



Draft Natura Impact Report



DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

DRAFT OLD CONNAUGHT LOCAL AREA PLAN 2025

Draft Natura Impact Report

Prepared for:

Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council



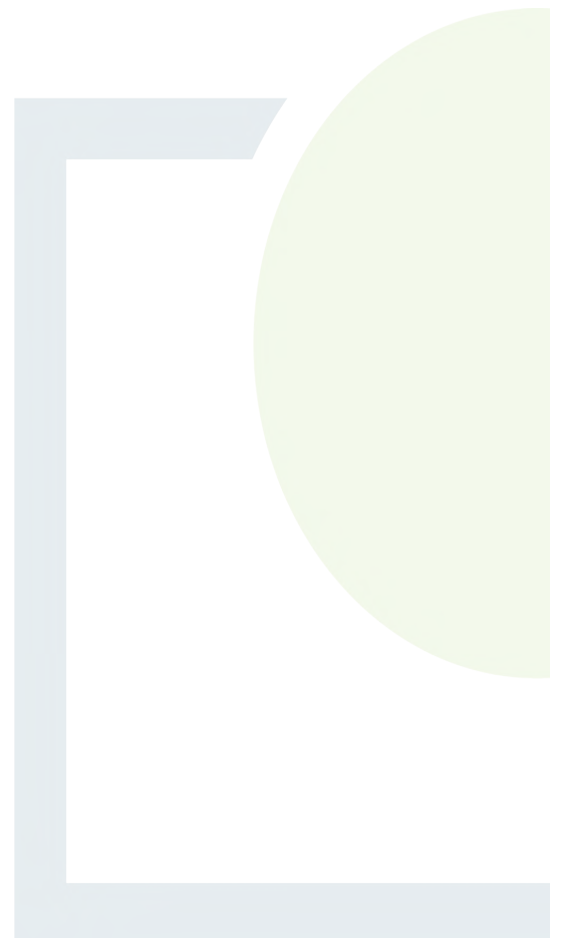
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Draft Natura Impact Report for the Old Connaught Local Area Plan 2025

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Abstract: Fehily Timoney and Company is pleased to submit this Draft Natura Impact Report for the Draft Old Connaught Local Area Plan 2025.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This Draft Natura Impact Report (Draft NIR) has been prepared in support of the Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Draft Old Connaught Local Area Plan 2025 (Draft LAP) in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) (hereafter referred to as the “Habitats Directive”).

This report is part of the ongoing AA process that is being undertaken alongside the preparation of the Draft LAP. It will be considered, alongside other documentation prepared as part of this process, when Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council (DLR) finalises the AA at adoption of the Draft LAP.

1.2 Legislative Context

Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats Directive) provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The Directive requires that where a plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site, while not directly connected with or necessary to the nature conservation management of the site, it will be subject to ‘*Appropriate Assessment*’ to identify any implications for the European site in view of the site’s Conservation Objectives. Specifically, Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive states:

“6(3) Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (Natura 2000 sites) but likely to have significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site’s conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent 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.”

These requirements are implemented in the Republic of Ireland by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

The competent authority must carry out a Screening for AA to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge, if the proposed plan, individually or in combination with another plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on the European site. If it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the proposed plan, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect on a European site, an AA of its implications for the European Site(s) in view of the Site’s conservation objectives must be carried out.

The provisions of Article 6(3) do not apply where a proposed plan or project is ‘connected with or necessary to the management of the site’. In this case, the Draft Plan is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site(s).



1.3 Guidance

The assessment was conducted in accordance with the following guidance:

- Fossitt, J. A. (2000). *A guide to habitats in Ireland*.
- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities. National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin (2009, updated 2010);
- Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats. Version EUR 28. European Commission 2013;
- Scottish Natural Heritage. (2016). *Assessing Connectivity with Special Protection Areas (SPAs) Guidance*.
- Managing Natura 2000 sites. The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. European Commission (2019). Brussels, (2019/C 33/01). OJ C 33, 25.1.2019.
- 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, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg (European Commission, 2002). This document was updated by Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites - Methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. Commission Notice (2021) Brussels, 28.9.2021 C (2021) 6913 final;
- OPR Practice Note PN01 Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management, Office of the Planning Regulator (2021).
- Atkinson, S., Magee, M., Moorkens, E.A. & Heavey, M. (2024). *Guidance on Assessment and Construction Management in Margaritifera Catchments in Ireland*. <https://e-mussels.eu/europe/conservation-guidelines>

1.4 Assessment Process and Approach

The process of determining the potential for likely significant effects from a proposed plan or project on European sites is an iterative process centred around a Source-Pathway-Receptor (SPR) model. In order for a likely significant effect to be established, all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence or removal of one of the elements of the mechanism is sufficient to conclude that a potential likely significant effect is not of any relevance.

- Source(s) – e.g., pollutant run-off, noise, removal of vegetation etc.;
- Pathway(s) – functional link, or ecological pathway e.g., groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and,
- Receptor(s) –the qualifying habitats and species of European sites and ecological resources supporting those habitats/species.



In the context of this report, a source is any identifiable element of the proposed plan that is known to interact with the receiving environment. A receptor is the Qualifying Interests (QI)¹ for an SAC or Special Conservation Interests (SCI)² for an SPA or an ecological feature that is known to be utilised by the QI/SCI. In practice, the term Qualifying Interests also applies to SCIs (and is used in this document for simplicity). A pathway is any connection or link between the source and the receptor.

The assessment commences with a description of the Draft Plan, and the associated sources for impacts to the receiving environment. The type of impacts that are likely due to the plan (Source) are identified having regard to the spatial and temporal scale of the plan, resource requirements and likely emissions. These sources are then used to define the Zone of Influence (Zoi) of the plan.

The European Commission Notice (2021) on the 'Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites – Methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, states that in identifying European sites (Natural 2000 sites), which may be affected by a plan or project, the following should be identified:

- Any European sites geographically overlapping with any of the actions or aspects of the plan or project in any of its phases, or adjacent to them;
- Any European sites within the likely Zoi of the plan or project. European sites located in the surroundings of the plan or project (or at some distance) that could still be indirectly affected by aspects of the plan project, including as regards the use of natural resources (e.g., water) and various types of waste, discharge or emissions of substances or energy;
- European sites whose connectivity or ecological continuity can be affected by the plan or project.

The Zoi of a plan is the geographical area over which it could affect the receiving environment in a way that could have potential likely significant effects on the Qualifying Interests of a European site. The OPR (2021) practice note states that the Zoi must be established on a case-by-case basis using the SPR framework and not by arbitrary distances (such as 15 km). Section 3 sets out the detailed rationale for the identification of relevant European sites within the Zoi based on the sources of impacts arising from the proposed plan. Subsequently, an assessment is undertaken with respect to potential connectivity (Pathways) to European Sites and their qualifying interests/special conservation interests are identified.

The potential for in-combination impacts with other plans and projects is also assessed having regard to the identified impacts of the proposed plan along the ecological pathways identified to European sites.

