NCEA National Certificate in Science (Aquaculture). Bryan Deegan carried out all elements of this Appropriate Assessment Screening.

Background to the Appropriate Assessment

The Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (together with the Birds Directive (2009/1477/EC)) forms the cornerstone of Europe's nature conservation policy. The Directive protects over 1000 animals and plant species and over 200 "habitat types" which are of European importance. In the Habitats Directive, Articles 3 to 9 provide the legislative means to protect habitats and species of European Community interest through the establishment and conservation of an EU-wide network of conservation sites (NATURA, 2000). These are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Birds Directive), Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans and projects likely to affect European sites (Annex 1.1). Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for Appropriate Assessment:

"Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the [EUROPEAN] site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, shall be subjected to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implication for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the component national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public."

As outlined in "Managing European sites, The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC" (European Commission, 21 November 2018) "The purpose of the appropriate assessment is to assess the implications of the plan or project in respect of the site's conservation objectives, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects. The conclusions should enable the competent authorities to ascertain whether the plan or project will adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned. The focus of the appropriate assessment is therefore specifically on the species and/or the habitats for which the European site is designated."

As outlined in the EC guidance document on Article 6(4) (January 2007)¹:

"Appropriate assessments of the implications of the plan or project for the site concerned must precede its approval and take into account the cumulative effects which result from the combination of that plan or project with other plans or projects in view of the site's conservation objectives. This implies that all aspects of the plan or project which can, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, affect those objectives must be identified in the light of the best scientific knowledge in the field.

Assessment procedures of plans or projects likely to affect European sites should guarantee full consideration of all elements contributing to the site integrity and to the overall coherence of the network, both in the definition of the baseline conditions and in the stages leading to identification of potential impacts, mitigation measures and residual impacts. These determine what has to be compensated, both in quality and quantity. Regardless of whether the provisions of Article 6(3) are delivered following existing environmental impact assessment procedures or other specific methods, it must be ensured that:

- Article 6(3) assessment results allow full traceability of the decisions eventually made, including the selection of alternatives and any imperative reasons of overriding public interest.
- The assessment should include all elements contributing to the site's integrity and to the
 overall coherence of the network as defined in the site's conservation objectives and Standard
 Data Form, and be based on best available scientific knowledge in the field. The information
 required should be updated and could include the following issues:
 - Structure and function, and the respective role of the site's ecological assets;
 - Area, representativity and conservation status of the priority and nonpriority habitats in the site;
 - Population size, degree of isolation, ecotype, genetic pool, age class structure, and conservation status of species under Annex II of the Habitats Directive or Annex I of the Birds Directive present in the site;

¹ European Commission. (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 commission;

- Role of the site within the biographical region and in the coherence of the European network; and,
- o Any other ecological assets and functions identified in the site.
- It should include a comprehensive identification of all the potential impacts of the plan or project likely to be significant on the site, taking into account cumulative impacts and other impacts likely to arise as a result of the combined action of the plan or project under assessment and other plans or projects.
- The assessment under Article 6(3) applies the best available techniques and methods, to estimate the extent of the effects of the plan or project on the biological integrity of the site(s) likely to be damaged.
- The assessment provides for the incorporation of the most effective mitigation measures into the plan or project concerned, in order to avoid, reduce or even cancel the negative impacts on the site.
- The characterisation of the biological integrity and the impact assessment should be based on the best possible indicators specific to the European assets which must also be useful to monitor the plan or project implementation."

Stages of the Appropriate Assessment

This Appropriate Assessment screening was undertaken in accordance with the European Commission Methodological Guidance on the provision of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC (EC, 2001), Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, in addition to the December 2009 publication from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government; 'Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities' and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011. In order to comply with the above Guidelines and legislation, the Appropriate Assessment process must be structured as follows:

- 1) Screening stage:
 - Description of plan or project, and local site or plan area characteristics;
 - Identification of relevant European sites, and compilation of information on their qualifying interests and conservation objectives
 - Identification and description of individual in combination effects likely to result from the proposed project;
 - Assessment of the likely significance of the effects identified above. Exclusion of sites where it can be objectively concluded that there will be no likely significant effects; and, Conclusions
- 2) Appropriate Assessment (Natura Impact Statement):
 - Description of the European sites that will be considered further;
 - Identification and description of potential adverse impacts on the conservation objectives of these sites likely to occur from the project or plan; and,
 - Mitigation Measures that will be implemented to avoid, reduce or remedy any such potential adverse impacts
 - Assessment as to whether, following the implementation of the proposed mitigation measures, it
 can be concluded, beyond all reasonable scientific doubt, that there will be no adverse impact on
 the integrity of the relevant European Site in light of its conservation objectives"
 - Conclusions.

If it can be demonstrated during the AA screening phase (Stage 1), that the proposed project will not have a significant effect, whether alone or in combination with other plans or projects, on the conservation objectives of a European site, then no further AA (Stage 2) will be required. It is important to note that there is a requirement to apply a precautionary approach to AA screening. Therefore, where effects are possible, certain or unknown at the screening stage, AA will be required.

In addition, it should be noted that Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive must be interpreted as meaning that, in order to determine whether it is necessary to carry out, subsequently, an AA of the implications, for a site concerned, of a plan or project, it is not appropriate, at the screening stage, to take account of the measures intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of the plan or project on that site.

Stage 1 Screening Assessment

Management of the Site

The plan or project is not directly connected with, or necessary to the management of European sites.

Description of the Proposed Project

The proposed development will provide community facilities for local clubs and groups and ensure a long-term and sustainable use for the gate-lodge, a Protected Structure. The entrance will be enhanced with natural stone paving, planting and street furniture.

Changing Pavilion:

A new changing pavilion building (approx. 50 sq. m) is proposed to the north of the existing gate-lodge. This will include two changing rooms with team storage areas, an accessible toilet and small plant rooms. The structure will be a high-quality timber framed modular unit with robust aluminium doors, zinc seamed or fibreglass roof with skylights and external cedar cladding. It will include photo-voltaic panels on the roof and incorporate rain water harvesting.

Gate-Lodge:

The gate-lodge will be faithfully restored for community usage in accordance with conservation principles under the direction of a grade 1 conservation Architect. It will include meeting rooms, a small kitchenette and a toilet. The poorly constructed modern extension will be demolished so that the building can standalone again in the parkland setting. The building will be approximately 75 sq. m when the extension is removed.

Entrance:

The existing entrance will be enhanced with natural stone paving, appropriate ornamental planting, seating and other street furniture. The use of sustainable urban drainage will be incorporated.

No European sites are within the potential Zone of Influence (ZoI). The ZoI of the proposed project would be seen to be restricted to the site outline with potential for minor localised noise, dust and light impacts during construction. Drainage from site, both foul and surface water, would be seen as the outputs form the site during construction and operation that could potentially extend the potential ZoI. However, the proposed development is not directly hydrologically linked to a European site.

Drainage

No site-specific drainage report has been prepared for this site due to the small scale of the project.

Foul Effluent Drainage

The foul drainage from the site will be connected to the public network which will ultimately discharge to Shanganagh WwTP.

Surface Water Drainage

Surface water from the proposed developments will drain locally to on-site soakaways.

Biodiversity on site

Two site walkovers were carried out and the results of these are seen in Appendix I. It should be noted that the proposed works are proximate to one of the main entrances to the Park, within woodland and beside an orchard and treelines.