The potential for likely significant effects on the European Sites within the Zoi is examined having regard to the sensitivity of each European site with pathways for impacts associated with the proposed plan on its own and in-combination with other plans and projects.

¹ SACs are areas designated under the Habitats Directive to conserve habitats listed in Annex I of the Directive and plant and animal species listed in Annex II. Collectively these are referred to as the 'Qualifying Interests' or 'QIs' of the SAC.

² SPAs are sites classified under the Birds Directive to protect rare or vulnerable bird species listed in Annex I to the Directive as well as regularly occurring migratory species and wetlands. Wetland habitats that support internationally important populations of migratory birds may be coastal or inland. Collectively, these species and habitats are referred to as the 'Special Conservation Interests' of the SPA.



Having regard to the European Commission Communication on the Precautionary Principle (European Commission, 2021) the:

“absence of scientific evidence on the significant negative effect of an action cannot be used as justification for approval of this action. When applied to Article 6(3) procedure, the precautionary principle implies that the absence of a negative effect on Natura 2000 sites has to be demonstrated before a plan or project can be authorised. In other words, if there is a lack of certainty as to whether there will be any negative effects, then the plan or project cannot be approved.”

Where likely significant effects are determined to be likely, or where there is uncertainty regarding the potential for likely significant effects, an NIR will need to be prepared for a plan.

The scope and content of the assessment in this instance was informed by the following:

- The submissions received on the scope of the accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment³ (SEA) process being undertaken on the LAP, including a submission received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) on February the 9th 2024.
- The SEA Scoping Report prepared by CAAS Ltd for the Draft Plan.
- The EPA's AA Geo Tool (this can be found here - <https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/AAGeoTool>).
- The National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS) website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives
- DLR's current County Development Plan and associated SEA Environmental Report and AA Natura Impact Report.
- A hydrogeological assessment undertaken by IE Consulting informed the assessment of impacts on Groundwater Dependent Habitat present in the Zone of Influence of the Draft Plan.

³ SEA is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme before a decision is made to adopt it.



2. DESCRIPTION OF DRAFT LOCAL AREA PLAN

2.1 Overview

The Draft LAP will set out a spatial framework for the future development of lands surrounding and including the existing settlement of Old Connaught.

The Draft LAP has been prepared in accordance with a Specific Local Objective of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan (DLR CDP) 2022-2028, which requires the preparation of a Local Area Plan for the Old Connaught Area.

2.2 Plan Content

The Draft LAP sets out a strategic vision for the Old Connaught Area, which intends to support the growth of the area as a sustainable urban village with a strong sense of place and integrating both the existing and planned new communities. It is to incrementally grow the area to attract a variety of residents and families, providing opportunities to avail of good access to neighbourhood facilities, transport options, social infrastructure and recreational and amenity assets.

This strategic vision is supported by the following key elements:

- **Sustainable Urban Village:** To deliver a sustainable urban village at Old Connaught and provide a range of facilities and services so that the existing and new residents can access most of their day-to-day living needs within the area including housing, schools, childcare, local shops, community facilities, amenity and recreational facilities.
- **Character and Heritage:** To protect and enhance the existing character and heritage of Old Connaught and to integrate and manage new development in a manner which respects the areas unique historical and natural setting, whilst acknowledging the development of new communities.
- **Sustainable Transport and Movement:** To manage existing and future transport demand at Old Connaught in a sustainable manner by developing an integrated transport network with a focus on active travel, permeability and connectivity, public transport facilities and a coherent vehicular movement network.
- **Sustainable Neighbourhoods and Quality Housing:** To create and maintain successful urban neighbourhoods with distinct character and identity which fosters a sense of community and active citizenship, framed in a quality-built environment which provides a choice of quality new housing options.
- **Healthy Placemaking and Liveability:** To underpin the spatial design of Old Connaught with a coherent and connected network of strategic public open spaces to promote activity, health, wellbeing, social interaction and community engagement, in order to support the existing and planned new communities.
- **Climate and Ecosystems:** To progress the development of Old Connaught as a low carbon and climate resilient community and provide a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way.

An overview of each chapter of the Draft LAP is presented in Table 2-1 below.



Table 2-1: Contents of each Chapter of the LAP

LAP Section/Chapter	Overview
Chapter 1. Introduction and Local Area Context	This chapter of the LAP sets out the vision for the Draft Plan, the legal framework underpinning Local Area Plans, the local area context including demographics and the various studies and assessments that have informed the LAP. A SWOC analysis sets out the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Challenges of the area.
Chapter 2. Strategic Planning Framework	This chapter of the LAP provides an overview of the statutory planning framework at the national, regional and local levels which guides and informs the Draft Plan.
Chapter 3. Climate Action	This chapter of the LAP sets out how the Draft Plan implements, at the local level, climate action objectives and policies, and demonstrates how the Old Connaught area presents an opportunity to develop as a low carbon and climate resilient community. The Chapter identifies the policies and objectives of the Draft Plan which contribute to climate change adaptation or mitigation measures.
Chapter 4. Spatial Strategy and Site Development Frameworks	This chapter of the LAP sets out the overall spatial strategy for the future development of Old Connaught. Character Areas within the Draft Plan area are identified along with urban design and built form parameters. Individual Site Development Frameworks for each Character Area provide finer grain development guidance to guide future development proposals. Future development will be required to accord with the objectives set out in the Site Development Framework section for each Character Area.
Chapter 5. Sustainable Urban Village	This chapter of the LAP sets out the policy and objectives aimed at creating, maintaining and integrating communities, neighbourhoods and residential amenities at Old Connaught. A key focus of the final part of the Chapter is the delivery of a multifunctional neighbourhood centre to serve planned population levels at Old Connaught.
Chapter 6. Transport and Movement	This chapter of the LAP details the main transport recommendations arising from the Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) with a focus on walking, cycling, public transport and vehicular movement.
Chapter 7. Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity	This chapter of the LAP sets out how green infrastructure and biodiversity will be addressed in the Draft Plan area and acknowledges that planned change at Old Connaught presents both challenges and opportunities for biodiversity, climate resilience and green infrastructure.
Chapter 8. Open Space, Parks and Recreation	This chapter of the LAP sets out a strategy for the provision of an integrated hierarchy of public open spaces across the Old Connaught area to meet the needs of both the existing and future residents of the new emerging community.
Chapter 9. Heritage and Conservation	This chapter of the LAP details some elements of the background and history of the area and includes some general policies for the conservation of heritage at Old Connaught, in addition to more specific objectives relating to some of the areas unique character, heritage and protected structures.
Chapter 10. Infrastructure, Utilities and Flood Risk	This chapter of the LAP sets out some of the recommendations and policies with respect to utilities infrastructure including potable water, wastewater and drainage infrastructure, electricity, gas and renewable energy, ICT/communications and waste management. One of the assessments which has informed this Draft Plan is the aforementioned Infrastructure Capacity Assessment Study.



LAP Section/Chapter	Overview
	The assessment of utilities infrastructure comprised a component part of the Study which included recommendations in terms of infrastructure requirements to support the sustainable development of Old Connaught. This Chapter also looks at flood risk in the Draft Plan area.
Chapter 11. Phasing and Implementation	This chapter of the LAP sets out a phasing strategy to support the plan-led development of new residential communities in Old Connaught. The phasing strategy provides for the coordinated and incremental development of lands linked to the delivery of enabling infrastructure. This Chapter also considers the implementation phase and the measures to be taken to enable the objectives of the Draft Plan to be realised.
Chapter 12. Monitoring and Evaluation	This chapter of the LAP sets out a strategic monitoring framework focused on the implementation of each of the Site Development Framework's and the phasing of development with a particular focus on strategic infrastructure delivery.

In addition to the Draft SEA Environmental Report and the Draft NIR, the Draft LAP is accompanied the following suite of maps and appendices:

1. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
2. Statutory Planning Context
3. List of the Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
4. Acronyms and Glossary
5. Built Heritage

2.3 Relationship of the Plan with other Relevant Plans and Programmes

The Draft LAP sits within a hierarchy of legislation, plans, programmes, and strategies, which includes international, EU, national, regional and local levels. The principal requirements in relation to international Plans and Programmes have been incorporated into the national and regional Plans and Programmes. The Draft LAP must comply with relevant higher-level legislation, plans and strategic actions.

The Draft LAP has been prepared in a manner that ensure it appropriately aligns with the DLR CDP, which was subject to its own SEA and AA prior to adoption.



3. REPORT TO INFORM APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING

3.1 Introduction to Screening

This section of the report examines if the Draft LAP is likely to have a significant effect upon European Sites, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans. It is used to inform the competent authorities AA Screening Determination. The following is considered during this assessment:

- Whether the Draft LAP introduces any sources of environmental or ecological impact.
- Whether the Draft LAP can be excluded from AA requirements because it is directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European Site.
- Whether Draft LAP will have a likely significant effect on a European Site, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, in view of the site's conservation objectives or if residual uncertainty exists regarding potential likely significant effects.

Plans are screened out based on one or a combination of the following criteria:

- Where it can be shown that there are no sources of environmental impact associated with a plan or project.
- Where there are no pathways such as hydrological links between a plan or project area, and relevant European sites
- Where a European site is located at a distance from the plan or project area such that likely significant effects are not foreseen;
- Where known threats or vulnerabilities at a European site cannot be linked to potential likely significant effects that may arise from a plan or project.

3.2 Potential Interactions of the Proposed Plan on the receiving environment

An assessment of potential sources of environmental impact associated with policies/objectives defined in the Draft LAP - that may lead to likely significant effects on European sites - has been carried out. This assessment has been undertaken having regard to the following source of impact criteria defined in the European Commission (2021) guidance document and the OPR (2021) practice note.

- Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration;
- Surface water run-off carrying suspended silt and contaminants, into local watercourses;
- Changes to groundwater quality, yield and/or flow paths associated with the proposed project;
- Plan related activities (noise, vibration, lighting, human presence, structures, etc) leading to disturbance / displacement of species;
- Plan related activities leading to a reduction in species populations / density;
- Air pollution due to dust and other airborne emissions; and
- Disturbance and potential spread of invasive species



This assessment is presented in Appendix 1. All policies and objective in the Draft LAP that have the potential to generate environmental impacts that may result in likely significant effects on European sites have been identified. An overview of the potential impacts associated with the implementation of the Draft LAP is presented in the bullet points below:

- Environmental effects due both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure.
- Loss of/damage to biodiversity in designated sites (including European sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna.
- Habitat loss, fragmentation and deterioration, including patch size and edge effects.
- Disturbance (e.g. due to noise and lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species.
- Potential interactions of effects upon environmental vectors such as water and air.
- Adverse effects from amenity and recreation.
- Damage to the hydrogeological and ecological function of the soil resource.
- Adverse effects upon the status of water bodies arising from changes in quality, flow and/or morphology.
- Increase in the risk of flooding.
- Failure to provide adequate and appropriate waste water treatment (water services infrastructure and capacity is needed to ensure the mitigation of potential conflicts).
- Emissions to air including dust and other emissions.

These impacts are further examined in defining the ZoI of the Draft LAP to identify likely significant effects through a SPR assessment.

All policies and objectives defined in the Draft LAP are considered in this assessment with respect to the integrity of all relevant European sites identified - considering the sensitivities/vulnerabilities of the QIs and SCIs in relation to all potential sources for effects and potential pathways for such effects. Where sources and pathways for effects are identified potential effects will be assessed in relation to the SSCOs.

3.3 European Sites within the Zone of Influence

The OPR (2021) AA Screening practice note states that the ZoI must be established on a case-by-case basis using the SPR model. The SPR model has been used to identify the ZoI to ensure that relevant European sites are identified. The SPR model minimises the risk of overlooking distant or obscure effect pathways, while also avoiding an over reliance on buffer zones (e.g. 15 km), within which all European sites should be considered. This approach follows the DoEHLG (2009 rev 2010) guidance on AA which states that:

“For projects, the distance could be much less than 15 km, and in some cases less than 100m, but this must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis with reference to the nature, size and location of the project, and the sensitivities of the ecological receptors, and the potential for in combination effects”

In order for a likely significant effect to occur, all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence of one of the elements of the mechanism means there is no likelihood for the significant effect to occur. Draft Plan impacts are essentially the ‘source’ in the SPR model.



These impacts may be very localised and confined to defined area with no potential connectivity to a European site and therefore no potential for likely significant effects. Alternatively, where an ecological or functional pathway exists they may give rise to a potential likely significant effect to a Qualifying Interest of a European site.

The potential sources of impact associated with Draft LAP policies and objectives have been considered when defining the ZoI of the Plan (as identified in Appendix 1).

The dominant ecological pathways that have been considered are presented below:

- Direct physical interactions or changes to the local environment;
- air dispersal (noise, dust, odour emissions etc.);
- hydrological interactions; and,
- dispersal patterns of mobile species.

Having regard to the above, and considering the Precautionary Principle, the ZoI of the Draft LAP has been defined as:

- All European sites located either solely or partially in the Plan area;
- all European sites within 15 km of the Plan area;
- all European Sites hydrologically or ecologically connected to the Plan Area.

Further detail on criteria used to define the Zone of Influence of the Draft LAP can be found in Appendix 2

European sites in and surrounding the Plan area are mapped in Figure 3-1. A map showing hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and European sites immediately surrounding the Plan area is provided in Figure 3-2.

Background information (such as that within Ireland's Article 17 Report to the European Commission, site synopses and Natura 2000 standard data forms) has been considered during the assessment, as necessary.