Figure 1. Site Context Map

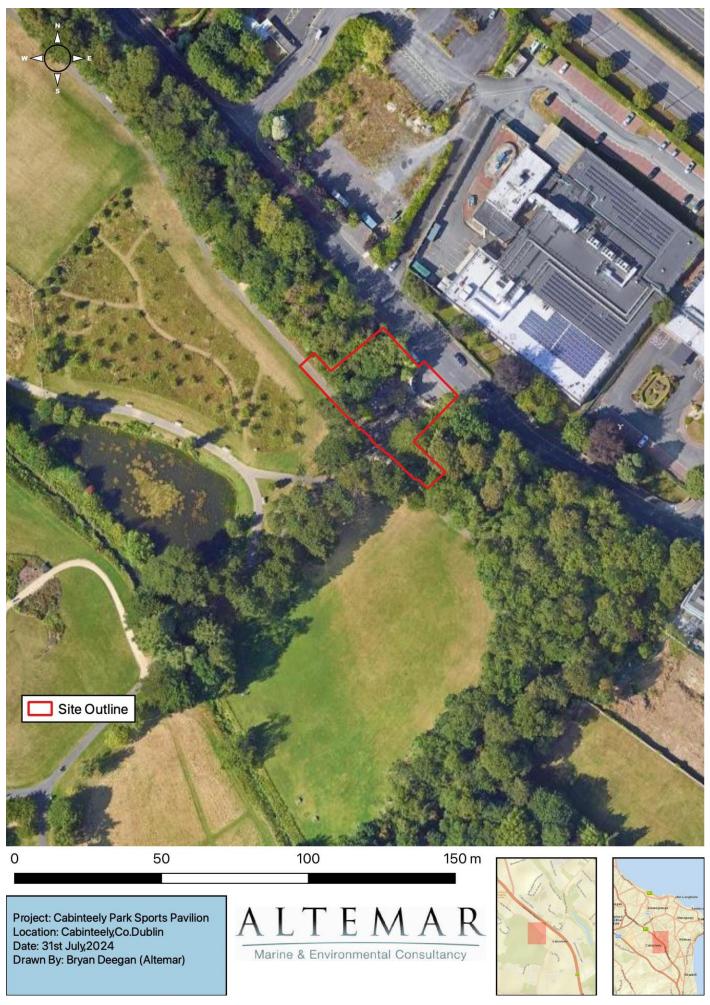


Figure 2. Site Context Map

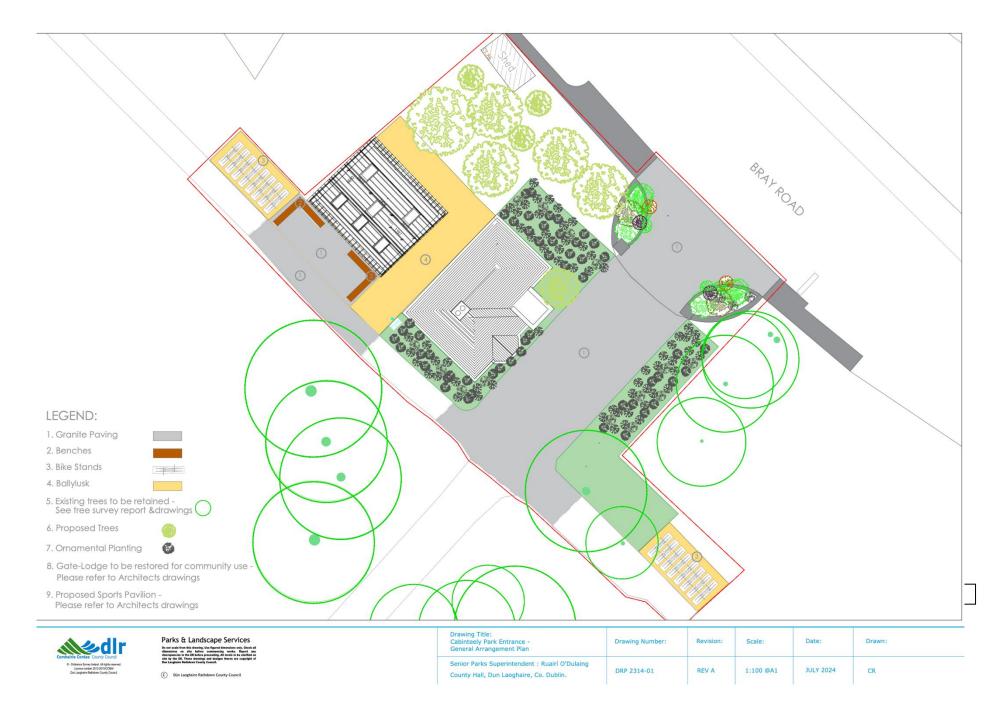


Figure 2. Proposed Landscape and Site Outline

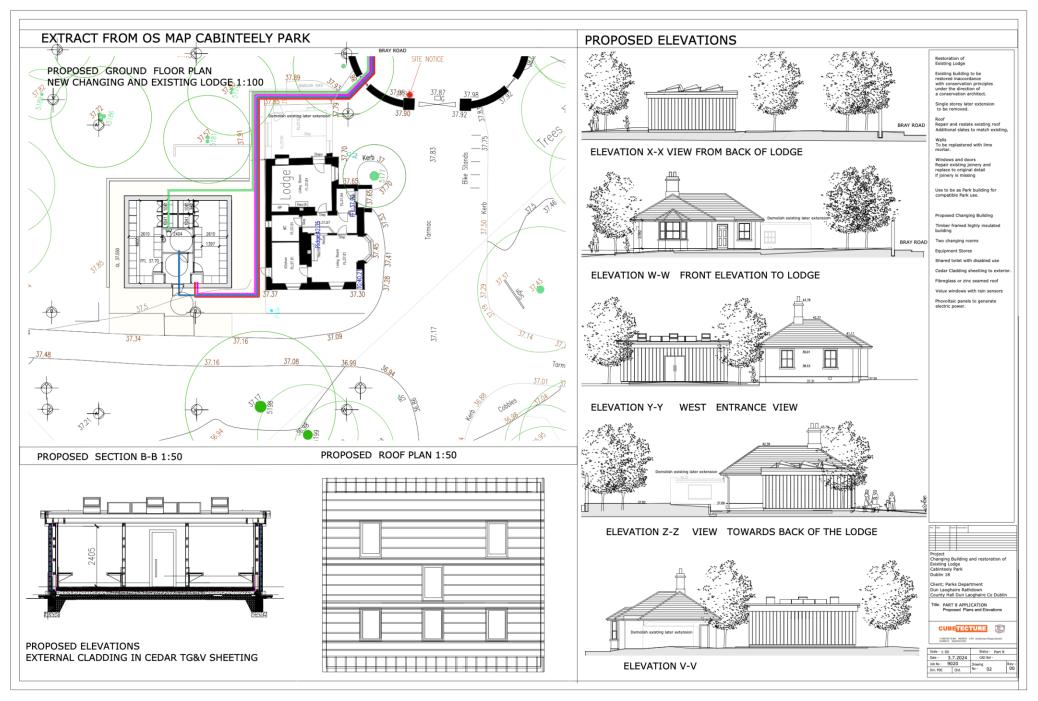


Figure 4. Proposed Site Plan and Elevations

Identification of Relevant European Sites

The proposed works are not within a European site. The European sites within 15km are seen in Figures 5 & 6 and in Table 1. As can be seen from the EPA Water Framework Directive (WFD) data in Figures 7-10, the nearest watercourse is the Carrickmines Stream (90m), however, there is no direct pathway to a European site. There is an indirect pathway from the site to marine Natura 2000 sites via the foul water networks and processed effluent from Shanganagh WwTP. The proposed development site is located within Cabinteely Park and there are no intact biodiversity corridor to European sites. No European sites are deemed to be in the potential Zone of Influence (ZoI). However, following the precautionary principle, screening of all European sites within 15km and those with a direct/indirect pathway beyond 15km is carried out.