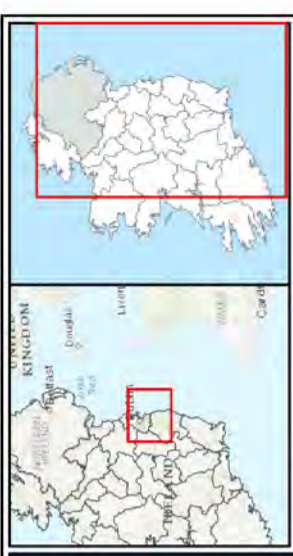
Conservation objectives that have been considered by the assessment are included in the following National Parks and Wildlife Service documents:

- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Ballyman Glen SAC [IE0000713] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Knocksink Wood SAC [IE0000725] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Bray Head SAC [IE0000714] Version 1.
- NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives for Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC [IE0003000] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Wicklow Mountains SAC [IE0002122] Version 1.
- NPWS (2024) Conservation Objectives for Wicklow Mountains SPA [IE0004040] Version 1.
- NPWS (2020) Conservation Objectives: Glen of the Downs SAC [000719]. Version 1.
- NPWS (2024) Conservation Objectives for Dalkey Islands SPA [IE0004172] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA [IE0004024] Version 1.
- NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives for South Dublin Bay SAC [IE0000210] Version 1.



- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Carriggower Bog SAC [IE0000716] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for The Murrough Wetlands SAC [IE0002249] Version 1.
- NPWS (2024) Conservation Objectives for The Murrough SPA [IE0004186] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for North Bull Island SPA [IE0004006] Version 1.
- NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives for North Dublin Bay SAC [IE0000206] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Glenasmole Valley SAC [IE0001209] Version 1.
- NPWS (2023) Conservation Objectives for North-west Irish SEA SPA [004236] Version 1.
- NPWS (2024) Conservation Objectives for Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA [004063] Version 1.

The assessment considers available conservation objectives. Since conservation objectives focus on maintaining the favourable conservation condition of the QIs/SCIs of each site, the screening process concentrated on assessing the potential likely significant effects of the Draft LAP against the QIs/SCIs of each site (having regard to identified potential sources of impact associated with Draft LAP policies/objectives). The conservation objectives for each site were consulted throughout the assessment process.

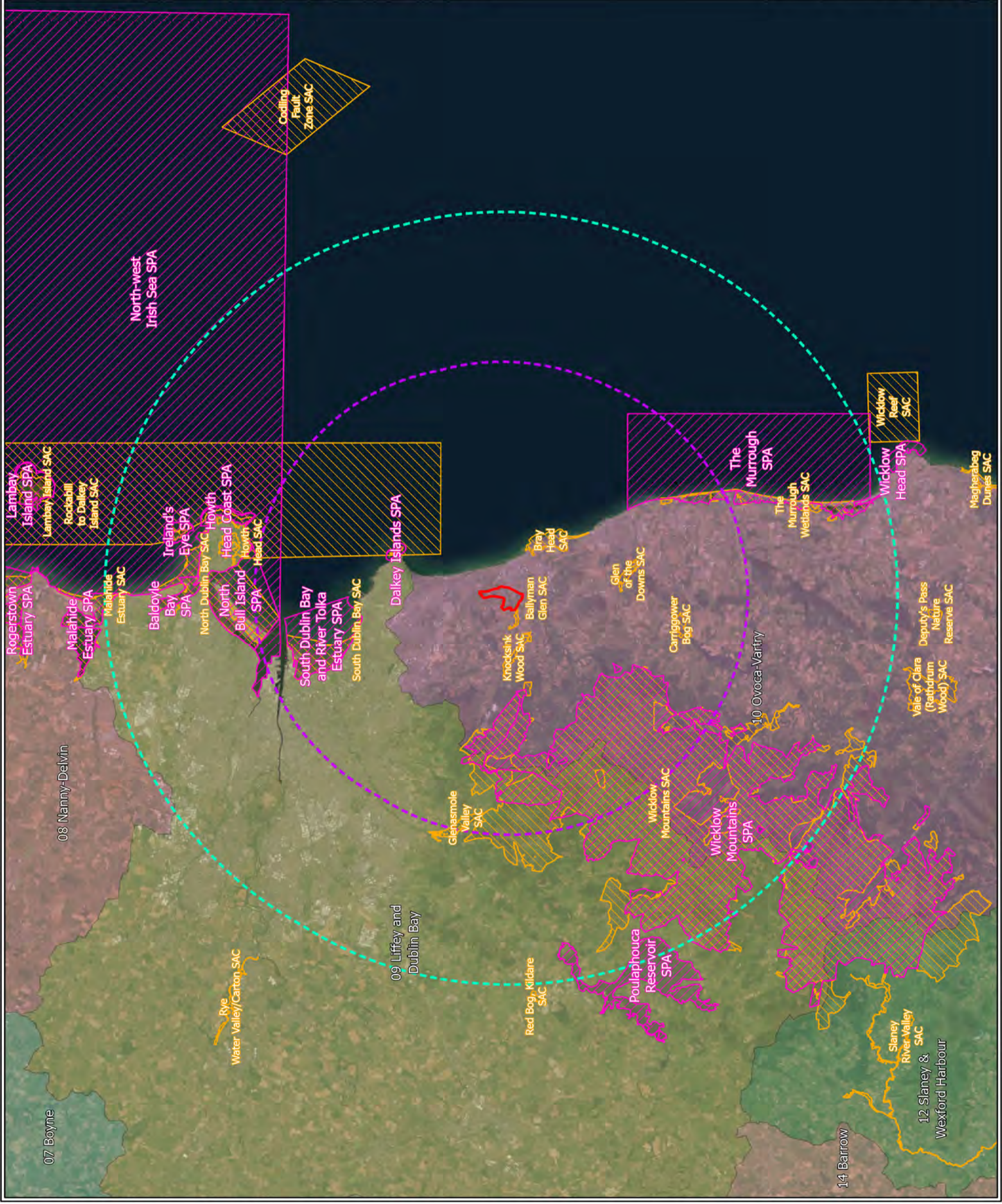


Legend

- Plan Area
- 15km
- 25km
- Special Protection Areas
- Special Area of Conservation

Catchment ID

- 07
- 08
- 09
- 10
- 12
- 14



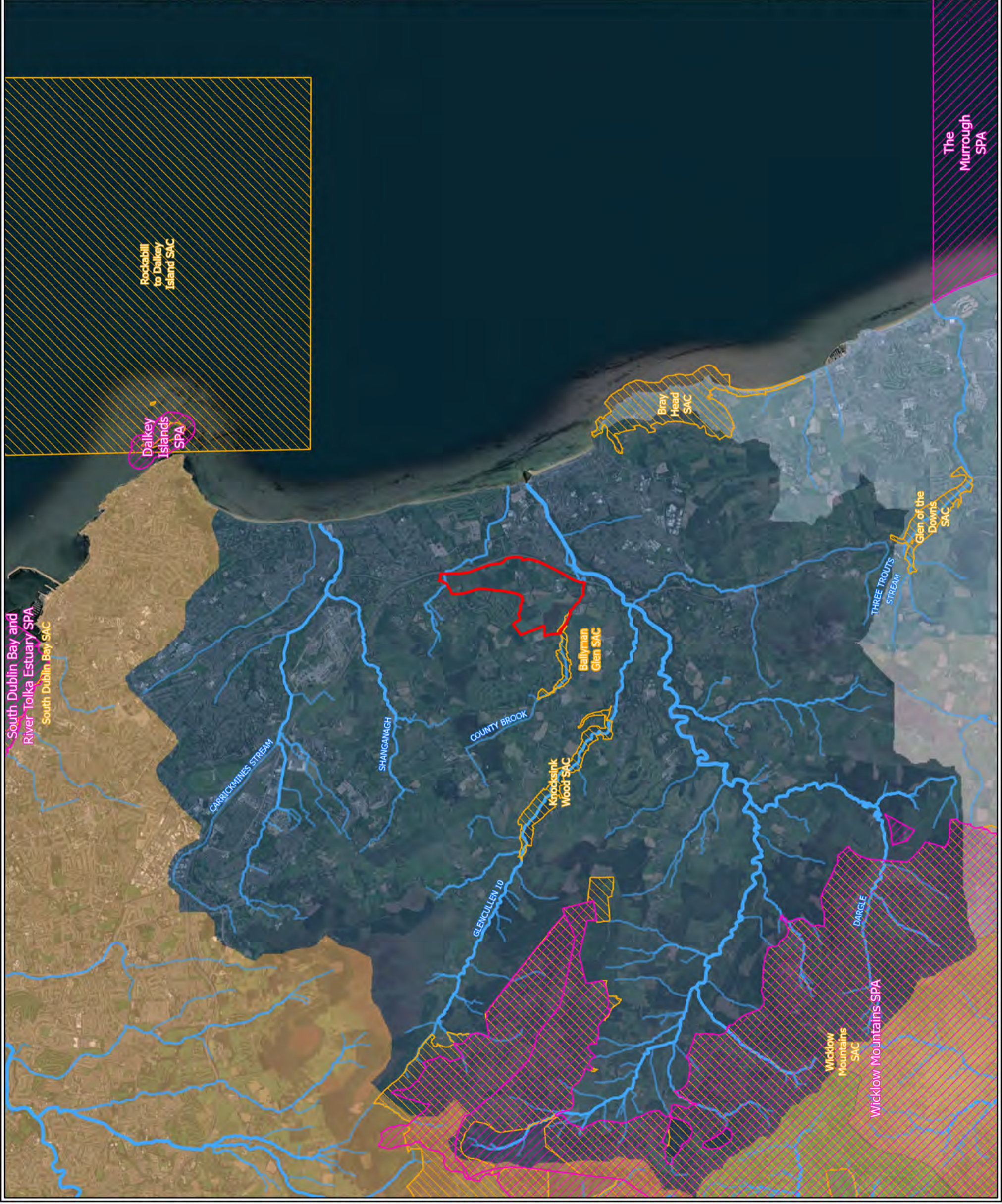
TITLE:	Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas
PROJECT:	Old Connaught Local Area Plan
FIGURE NO:	3.1
CLIENT:	Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
SCALE:	1:250,000
REVISION:	0
DATE:	21/02/2025
PAGE SIZE:	A3





Legend

- Plan Area
- Special Area of Conservation
- Special Protection Areas
- WFD Sub Catchments
- Avonmore_SC_010
- Dargle_SC_010
- Dodder_SC_010
- Liffey_SC_010
- NEWCASTLE[WICKLOW]_SC_010
- Vartry_SC_010
- Rivers



TITLE:	European Sites and Hydrology Surrounding the Plan Area
PROJECT:	Old Connaught Local Area Plan
FIGURE NO:	3.2
CLIENT:	Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
SCALE:	1:75,000
REVISION:	0
DATE:	24/02/2025
PAGE SIZE:	A3



3.4 In-Combination Effects With Other Plans And Programmes

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the plan or project, have the potential to result in likely significant effects on European sites. All plans, programmes and legislation that has the potential to interact with the Draft LAP and cause such likely significant in-combination effects to European sites have been identified and are presented in Appendix 3. The environmental effects of these plans, programmes and legislation were considered throughout the assessment.

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

The National Planning Framework (NPF) sets out Ireland's planning policy direction for the next 20 years. The NPF is to be implemented through Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSEs) and lower tier County Development Plans. The RSE for the Eastern and Midland Region sets out objectives for land use planning, tourism, infrastructure, sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been subject to environmental assessment and must be implemented through the Draft LAP. As required by the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the Draft LAP is consistent with the objectives of the DLR CDP, the RSE and the NPF.

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

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



3.5 Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

Table 3-1 examines whether there is potential for Likely Significant Effects on identified European sites considering the information provided above and the background information on the relevant European sites.

Table 3-1: Assessment of Likely Significant Effects to European Sites within the Zone of Influence of the Draft Plan

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential for Likely Significant Effects	Pathway for Likely Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects	Likely Significant Effects (Y/N)
000713	Ballyman Glen SAC	0.00	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220] Alkaline fens [7230]	The SAC is sensitive to groundwater interactions, disturbance effects and direct land use management activities. The Draft LAP Area boundary overlaps with this SAC to the south-west and shares hydrological/hydrogeological connectivity with the SAC. The Draft LAP supports the carrying out of development, including residential, community, transport and renewable energy development, that may result in sources of environmental impact, including impacts on groundwater quality, yield and/or flow paths. Such impacts have the potential to result in likely significant effects on the Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems in the SAC. Having regard to the 'Precautionary Principle' underpinning EU and Irish Environmental Law, it is assessed that implementation of the Draft LAP has some potential to result in likely significant effects on the qualifying features of this SAC.	Y	Y	Y
000725	Knocksink Wood SAC	1.7	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220] Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i>) [91E0]	The SAC is sensitive to groundwater interactions, surface water interactions, disturbance effects and direct land use management activities. The SAC is located ca. 1.7 km to the south-west of the Plan Area boundary. The SAC is upstream from the Plan area. There is no hydrological/hydrogeological connectivity.	Y	Y	Y



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential for Likely Significant Effects	Pathway for Likely Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects	Likely Significant Effects (Y/N)
000714	Bray Head SAC	2.7	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0] European dry heaths [4030] Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230]	The Draft LAP supports the carrying out of development, including residential, community, transport and renewable energy development, that may result in sources of environmental impact, including disturbance of sensitive ecological features. Having regard to the 'Precautionary Principle' underpinning EU and Irish Environmental Law, it is assessed that implementation of the Draft LAP has some potential to result in likely significant effects on the sensitive qualifying features of this SAC. The SAC is sensitive to direct land use management activities. The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European site. There is no hydrological connection between the Plan area and Qualifying Features at the site. The Draft LAP supports the carrying out of development that may result in environmental impacts. There are no pathways that allow for the transmission of environmental impacts from the Plan area to the site, considering the Qualifying Features of the site, however. Implementation of the Draft LAP has no potential to result in likely significant effects on this European site.	N	N	N
003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	3.7	Reefs [1170] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>) [1351]	The SAC is sensitive to hydrological interactions and direct land use management activities. The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European site. The Plan area shares a hydrological connection with this European Site through the County Brook watercourse, which merges with the River Dargle downstream to drain into the Irish Sea to the east, and the Rathmichael water course, which drains directly to the Irish Sea.	Y	Y	Y