The proposed development site is not within a EUROPEAN site. The distance from the proposed works to European sites are seen in Table 1.

Table 1. Proximity to designated sites of conservation importance

Code	European Site	Distance	Direct Hydrological / Biodiversity Connection				
Special Areas	Special Areas of Conservation						
IE000210	South Dublin Bay SAC	3.7km	No				
IE003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	4.2km	No				
IE000713	Ballyman Glen SAC	6.1km	No				
IE000725	Knocksink Wood SAC	6.5km	No				
IE002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	8.2km	No				
IE000714	Bray Head SAC	8.4km	No				
IE000206	North Dublin Bay SAC	9.2km	No				
IE000202	Howth Head SAC	11.9km	No				
IE000719	Glen of the Downs SAC	13.3km	No				
IE001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	13.6km	No				
IE000199	Baldoyle Bay SAC	14.6km	No				
Special Protec	tion Area						
IE004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	3.7km	No				
IE004172	Dalkey Island's SPA	4.2km	No				
IE004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	8.2km	No				
IE004006	North Bull Island SPA	9.2km	No				
IE004113	Howth Head Coast SPA	12.8km	No				
IE004016	Baldoyle Bay SPA	14.7km	No				

The initial screening of European sites within 15km of the subject site, their features of interest and the Source/Pathway/Receptor links between the works and the European site, with the potential to result in adverse effects (without mitigation measures) on each European site and features of interest, are seen in Table 2.

Name	Screened	Details/Reason
	IN/OUT	
South Dublin Bay SAC	ОИТ	Conservation Objectives To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide in South Dublin Bay SAC, which is defined by the following targets: • The permanent habitat area is stable or increasing, subject to Natural processes. • Maintain the extent of the Zostera —dominated community, subject to Natural processes. • Conserve the high quality of the Zostera —dominated community, subject to Natural processes • Conserve the following community type in a Natural condition: Fine sands with Angulus tenuis community complex.
		Features of Interest [1140] Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1210] Annual vegetation of drift lines [1310] Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [2110] Embryonic shifting dunes Potential Impact
		The proposed works site is a minimum of 3.7km from this SAC (Figure 5). No potential effect is foreseen. There is no direct hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site. Surface water from the proposed developments will drain locally to the on-site soakaway. The foul drainage from the site will be connected to the public network which will ultimately discharge to Shanganagh WwTP. Therefore, there is a weak indirect pathway to this SAC via Shanganagh Waste Water Treatment Plant which is operating within capacity.
Rockahill to	OUT	No significant effects are likely.
Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	OUI	Conservation Objectives To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Reefs and Harbour porpoise, in Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC, which is defined by the following list of targets: • The permanent habitat area is stable or increasing, subject to Natural processes. • Distribution of habitat is stable or increasing, subject to Natural processes. • Conserve the following community types in a Natural condition: Intertidal reef community complex; and Subtidal reef community complex. • Porpoise range within site should not be restricted by artificial barriers to site use. • Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the harbour porpoise community at the site. Feature of Interest
	Rockabill to Dalkey Island	Rockabill to Dalkey Island IN/OUT IN/OUT OUT OUT OUT OUT

European Site Code	Name	Screened IN/OUT	Details/Reason
			[1170] Reefs [1351] <i>Phocoena phocoena</i> (Harbour porpoise)
			Potential Impact The proposed works site is a minimum of 4.2km from this SAC (Figure 5). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site. Surface water from the proposed developments will drain locally to the on-site soakaway. The foul drainage from the site will be connected to the public network which will ultimately discharge to Shanganagh WwTP. Therefore, there is a weak indirect pathway to this SAC via Shanganagh Waste Water Treatment Plant which is operating within capacity
			No significant effects are likely.
IE000713	Ballyman Glen SAC	ОИТ	Conservation Objectives The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.
			Features of Interest Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220] Alkaline fens [7230]
			Potential Impact The proposed works site is a minimum of 6.1km from this SAC (Figure 5). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct or indirect hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.
			No significant effects are likely
IE000725	Knocksink Wood SAC	ОИТ	Conservation Objectives The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.
			Features of Interest Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220] Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0] Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]
			Potential Impact The proposed works site is a minimum of 6.5km from this SAC (Figure 5). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct or indirect hydrological pathway from the proposed development

European Site Code	Name	Screened IN/OUT	Details/Reason
			site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site. No significant effects are likely
IE002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	ОИТ	Conservation Objectives 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.
			Features of Interest 1355 Otter (Lutra lutra) 3110 Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea 3160 Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix 4030 European dry heaths 4060 Alpine and Boreal heaths 6130 Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae 6230 Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas 7130 Blanket bogs 8110 Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) 8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum
			The proposed works site is a minimum of 8.2km from this SAC (Figure 5). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct or indirect hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.
IE000714	Bray Head SAC	OUT	Conservation Objectives The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level. Feature of Interest Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230] European dry heaths [4030]
			Potential Impact The proposed works site is a minimum of 8.4km from this SAC (Figure 5). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed

European Site Code	Name	Screened IN/OUT	Details/Reason
			development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site. Surface water from the proposed developments will drain locally to the on-site soakaway. The foul drainage from the site will be connected to the public network which will ultimately discharge to Shanganagh WwTP. Therefore, there is a weak indirect pathway to this SAC via Shanganagh Waste Water Treatment Plant which is operating within capacity
150000300	Nowth Dublin	OUT	No significant effects are likely.
IE0000206	North Dublin Bay SAC	ОИТ	Conservation Objectives: 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.
			Features of Interest [1140] Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1210] Annual vegetation of drift lines [1310] Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand
			[1330] Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1395] Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>) [1410] Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [2110] Embryonic shifting dunes
			[2120] Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila</i> arenaria [2130] Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)
			[2190] Humid dune slacks
			Potential Impact The proposed works site is a minimum of 9.2km from this SAC (Figure 5). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.
			Surface water from the proposed developments will drain locally to the on-site soakaway. The foul drainage from the site will be connected to the public network which will ultimately discharge to Shanganagh WwTP. Therefore, there is a weak indirect pathway to this SAC via Shanganagh Waste Water Treatment Plant which is operating within capacity
			No significant effects are likely.
IE0000202	Howth Head SAC	ОИТ	Conservation Objectives 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.
			Features of Interest [1230] Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [4030] European dry heaths