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential for Likely Significant Effects	Pathway for Likely Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects	Likely Significant Effects (Y/N)
002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	5.5	<p>Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (<i>Androsacetalia alpinae</i> and <i>Galeopsietalia ladani</i>) [8110]</p> <p>Calaminarian grasslands of the <i>Violetalia calaminariae</i> [6130]</p> <p>Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]</p> <p>Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]</p> <p>Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]</p> <p>Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220]</p> <p>Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230]</p>	<p>The Draft LAP supports the carrying out development that may result in environmental impacts, including the discharge of polluting material to surface water bodies. Such discharges could be released to the Irish Sea where the SAC is located, although they would be highly diluted upon entering the Irish Sea.</p> <p>Having regard to the 'Precautionary Principle' underpinning EU and Irish Environmental Law, it is assessed that implementation of the Draft Plan has some potential to result in likely significant effects on species related to this European site.</p> <p>The SAC is sensitive to disturbance effects, direct land use management activities and hydrological interactions. The Draft LAP is a significant distance away from this European site.</p> <p>There is no hydrological connection between the Plan area and Qualifying Features at the site.</p> <p>The potential zone of disturbance for Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) is unlikely to overlap with the Plan area or its ZOI.</p> <p>The Draft LAP supports the carrying out development that may result in environmental impacts, including species disturbance and impacts, and habitat destruction, fragmentation and deterioration.</p> <p>There are no pathways that allow for the transmission of environmental impacts from the Plan area to the site, considering the Qualifying Features of the site, however. Implementation of the Draft LAP has no potential to result in likely significant effects on this European site.</p>	N	N	N



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential for Likely Significant Effects	Pathway for Likely Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects	Likely Significant Effects (Y/N)
000719	Glen of the Downs SAC	6.1	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010] Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160] European dry heaths [4030] Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) [3110] Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210] Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	The Draft LAP is a significant distance away from this European site. There is no hydrological connection between the Plan area and Qualifying Features at the site. The Draft LAP supports the carrying out development that may result in environmental impacts, including habitat destruction, fragmentation and deterioration. There are no pathways that allow for the transmission of environmental impacts from the Plan area to the site, considering the Qualifying Features of the site, however. Implementation of the Draft LAP has no potential to result in likely significant effects on this European site.	N	N	N



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential for Likely Significant Effects	Pathway for Likely Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects	Likely Significant Effects (Y/N)
004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	5.6	Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) [A103] Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) [A098]	<p>The SPA is sensitive to disturbance effects and direct land use management activities.</p> <p>The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European Site. There is no hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and the qualifying features of the SPA.</p> <p>As per Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), 2016, the core foraging ranges for the QIs Merlin and Peregrine are 5 km and 2 km respectively. This SPA is > 5 km away from the Plan area</p> <p>The Draft LAP supports the carrying out development that may result in environmental impacts, such as habitat deterioration or disturbance to species, that may extend beyond the plan and to within 5 km of this SPA.</p> <p>Having regard to the 'Precautionary Principle' underpinning EU and Irish Environmental Law, it is assessed that implementation of the Draft LAP has some potential to result in likely significant effects on mobile species related to this European site.</p>	Y	Y	Y
004172	Dalkey Islands SPA	5.8	Arctic tern (<i>Sterna parasisaea</i>) [A194] Roseate tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192] Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193]	<p>The SPA is sensitive to hydrological interactions, disturbance effects and direct land use management activities.</p> <p>The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European site.</p> <p>The Plan area shares a hydrological connection with this European Site through the County Brook watercourse, which merges with the River Dargle downstream to drain into the Irish Sea to the east, and the Rathmichael water course, which drains directly to the Irish Sea.</p> <p>The Draft LAP supports the carrying out development that may result in environmental impacts, including the discharge of polluting material to surface water bodies.</p>	Y	Y	Y



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential for Likely Significant Effects	Pathway for Likely Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects	Likely Significant Effects (Y/N)
004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	8.1	Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192] Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] Arctic tern (<i>Sterna parasaisaea</i>) [A194] Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157]	Such discharges could be released to the Irish Sea where the SAC is located, although they would be highly diluted upon entering the Irish Sea. Having regard to the 'Precautionary Principle' underpinning EU and Irish Environmental Law, it is assessed that implementation of the Draft Plan has some potential to result in likely significant effects on species related to this European site. The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European site. There is negligible hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and the site given the distance from the Plan area to the site, the geographic orientation of the site relative to the Plan area and the massive assimilative capacity of the Irish Sea. The bird species present within this European Site are coastal bird species. With the exception of the Light-bellied Brent Goose, the bird species of the SPA have short foraging ranges; e.g. Dunlin and Plover species have core ranges of 500 m and 3 km, respectively (Scottish Natural Heritage, 2016). Light-bellied Brent Goose has a larger foraging range (assumed as up to 15 km, having regard to foraging ranges of other geese, as prescribed in SNH, 2016), and as such, its foraging range could theoretically overlap with the Plan area. Such species have been recorded using sites in inland areas in South Dublin. It is possible such species may use greenfield sites present in or within the ZOI of the Plan area (e.g., for foraging). The Draft LAP supports the carrying out development that may result in environmental impacts, such as habitat deterioration or disturbance to species.	Y	Y	Y



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential for Likely Significant Effects	Pathway for Likely Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects	Likely Significant Effects (Y/N)
000210	South Dublin Bay SAC	8.1	Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]	Having regard to the 'Precautionary Principle' underpinning EU and Irish Environmental Law, it is assessed that implementation of the Draft LAP has some potential to result in likely significant effects on mobile species related to this European site.	N	N	N
				The hydrologically sensitive habitats of this SAC are highly sensitive to changes in siltation loads, the distribution of silt loads, pollutants and water levels, and anthropogenic disturbance. The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European Site. There is negligible hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and the site given the distance from the Plan area to the site, the geographic orientation of the site relative to the Plan area and the massive assimilative capacity of the Irish Sea. There are no pathways that allow for the transmission of environmental impacts from the Plan area to the site, considering the Qualifying Features of the site. Therefore, the implementation of the Draft LAP has no potential to result in likely significant effects on this European Site.			