European Site Code	Name	Screened IN/OUT	Details/Reason
			Potential Impact The proposed works site is a minimum of 11.9km from this SAC (Figure 5). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site. Surface water from the proposed developments will drain locally to the on-site soakaway. The foul drainage from the site will be connected to the public network which will ultimately discharge to Shanganagh WwTP. Therefore, there is a weak indirect pathway to this SAC via Shanganagh Waste Water Treatment Plant which is operating within capacity No significant effects are likely.
IE000719	Glen of the	OUT	Conservation Objectives
1200713	Downs SAC	001	The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level. Features of Interest
			Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]
			Potential Impact The proposed works site is a minimum of 13.3km from this SAC (Figure 5). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct or indirect hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.
			No significant effects are likely
IE001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	OUT	Conservation Objectives: 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.
			Qualifying Interests 6210 Semi-Natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco Brometalia</i>) 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>)
			7220 Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>)
			Source/Pathway/Receptor links between the works and the European site, with the potential to result in significant adverse effects.
			The proposed works site is a minimum of 13.6km from this SAC (Figure 5). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct or indirect hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed

European Site Code	Name	Screened IN/OUT	Details/Reason
			development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.
			No significant effects are likely
IE0000199	Baldoyle Bay	OUT	Conservation Objectives
	SAC		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.
			Features of Interest (1310) Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand (1330) Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco - Puccinellietalia maritimae)
			(1410) Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)
			Potential Impact The proposed works site is a minimum of 14.6km from this SAC (Figure 5). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct or indirect hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site. Surface water from the proposed developments will drain locally
			to the on-site soakaway. The foul drainage from the site will be connected to the public network which will ultimately discharge to Shanganagh WwTP. Therefore, there is a weak indirect pathway to this SAC via Shanganagh Waste Water Treatment Plant which is operating within capacity
Consist Dunt			No significant effects are likely
IE0004024	South Dublin	OUT	Conservation Objectives
120004024	Bay and River Tolka Estuary	001	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Conservation Interests for this SPA.
	SPA		To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the wetland habitat in South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA as a resource for the regularly occurring migratory waterbirds that utilise it.
			Features of Interest Branta bernicla hrota (Light-bellied Brent Goose) [A046] Haematopus ostralegus (Oystercatcher) [A130] Charadrius hiaticula (Ringed Plover) [A137] Pluvialis squatarola (Grey Plover) [A141] Calidris canutus (Knot) [A143) Calidris alba (Sanderling) [A144] Calidris alpina (Dunlin) [A149] Limosa lapponica (Bar-tailed Godwit) [A157] Tringa totanus (Redshank) [A162] Chroicocephalus ridibundus (Black-headed Gull) [A179] Sterna dougallii (Roseate Tern) [A192] Sterna hirundo (Common Tern) [A193] Sterna paradisaea (Arctic Tern) [A194] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]

European Site Code	Name	Screened IN/OUT	Details/Reason
			Potential Impact The proposed works site is in a wooded area a minimum of 3.7km from this SPA (Figure 6). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SPA. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site. Works are minor in nature at the busy entrance to a pubic park and limited to a wooded area which would not be a foraging habitat for the conservation interests of this site. Surface water from the proposed developments will drain locally to the on-site soakaway. The foul drainage from the site will be connected to the public network which will ultimately discharge to Shanganagh WwTP. Therefore, there is a weak indirect pathway to this SAC via Shanganagh Waste Water Treatment Plant which is operating within capacity
IE004172	Dalkey Islands	Out	No significant effects are likely. Conservation Objectives
	SPA	Out	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA. Features of Interest A192 Roseate Tern (Sterna dougallii) A193 Common Tern (Sterna hirundo) A194 Arctic Tern (Sterna paradisaea) Potential Impacts The proposed works site is a minimum of 4.2km from this SPA (Figure 6). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct or indirect hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SPA. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site. Works are minor in nature at the busy entrance to a pubic park and limited to a wooded area which would not be a foraging habitat for the conservation interests of this site. Surface water from the proposed developments will drain locally to the on-site soakaway. The foul drainage from the site will be connected to the public network which will ultimately discharge to Shanganagh WwTP. Therefore, there is a weak indirect pathway to this SAC via Shanganagh Waste Water Treatment Plant which is operating within capacity No significant effects are likely
IE004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	Out	Conservation Objectives To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.
			Features of Interest A098 Merlin (Falco colombarius) A103 Peregrine (Falco peregrinus)
			Potential Impact

European Site Code	Name	Screened IN/OUT	Details/Reason
			The proposed development site is located 8.2km from this SPA (Figures 6). There is no hydrological connection to this SPA. As a result of the distance any noise levels from site would be expected to be negligible in this European site. The site would not be expected to be an important area for the features of interest of this SPA. No significant effects are likely
IE0004006	North Bull	OUT	Conservation Objectives
120004000	Island SPA	001	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation conditions of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA
			Features of Interest A046 Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) A048 Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) A052 Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) A054 Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) A056 Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>)
			A130 Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) A140 Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) A141 Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) A143 Knot (Calidris canutus)
			A144 Sanderling (Calidris alba) A149 Dunlin (Calidris alpina alpine) A156 Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) A157 Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica)
			A160 Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) A162 Redshank (<i>Tringa tetanus</i>) A169 Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) A179 Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>)
			A999 Wetlands
			Potential Impact The proposed works site is a minimum of 9.2km from this SPA (Figure 6). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SPA. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.
			Works are minor in nature at the busy entrance to a pubic park and limited to a wooded area which would not be a foraging habitat for the conservation interests of this site. Surface water from the proposed developments will drain locally
			to the on-site soakaway. The foul drainage from the site will be connected to the public network which will ultimately discharge to Shanganagh WwTP. Therefore, there is a weak indirect pathway to this SAC via Shanganagh Waste Water Treatment Plant which is operating within capacity
			No Significant Effects Are Likely
IE0004113	Howth Head Coast SPA	OUT	Conservation Objectives To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA

European Site Code	Name	Screened IN/OUT	Details/Reason
			Qualifying Interests A188 Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>)
			Potential Impact The proposed works site is a minimum of 12.8km from this SPA (Figure 6). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SPA. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site. Works are minor in nature at the busy entrance to a pubic park and limited to a wooded area which would not be a foraging habitat for the conservation interests of this site. Surface water from the proposed developments will drain locally to the on-site soakaway. The foul drainage from the site will be connected to the public network which will ultimately discharge to Shanganagh WwTP. Therefore, there is a weak indirect pathway to this SAC via Shanganagh Waste Water Treatment Plant which is operating within capacity
			No significant effects are likely
IE0004016	Baldoyle Bay SPA	OUT	Conservation Objectives The maintenance of habitats and species within European sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level. Features of Interest [A046] Brent Goose Branta bernicla hrota [A048] Shelduck Tadorna tadorna [A137] Ringed Plover Charadrius hiaticula [A140] Golden Plover Pluvialis apricaria [A141] Grey Plover Pluvialis squatarola [A157] Bar-tailed Godwit Limosa lapponica [A999] Wetlands Potential Impact The proposed works site is a minimum of 14.7km from this SPA (Figure 6). No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to the SPA. The construction and operation of the proposed
			development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site. Works are minor in nature at the busy entrance to a pubic park and limited to a wooded area which would not be a foraging habitat for the conservation interests of this site. Surface water from the proposed developments will drain locally to the on-site soakaway. The foul drainage from the site will be connected to the public network which will ultimately discharge to Shanganagh WwTP. Therefore, there is a weak indirect pathway to this SAC via Shanganagh Waste Water Treatment Plant which is operating within capacity No significant effects are likely

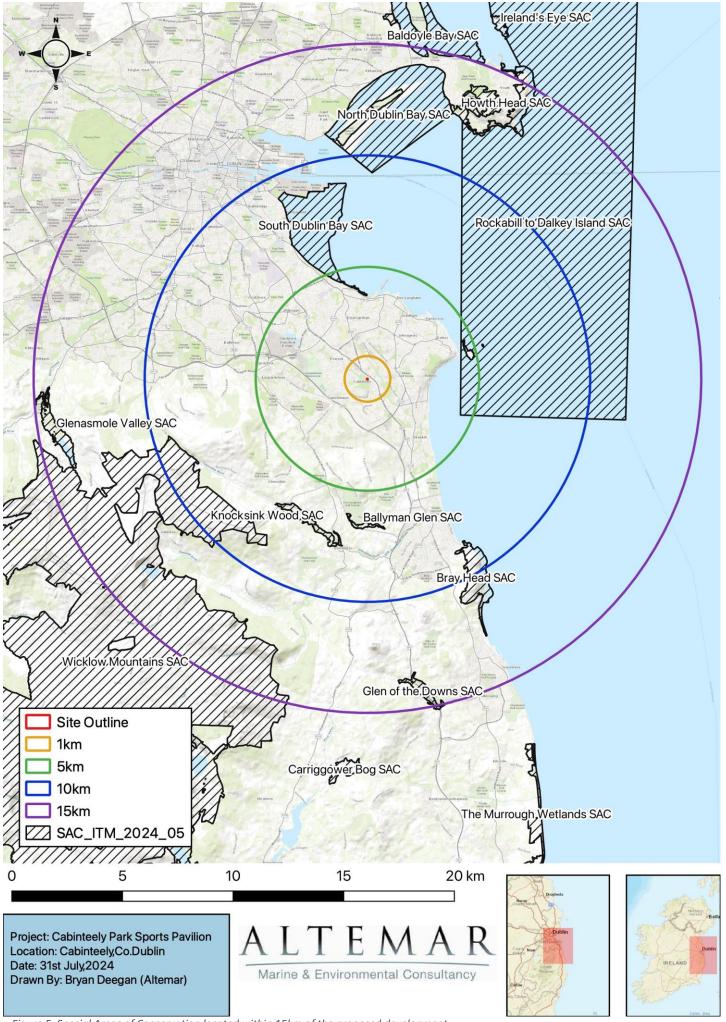


Figure 5. Special Areas of Conservation located within 15km of the proposed development

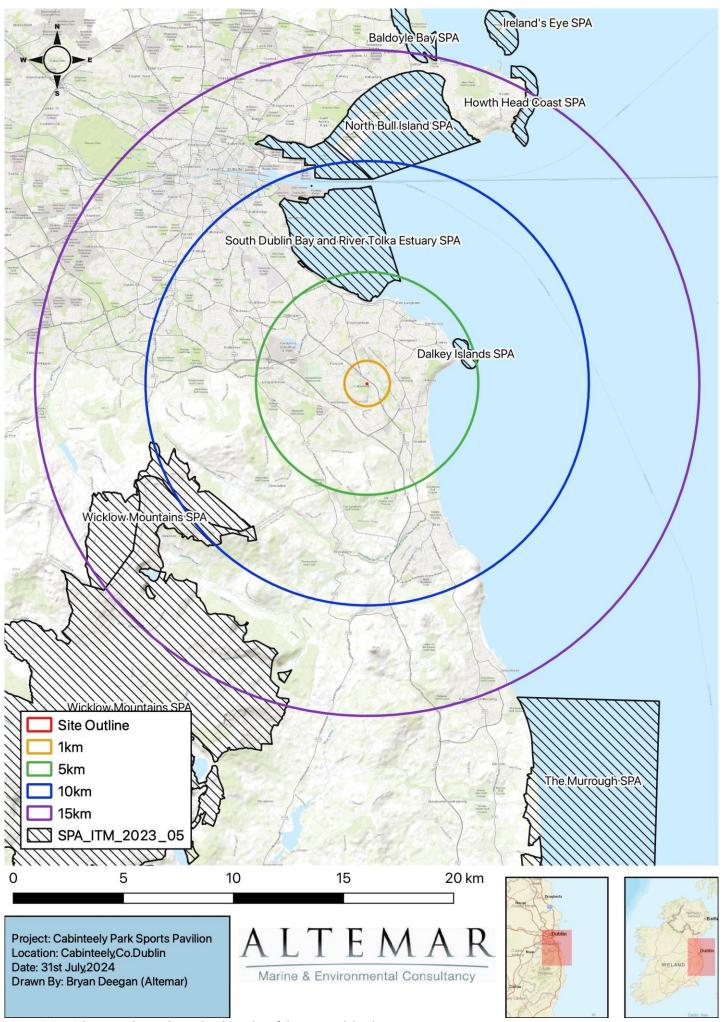


Figure 6. Special Protected Areas located within 15km of the proposed development



Figure 7. Watercourses within 1km of the proposed development



Figure 8. Watercourses in proximity to the proposed development



Figure 9. Watercourses and SACs within 5 km of the site.



Figure 10. Watercourses and SPAs within 5 km of the site.

In-Combination Effects

There are several development proposals located in the areas surrounding the subject site that have been granted permission. The following is a list of planning application(s) as identified on the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage's 'National Planning Application Database' portal:

Ref. No.	Address	Proposal
D18A/0763	0.55 hectare site on the western side of the junction of Old Bray Road and Brennanstown Road, Cabinteely Village, Dublin 18	Permission for construction of a 34 no. unit residential development comprising a terrace of 10 no. three storey three bedroom houses (ranging from 124.58 to 125.17 sqm) with 2 no. surface car parking spaces each; 13 no. two bedroom apartments (ranging from 71.7 to 120 sqm) and 11 no. duplex apartments (1 no. two bedroom [88 sqm] and 10 no. three bedroom [ranging from 121 to 146.7 sqm]) in 2 no. blocks - a three storey block along the Old Bray Road frontage and a two/three storey block along the Brennanstown Road frontage; the provision of a landscaped courtyard incorporating internal access routes, communal open space, children's play area, 24 no. surface car parking spaces (including 2 no. accessible parking spaces), 84 no. covered cycle parking spaces, 2 no. motorcycle parking spaces, an electricity substation and bin storage building; the construction of a new vehicular and pedestrian access to the site from Old Bray Road and 1 no. pedestrian entrance from Breannanstown Road and all other site works above and below the ground required to facilitate the development, including the installation of photovoltaic panels on the apartment block and houses and the formation of 8 no. openings in the existing boundary wall on the Old Bray Road and Brennanstown Road frontages.
D18A/0884	The Village Centre, Killbogget, Bray Road, Cabinteely Village, Dublin 18	Permission for the change of use to office from existing restaurant use to the existing first floor including minor internal amendments.
ABP30585919	Former Doyle's Nursery, Garden Centre (D18 Y688) & Benoni (D18 V2H9), Brennanstown Road, Cabinteely, Dublin 18	Permission for Strategic Housing Development comprising 234 residential units in a mix of apartments and duplexes in three blocks (Blocks A, B and C) ranging in height from 1-8 storeys with associated residential facilities including open space, a Gym, a creche and a Lower Foyer. Block A will consist of an approx. 248sqm Gym, approx. 67sqm of circulation space and approx. 317sqm of a creche facility all at Ground Floor level, with 6no. 2-bed duplex residential units at first and second floor. Block B will consist of an approx. 254sqm Lower Foyer at Ground Floor Level and 29no. apartments comprising 8no. 1 bed apartments, 13no, 2-bed apartments, 2no. 3-bed apartments and 6 no. 3-bed duplex apartments from Lower Ground to Second Floor level. Block C will consist of 199no. apartments comprising 63no. 1-bed units and 136no. 2-bed units from lower ground to sixth floor level. Balconies are to be provided on Blocks A (south and southeast elevation), Block B (east elevation) and Block C (east and west elevations). The proposed development includes for the demolition of 'Benoni' (c.252 square metres - a habitable dwelling proposed for demolition to facilitate the proposed development and main vehicular access), together with the extant single storey buildings associated with the former Doyle's Nursery and Gardens (c.690 square metres); vehicular access to the site is proposed at the location of the existing entrance to the new Doyle's Nursery Garden Centre facility adjoining the south of the subject site which is to be realigned and improved and which will serve both the Garden Centre and the proposed development (note: the new Garden Centre is not part of subject application site). Car parking is to be provided in the form of on-curtilage car parking, on-street parking and a basement car park over three levels for 184 spaces; the proposed development will also provide all