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential for Likely Significant Effects	Pathway for Likely Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects	Likely Significant Effects (Y/N)
000716	Carriggower Bog SAC	10.2	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	<p>The SAC is sensitive to direct land use management activities, surface water interactions and ground water interactions.</p> <p>The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European Site. There is no hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and the qualifying features of the SAC.</p> <p>There are no pathways that allow for the transmission of environmental impacts from the Plan area to the site, considering the Qualifying Features of the site. Therefore, the implementation of the Draft LAP has no potential to result in likely significant effects on this European Site.</p>	N	N	N
002249	The Murrrough Wetlands SAC	11.0	<p>Alkaline fens [7230]</p> <p>Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]</p> <p>Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210]</p> <p>Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410]</p> <p>Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330]</p> <p>Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]</p>	<p>The habitats of the SAC are sensitive to disturbance effects, direct land use management activities groundwater and hydrological interactions.</p> <p>The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European Site.</p> <p>There is negligible hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and the site given the distance from the Plan area to the site, the geographic orientation of the site relative to the Plan area and the massive assimilative capacity of the Irish Sea.</p> <p>There are no pathways that allow for the transmission of environmental impacts from the Plan area to the site, considering the Qualifying Features of the site. Therefore, the implementation of the Draft LAP has no potential to result in likely significant effects on this European Site.</p>	N	N	N



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential for Likely Significant Effects	Pathway for Likely Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects	Likely Significant Effects (Y/N)
004186	The Murrrough SPA	12.0	Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] Red-throated Diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>) [A001] Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184] Little Tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) [A195] Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050] Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043]	The hydrologically sensitive species of this SPA are highly sensitive to pollutants, water levels and anthropogenic disturbance. The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European site. There is negligible hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and the site given the distance from the Plan area to the site, the geographic orientation of the site relative to the Plan area and the massive assimilative capacity of the Irish Sea. The bird species present within this European Site are coastal bird species. Such species have been recorded using sites in inland areas in South Dublin. It is possible such species may use greenfield sites present in or within the ZOI of the Plan area (e.g., for foraging). The Draft LAP supports the carrying out development that may result in environmental impacts, such as habitat deterioration or disturbance to species. Having regard to the 'Precautionary Principle' underpinning EU and Irish Environmental Law, it is assessed that implementation of the Draft Plan has some potential to result in likely significant effects on mobile species related to this European site.	Y	Y	Y
004006	North Bull Island SPA	13.5	Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054] Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130]	The hydrologically sensitive species of this SPA are highly sensitive to changes in siltation loads, the distribution of silt loads, pollutants, water levels and anthropogenic disturbance. The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European site.	Y	Y	Y



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential for Likely Significant Effects	Pathway for Likely Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects	Likely Significant Effects (Y/N)
			Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169] Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160] Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056]	There is negligible hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and the site given the distance from the Plan area to the site, the geographic orientation of the site relative to the Plan area and the massive assimilative capacity of the Irish Sea. The bird species present within this European Site are coastal bird species. With the exception of the Light-bellied Brent Goose, the bird species of the SPA have short foraging ranges; e.g. Dunlin and Plover species have core ranges of 500 m and 3 km, respectively (Scottish Natural Heritage, 2016). Light-bellied Brent Goose has a larger foraging range (assumed as up to 15 km, having regard to foraging ranges of other geese, as prescribed in SNH, 2016), and as such, its foraging range could theoretically overlap with the Plan Area. Such species have been recorded using sites in inland areas in South Dublin. It is possible such species may use greenfield sites present in or within the ZOI of the Plan area (e.g., for foraging). Having regard to the 'Precautionary Principle' underpinning EU and Irish Environmental Law, it is assessed that implementation of the Draft Plan has some potential to result in likely significant effects on mobile species related to this European site.			



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential for Likely Significant Effects	Pathway for Likely Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects	Likely Significant Effects (Y/N)
000206	North Dublin Bay SAC	13.6	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130] Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] Humid dune slacks [2190], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritima</i>) [1330] Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>) [1395] Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210] Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> - white dunes [2120] Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410]	The SAC is sensitive to land use management and hydrological and groundwater interactions. The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European site. There is negligible hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and the site given the distance from the Plan area to the site, the geographic orientation of the site relative to the Plan area and the massive assimilative capacity of the Irish Sea. There are no pathways that allow for the transmission of environmental impacts from the Plan area to the site, considering the Qualifying Features of the site. Implementation of the Draft Plan has no potential to result in likely significant effects on this European site.	N	N	N
001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	13.6	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinia caerulea</i>) [6410] Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220]	The SAC is sensitive to direct land use management activities, groundwater and hydrological interactions. The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European Site. There is no hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and the qualifying features of the SAC.	N	N	N



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential for Likely Significant Effects	Pathway for Likely Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects	Likely Significant Effects (Y/N)
004236	North-west Irish Sea SPA	13.9	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) * important orchid sites [6210] Red-throated Diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>) [A001] Great Northern Diver (<i>Gavia immer</i>) [A003] Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>) [A009] Manx Shearwater (<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>) [A013] Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017] Shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>) [A018] Common Scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>) [A065] Little Gull (<i>Larus minutus</i>) [A177] Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182] Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183] Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184] Great Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus marinus</i>) [A187] Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188] Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192] Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194] Little Tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) [A195] Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) [A199] Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>) [A200] Puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>) [A204]	There are no pathways that allow for the transmission of environmental impacts from the Plan area to the site, considering the qualifying features of the site. Therefore, the implementation of the Draft LAP has no potential to result in likely significant effects on this European Site. The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European site. There is negligible hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and the site given the distance from the Plan area to the site, the geographic orientation of the site relative to the Plan area and the massive assimilative capacity of the Irish Sea. The bird species present within this European Site are coastal bird species. Such species have been recorded using sites in inland areas in South Dublin. It is possible such species may use greenfield sites present in or within the ZOI of the Draft LAP (e.g., for foraging). Having regard to the 'Precautionary Principle' underpinning EU and Irish Environmental Law, it is assessed that implementation of the Draft Plan has some potential to result in likely significant effects on mobile species related to this European site.	Y	Y	Y



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential for Likely Significant Effects	Pathway for Likely Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects	Likely Significant Effects (Y/N)
004063	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA	22.5	Greylag Goose (Anser anser) [A043] Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus) [A183]	The Plan area is a significant distance away from this European site. There is no hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and the site. Greylag Goose has a foraging range of up to 20 km. The Draft LAP supports development that may impact locally important habitat that is used by such mobile species. Having regard to the 'Precautionary Principle' underpinning EU and Irish Environmental Law, it is assessed that implementation of the Draft Plan has some potential to result in likely significant effects on mobile species related to this European site.	Y	Y	Y



3.6 AA Screening Conclusion

On the basis of the findings of the AA Screening exercises, it is concluded that the Draft LAP:

- Is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site.
- Individually or in-combination with other plans or projects, has the potential to have likely, significant effects on 10 No. European sites, in view of site conservation objectives and best scientific knowledge.

Therefore, an NIR must be prepared for the Draft LAP.



4. DRAFT NATURA IMPACT REPORT

4.1 Introduction

The Draft NIR assesses whether the Draft LAP alone, or in-combination with other plans, programmes, and/or projects, would result in adverse effects on the integrity of the European sites brought forward from screening (those considered in Section 3 for which there is potential for 'Likely Significant Effects,' with respect to site structure, function and/or conservation objectives).

4.2 Characterisation of European sites Potentially Affected

The AA Screening identified European sites with pathway receptors for potential effects arising from the implementation of the Draft LAP. Appendix 4 characterises each of the qualifying features of all European sites brought forward from screening in context of each of the sites' vulnerabilities. Each of these site characterisations were taken from the NPWS website.