Ref. No.	Address	Proposal
		ancillary and associated site development and landscape works including open space (c.9,859sqm) internal to the site, play areas, the removal of existing obstructions in the Cabinteely Stream adjoining the east of the site and the reprofiling of the riparian corridor located west of the stream, and the provision of 2no. Electricity Supply Board sub-stations (c.44 square metres), and all necessary bin and bicycle storage including basement level stores for the apartment units. The proposed development includes for measures to upgrade the Brennanstown Road including works within Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council (DLRCC) owned lands from the location of the proposed site entrance northwards as far as the junction of the Brennanstown Road with the Bray Road at Cabinteely Village and these works are to comprise road widening and realignment works, widening and resurfacing of the existing footpath located on the western side of the Brennanstown Road as per the DMURS guidelines to a maximum of c.1.8m in width where physical constraints permit, the introduction of controlled pedestrian measures in the form of a 4- arm mini-roundabout at the proposed site entrance at the junction with the Brennanstown Road and Lambourne Wood Estate, the construction of a c.2.5m wide pelican crossing at the north arm of this roundabout, the construction of a c.2.5m wide raised crossing at the south arm of this roundabout, and the construction of a raised table at the junction of the Brennanstown Road and the Carraig Glen Estate further north of the subject site. The proposed development also includes for improved pedestrian and cyclist connections comprising a pedestrian footbridge to a c.21m span over the Cabinteely Stream at a location to the north east of the subject site to be of steel construction with recycled plastic non-slip boarding with c.1.4m high safety railings providing connectivity for the site to Cabinteely Village, the Stillorgan QBC, and DLRCC owned lands to the east of the subject site to making a copy. Land DLRCC
D18A/0207	Bank Of Ireland, Banking Operations Centre, Old Bray Road, Cabinteely, Dublin 18	Permission for modifications to the previously permitted development reg. ref. D17A/0820 [2 storey extension (office use) to rear of the Centre with a total area of 366 sqm, comprising of toilets, showers, café, office and breakout spaces] granted 15 Feb 2018. The proposed modifications consist of erection of a single storey extension (office use) to rear of Centre with a reduced total area of 117 sqm, comprising of café and lobby space and all associated site works for development at this site.

The proposed works are minor in nature and would be restricted to a small localised area in Cabinteely Park. The area consists of an area of woodland and existing built land (Appendix I) beside one of the main entrances to

Cabinteeley Park. No significant projects are proposed or currently under construction that could potentially cause in combination effects on Natura 2000 sites.

Given this, it is considered that in combination effects with other existing and proposed developments in proximity to the application area would be unlikely, neutral, not significant and localised. It is concluded that no significant effects on Natura 2000 sites will be seen as a result of the proposed development alone or combination with other projects.

Conclusions

The proposed development project is located in a suburban environment 3.7km from the nearest Natura 2000 sites (South Dublin Bay SAC and South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA). The nearest watercourse is the Carrickmines Stream, which flows in a southeasterly direction, 90m south of the site. Watercourses and surface runoff are seen as the main potential pathway for impacts on Natura 2000 sites. There is no direct hydrological pathway from the proposed development site to a Natura 2000 site. There is a weak indirect pathway from the site to Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC, Bray Head SAC and Dalkey Islands SPA via the foul water networks from treated effluent from Shanganagh WwTP, which is operating within capacity. Foul water from the development will be processed in the Shanganagh WwTP via a public sewer. Works primarily involve the construction of a changing pavilion (approx. 50 sq. m), the restoration of the existing Gate-Lodge, and the enhancement of the existing entrance with natural stone paving.

No Natura 2000 sites are within the zone of influence of this development. Having taking into consideration the works, the effluent from the proposed development works, the distance between the proposed development site to designated conservation sites, lack of direct hydrological pathway or biodiversity corridor link to conservation sites and the dilution effect with other foul effluent, it is concluded that this development would not give rise to any significant effects to designated sites. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation objectives of features of interest of Natura 2000 sites. There is no possibility of significant impacts on Natura 2000 sites, features of interest or site specific conservation objectives.

This report presents a Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening for the proposed development, outlining the information required for the competent authority to screen for appropriate assessment and to determine whether or not the proposed development, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects, in view of best scientific knowledge, is likely to have a significant effect on any European or Natura 2000 site.

On the basis of the content of this report, the competent authority is enabled to conduct a Stage 1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment and consider whether, in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of the conservation objectives of the relevant European sites, the Proposed Development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on any European site.

Findings of No Significant Effects Report

Details of Project	Appropriate Assessment Screening for a Proposed Development of Sports & Community Facilities at Cabinteely Park, Co. Dublin.
Name and Location of European Sites Within 15km	South Dublin Bay SAC Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC Ballyman Glen SAC Knocksink Wood SAC Wicklow Mountains SAC Bray Head SAC North Dublin Bay SAC Howth Head SAC Glen of the Downs SAC Glenasmole Valley SAC Baldoyle Bay SAC
Project Description	Changing Pavilion: A new changing pavilion building (approx. 50 sq. m) is proposed to the north of the existing gate- lodge. This will include two changing rooms with team storage areas, an accessible toilet and small plant rooms. The structure will be a high-quality timber framed modular unit with robust aluminium doors, zinc seamed or fibreglass roof with skylights and external cedar cladding. It will include photovoltaic panels on the roof and incorporate rain water harvesting. Gate-Lodge: The gate-lodge will be faithfully restored for community usage in accordance with conservation principles under the direction of a grade 1 conservation Architect. It will include meeting rooms, a small kitchenette and a toilet. The poorly constructed modern extension will be demolished so that the building can standalone again in the parkland setting. The building will be approximately 75 sq. m when the extension is removed. Entrance: The existing entrance will be enhanced with natural stone paving, appropriate ornamental planting, seating and other street furniture. The use of sustainable urban drainage will
Is the Project directly connected with the management of the European site?	be incorporated. No
Details of any other projects or plans that together with this project could affect the European site	None
The assessment of significant effects	
Describe how the project is likely to affect the European site	No Impact Predicted
Response to consultation	N/A
Data collected to carry out the assessment	Supporting NPWS data.
Who carried out the assessment	Altemar Ltd.
Sources of data	NPWS website, standard data form, conservation objectives data of the site and references outlined in the AA Screening Report.

Explain why the effects are not considered	No Natura 2000 sites are within the zone of influence of
significant	this development. There is no direct hydrological pathway
	to Natura 2000 sites. Surface water from the proposed
	developments will drain locally to the on-site soakaway.
	Foul will be discharged to existing public networks. There
	will be no significant increase in the loading of Shanganagh
	WWTP during operation. Having taking into consideration
	the works, the indirect pathway via treated foul discharge
	from the proposed development, the distance between the
	proposed development site to designated conservation
	sites, lack of direct hydrological pathway or biodiversity
	corridor link to conservation sites and the dilution effect
	with other effluent and surface runoff, it is concluded that
	this development that would not give rise to any significant
	effects to designated sites.
Level of assessment completed	Stage 1 Screening
Overall conclusions	On the basis of the content of this report, the competent
	authority is enabled to conduct a Stage 1 Screening for
	Appropriate Assessment and consider whether, in view of
	best scientific knowledge and in view of the conservation
	objectives of the relevant European sites, the Proposed
	Development, individually or in combination with other
	plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on any
	European site.

Data Used for AA Screening

NPWS site synopses and Conservation objectives of sites within 15km were assessed. The most recent SAC and SPA boundary shapefiles were downloaded and overlaid on ESRI road maps and satellite imagery.

References

The following references were used in the preparation of this AA screening report.

- Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government Circular NPW 1/10 and PSSP 2/10 on Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive – Guidance for Planning Authorities March 2010.
- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government 2009; http://www.npws.ie/publications/archive/NPWS 2009 AA Guidance.pdf
- Managing NATURA 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, European Commission
 - http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/Natura2000/management/docs/art6/provision of art6 en.pdf
- 4. 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; http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/Natura2000management/docs/art6/Natura 2000 assess en.pd
- 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 commission; http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/Natura2000/management/docs/art6/guidance_art6_4_en.pdf
- 6. Guidance document on the implementation of the birds and habitats directive in estuaries and coastal zones with particular attention to port development and dredging; http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/Natura2000/management/docs/guidance_doc.pdf
- 7. The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. http://www.npws.ie/publications/euconservationstatus/NPWS 2007 Conservation Status Report.pdf
- 8. NPWS (2016) Conservation objectives for Glenasmole Valley SAC [001209]. Generic Version 7.0. Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

- 9. NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives: Wicklow Mountains SAC 002122. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.
- 10. NPWS (2020) Conservation objectives for Wicklow Mountains SPA [004040]. Generic Version 7.0. Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 11. NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC 003000. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 12. NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: South Dublin Bay SAC 000210. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 13. NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives: South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA 004024. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 14. NPWS (2020) Conservation objectives for Dalkey Islands SPA [004172]. Generic Version 7.0. Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 15. NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Baldoyle Bay SPA 004016. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 16. NPWS (2012). Conservation Objectives: Baldoyle Bay SAC 000199. Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 17. NPWS (2020) Conservation objectives for Howth Head Coast SPA [004113]. Generic Version 7.0. Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 18. NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives: North Bull Island SPA 004006. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 19. NPWS (2016) Conservation objectives for Howth Head SAC 000202. Version 1, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.
- 20. NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: North Dublin Bay SAC 000206. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 21. NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives: Ballyman Glen SAC 000713. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 22. NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives: Knocksink Wood SAC 000725. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 23. NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives: Bray Head SAC 000714. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 24. NPWS (2020) Conservation Objectives: Glen of the Downs SAC 000719. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

Appendix I: Ecological Note

Two site walkover assessments were carried out, on the 14th May 2024 (Bryan Deegan CIEEM) and on the 31st of July (Emma Peters BSc) to assess the habitats and ecological sensitivities of a small area of Cabinteely Park. The subject site was situated at the entrance to the park on Bray oad. The weather was dry and bright, and all areas of the site were accessible.

Discussion of habitats.

The subject site was very small with the habitat of most ecological value being the woodland. The trees here have good ivy cover and with the shelter of the scrubby understory, it would be expected to be useful to local bat and bird populations. The brick old ruin onsite, to the rear of the bungalow, was inspected for bird nests and bat roosts, and it proved unsuitable for both as the roof had collapsed providing little shelter from wind and rain. The small bungalow onsite was boarded up and two potential entrance points for bats were noted in the slate roof. The woodlands connectivity to the winder area off the park is important for mammal species such as hedgehogs (*Erinaceus europaeus*), badgers (*Meles meles*) and fox's (*Vulpes vulpes*) for shelter and foraging grounds in the wider urban area. No burrows were noted on site or proximate to the works location.

Bl3- Built land and artificial surfaces

The subject site is situated in the bray road just southeast of park Celtic. The bult land includes the tarmac, gates, pillars, a small bungle and a small brick ruin.



Plate 1. Entrance to Cabinteely house from Bray road.



Plate 2. Small bungalow onsite.



Plate 3. Old brick ruin located behind the small bungalow.

WD2- Mixed broadleaf/conifer Woodland

Either side of the entranceway tarmac was a mixed woodland of native and non-native species. This area was heavily used by dog walkers and ground cover was dominated by ivy (*Hedera helix*). A mature beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) tree of moderate bat roosting potential was located approximately 16 meters east of the tarmac entrance. The woodland to the west of the entrance was more scrubby in mature. However, some mature trees, primarily ash(*Fraxinus excelsior*), with ivy cover were noted, which are deemed to be of low to medium bat roosting potential.

The main area of flora biodiversity was concentrated in the understory of the woodland with species such as brambles (*Rubus fruticosus agg*), holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), cabbage palm (*Cordyline australis*), cyprus (*Cupressus spp.*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), herb Robert (Geranium *roberianum*), cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster sp.*), elm (*Ulmus glabra*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), laurustine (*Viburnum tinus*) and nettles (*Urtica dioica*). The invasive cherry laurel (*Laurocerasus officinalis*) was quite dominate in the east portion of woodland and would negatively affect the overall biodiversity of the area and the ability of local birds to utilise the woodland.



Plate 4. Mixed woodland.

BC4 - Flower beds and borders.

A small strip of flowerbeds lined the south and east of the small bungle onsite. The species within this habitat included goldenrod (*Solidago virgaurea*), wood-avens (*Geum urbanum*), thistles (*Cirsium spp.*), broad-leafed dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*), bear's-breeches (*Acanthus mollis*), winter heliotrope (*Petasites pyrenaicus*) and garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*).



Plate 5. Beech tree of moderate bat roosting potential.



Plate 6. The invasive cherry laurel within woodland on site.

Biodiversity records

Records from the National Biodiversity Data Centre were examined to see the protected and invasive species recorded in the area. A 2 km² search area was selected from the subject site (Grid reference: O22H). The below table demonstrates the species recorded.