4.3 Characterisation Potential Effects

A characterisation of potential effects on the relevant European sites is presented in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1: Characterisation of Potential Adverse Effects arising from the subject land area

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
000713	Ballyman Glen SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures for this site relate to agriculture, forestry, infrastructure, mining/ resource extraction, hydrological interactions, land use management, land use change, and waste management.</p> <p>The Draft LAP provides for future land use development, including the development of housing, transport and renewable energy infrastructure. Such development may result in environmental impacts that result in adverse effects on the qualifying features of this European site such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration. • Discharges of emissions from the construction or operation of developments. • Hydrological/hydrogeological changes. • Development or activity leading to disturbance to or impacts on species. <p>Mitigation measures are therefore required to ensure the implementation of the Draft LAP does not result in adverse effects on this European site.</p>
000725	Knocksink Wood SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures for this site relate to forestry, land use change, waste management, infrastructure, agriculture, poor conservation management, unsocial behaviour, recreation, land use change, and invasive species.</p>



Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		<p>The Draft LAP provides for future land use development, including the development of housing, transport and renewable energy infrastructure. Such development may result in environmental impacts that result in adverse effects on the qualifying features of this European site such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration. • Discharges of emissions from the construction or operation of developments. • Development or activity leading to disturbance to or impacts on species. <p>Mitigation measures are therefore required to ensure the implementation of the Draft LAP does not result in adverse effects on this European site.</p>
003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures for this site relate to noise nuisance and pollution, utility and service lines, commercial fishing, shipping lanes, discharges, removal of sediments, siltation rate changes, dumping and depositing of dredged deposits.</p> <p>The Draft LAP provides for future land use development, including the development of housing, transport and renewable energy infrastructure. Such development may result in environmental impacts that result in adverse effects on the qualifying features of this European site such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration. • Discharges of emissions from the construction or operation of developments. • Hydrological/hydrogeological changes. • Development or activity leading to disturbance to or impacts on species. <p>Mitigation measures are therefore required to ensure Draft LAP implementation does not result in adverse effects on this European site.</p>
004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures for this site relate to interpretative centres, Peat extraction, Walking, horse riding and non-motorised vehicles, Grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Sylviculture, forestry</p> <p>The Draft LAP provides for future land use development, including the development of housing, transport and renewable energy infrastructure. Such development may result in environmental impacts that result in adverse effects on the qualifying features of this European site such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration. • Discharges of emissions from the construction or operation of developments. • Development or activity leading to disturbance to or impacts on species.



Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Mitigation measures are therefore required to ensure Draft LAP implementation does not result in adverse effects on this European site.
004172	Dalkey Islands SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures for this site include recreational activities such as walking, horse riding, non-motorised vehicles, expansion of urban areas, human habitation, grazing and nautical sports.</p> <p>The Draft LAP provides for future land use development, including the development of housing, transport and renewable energy infrastructure. Such development may result in environmental impacts that result in adverse effects on the qualifying features of this European site such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration. • Discharges of emissions from the construction or operation of developments. • Hydrological/hydrogeological changes. • Development or activity leading to disturbance to or impacts on species. <p>Mitigation measures are therefore required to ensure Draft LAP implementation does not result in adverse effects on this European site.</p>
004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures for this site relate to urbanised areas, human habitation, Bait digging or collection, Leisure fishing, eutrophication (natural), Discharges, nautical sports, reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, roads, motorways, walking, horse riding and non-motorised vehicles, Industrial or commercial areas.</p> <p>The Draft LAP provides for future land use development, including the development of housing, transport and renewable energy infrastructure. Such development may result in environmental impacts that result in adverse effects on the qualifying features of this European site such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration. • Discharges of emissions from the construction or operation of developments. • Development or activity leading to disturbance to or impacts on species. <p>Mitigation measures are therefore required to ensure Draft LAP implementation does not result in adverse effects on this European site.</p>



Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
004186	The Murrough SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures for this SAC relate to walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, Railway lines, TGV, Fertilisation</p> <p>The Draft LAP provides for future land use development, including the development of housing, transport and renewable energy infrastructure. Such development may result in environmental impacts that result in adverse effects on the qualifying features of this European site such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration. • Discharges of emissions from the construction or operation of developments. • Development or activity leading to disturbance to or impacts on species. <p>Mitigation measures are therefore required to ensure Draft Plan implementation does not result in adverse effects on this European site.</p>
004006	North Bull Island SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures for this site relate to shipping lanes, other patterns of habitation, roads, motorways, nautical sports, walking, horse riding and non-motorised vehicles, bridge, viaduct, Interpretative centres, golf course, continuous urbanisation, discharges, bait digging or collection, industrial or commercial areas.</p> <p>The Draft LAP provides for future land use development, including the development of housing, transport and renewable energy infrastructure. Such development may result in environmental impacts that result in adverse effects on the qualifying features of this European site such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration. • Discharges of emissions from the construction or operation of developments. • Development or activity leading to disturbance to or impacts on species. <p>Mitigation measures are therefore required to ensure Draft LAP implementation does not result in adverse effects on this European site.</p>
004236	North-west Irish Sea SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures for this site relate to agriculture, forestry, peat extraction, renewable energy, shipping, fishing, invasive species, problematic native species, pests and pathogens, sport, tourism and leisure, marine particulate pollution, aquaculture, interspecific relations.</p>



Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		<p>The Draft LAP provides for future land use development, including the development of housing, transport and renewable energy infrastructure. Such development may result in environmental impacts that result in adverse effects on the qualifying features of this European site such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration. • Discharges of emissions from the construction or operation of developments. • Development or activity leading to disturbance to or impacts on species. <p>Mitigation measures are therefore required to ensure Draft LAP implementation does not result in adverse effects on this European site.</p>
004063	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures for this site relate to hunting, nautical sports, forest planting on open ground, leisure fishing, a bridge, and a viaduct.</p> <p>The Draft LAP provides for future land use development, including the development of housing, transport and renewable energy infrastructure. Such development may result in environmental impacts that result in adverse effects on the qualifying features of this European site such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration. • Discharges of emissions from the construction or operation of developments. • Development or activity leading to disturbance to or impacts on species. <p>Mitigation measures are therefore required to ensure Draft Plan implementation does not result in adverse effects on this European site.</p>

Assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted utilising the SPR model. The 2001 European Commission AA guidance outlines the following potential changes that may occur at a designated site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site. These include: loss/reduction of habitat area; habitat or species fragmentation; disturbance to key species; reduction in species density; changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.); and climate change. The Draft LAP may result in such changes and adverse effects on the above European sites.

4.3.1 Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area

The Draft LAP provides a framework for granting consent for land use developments and activities across various sectors (see Section 2) for the Plan Area. Potential adverse effects arising from developments and activities include land take, habitat destruction, disturbance effects, light pollution, dust, hydrological interactions, airborne pollution and excessive noise.



Some European sites have the potential to be adversely affected from the implementation of the Draft LAP. Various measures have been integrated into the Draft LAP with the objective of ensuring that there are no adverse effects on the integrity of any European Site as a result of loss of habitat or supporting habitat for species that are necessary to maintain the integrity of European Sites. Similar measures are defined in the higher-order DLR CDP, which applies to the Plan area in this case. These measures are presented in Table 4