Species name	Record	Date of last		gnation
Common Frog (Rana	count 22	record 20/04/2020	dataset Amphibians and	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive
temporaria)			reptiles of Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >>
				Annex V Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Barn Swallow	1	06/07/2010	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
(Hirundo rustica)				Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation
				Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of
				Conservation Concern - Amber List
Black-headed Gull	12	16/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
(Larus ridibundus)				Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation
				Concern Threatened Species: Birds of
				Conservation Concern >> Birds of
				Conservation Concern - Red List
Brent Goose (Branta	1	10/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
bernicla)				Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of
				Conservation Concern >> Birds of
				Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Coot (Fulica	6	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 -	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected
atra)			2011	Species: EU Birds Directive Protected
				Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II,
				Section I Bird Species Protected Species:
				EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section II Bird
				Species Threatened Species: Birds of
				Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of
				Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Kestrel	1	28/12/2010	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
(Falco tinnunculus)				Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation
				Concern Threatened Species: Birds of
				Conservation Concern >> Birds of
Common Vingfishor	1	16/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Kingfisher (Alcedo atthis)	I	16/01/2023	birus oi iretanu	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected
(Alcedo attilis)				Species: EU Birds Directive 1 Totected
				Species Threatened Species: Birds of
				Conservation Concern Threatened Species:
				Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of
_	_			Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Linnet	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 -	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
(Carduelis			2011	Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation
cannabina)				Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of
				Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Redshank	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 -	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
(Tringa totanus)			2011	Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation
				Concern Threatened Species: Birds of
				Conservation Concern >> Birds of
0	44	04/04/0000	Dinds of the land	Conservation Concern - Red List
Common Starling	11	24/04/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
(Sturnus vulgaris)				Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of
				Concern II micarenea species, pilas of

Species name	Record count	Date of last record	Title of Desig	gnation
				Conservation Concern >> Birds of
Common Swift (Apus apus)	1	06/07/2010	Birds of Ireland	Conservation Concern - Amber List Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Wood Pigeon (Columba palumbus)	16	16/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section I Bird Species
Eurasian Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus)	3	16/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Eurasian Teal (Anas crecca)	5	16/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section II Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern -> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Eurasian Wigeon (Anas penelope)	2	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section II Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern -> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
European Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section II Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section III Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section III Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern -> Red List
Great Black-backed Gull (Larus marinus)	2	16/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Greater Scaup (Aythya marila)	1	23/11/2010	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section II Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section III Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species:

Species name	Record count	Date of last record	Title of Designment	gnation
				Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Herring Gull (Larus argentatus)	3	16/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
House Martin (Delichon urbicum)	2	02/05/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus)	7	24/04/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Little Egret (Egretta garzetta)	13	27/02/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species
Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis)	10	16/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos)	17	16/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section I Bird Species
Mediterranean Gull (Larus melanocephalus)	3	14/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern -> Amber List
Mew Gull (Larus canus)	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Mute Swan (Cygnus olor)	3	16/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Northern Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section II Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Peregrine Falcon (Falco peregrinus)	1	23/11/2010	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species

Species name	Record count	Date of last record	Title of Desig	nation
Rock Pigeon (Columba livia)	2	16/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species
Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula)	1	29/12/2010	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section II Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern -> Birds of Conservation Concern -> Amber List
Water Rail (Rallus aquaticus)	2	16/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
American Skunk- cabbage (Lysichiton americanus)	2	04/04/2021	National Invasive Species Database	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> EU Regulation No. 1143/2014 Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Butterfly-bush (Buddleja davidii)	1	17/02/2019	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Cherry Laurel (Prunus laurocerasus)	2	20/02/2023	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species
Common Broomrape (Orobanche minor)	1	25/06/2021	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Cornflower (Centaurea cyanus)	1	30/06/2019	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Threatened Species: Waiting list
Floating Pennywort (Hydrocotyle ranunculoides)	1	18/01/2018	National Invasive Species Database	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Giant Hogweed (Heracleum mantegazzianum)	1	14/05/1985	National Invasive Species Database	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Hairy Rocket (Erucastrum gallicum)	1	31/12/1986	BSBI tetrad data for Ireland	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Himalayan Honeysuckle (Leycesteria formosa)	1	13/10/2019	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Nuttall's Waterweed (Elodea nuttallii)	6	31/12/2007	National Invasive Species Database	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)

Species name	Record count	Date of last record	Title of Desig	nation
Pale Flax (Linum bienne)	1	07/05/2019	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Threatened Species: Near threatened
Strawberry-tree (Arbutus unedo)	1	16/01/2023	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Threatened Species: Near threatened
Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	2	24/02/2023	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Three-cornered Garlic (Allium triquetrum)	4	03/05/2023	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Traveller's-joy (Clematis vitalba)	1	31/12/1969	BSBI tetrad data for Ireland	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Turkey Oak (Quercus cerris)	1	16/01/2023	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Yellow Archangel (Lamiastrum galeobdolon)	1	22/03/2021	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Threatened Species: Least concern
Small Heath (Coenonympha pamphilus)	2	10/08/2017	Irish Butterfly Monitoring Scheme	Threatened Species: Near threatened
Large Red Tailed Bumble Bee (Bombus (Melanobombus) lapidarius)	3	23/06/2018	Bees of Ireland	Threatened Species: Near threatened
Moss Carder-bee (Bombus (Thoracombus) muscorum)	2	15/08/2014	Bees of Ireland	Threatened Species: Near threatened
Bifid Crestwort (Lophocolea bidentata)	2	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
Conocephalum salebrosum	1	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
Endive Pellia (Pellia endiviifolia)	2	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
Forked Veilwort (Metzgeria furcata)	2	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
Overleaf Pellia (Pellia epiphylla)	2	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
White Earwort (Diplophyllum albicans)	2	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
Common Feather- moss (Eurhynchium praelongum)	2	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
Common Striated Feather-moss (Eurhynchium striatum)	2	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern

Species name	Record	Date of last	Title of Desig	nation
	count	record	dataset	
Common Tamarisk- moss (Thuidium tamariscinum)	1	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
Elegant Silk-moss (Pseudotaxiphyllum elegans)	2	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
Fern-leaved Hook- moss (Cratoneuron filicinum)	2	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
Fox-tail Feather-moss (Thamnobryum alopecurum)	1	10/06/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
Rusty Feather-moss (Sciuro-hypnum plumosum)	2	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
Swan's-neck Thyme- moss (Mnium hornum)	2	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
Swartz's Feather- moss (Oxyrrhynchium hians)	2	02/07/2010	Bryophytes of Ireland	Threatened Species: Least concern
Brown Long-eared Bat (Plecotus auritus)	4	06/05/2017	National Bat Database of Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Common Pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pipistrellus sensu stricto)	8	06/05/2017	National Bat Database of Ireland	
Daubenton's Bat (Myotis daubentonii)	2	06/05/2017	National Bat Database of Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Eastern Grey Squirrel (Sciurus carolinensis)	36	16/01/2023	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025	Invasive Species: Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> EU Regulation No. 1143/2014 Invasive Species: Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Eurasian Badger (Meles meles)	1	13/10/2011	Road Kill Survey	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
European Otter (Lutra lutra)	1	05/05/1980	Otter Survey of Ireland 1982	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex II Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Lesser Noctule (Nyctalus leisleri)	6	06/05/2017	National Bat Database of Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Natterer's Bat (Myotis nattereri)	1	17/09/2005	National Bat Database of Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Red Fox (Vulpes vulpes)	19	16/01/2023	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025	
Soprano Pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pygmaeus)	8	06/05/2017	National Bat Database of Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
West European Hedgehog (Erinaceus europaeus)	3	20/04/2021	Hedgehogs of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts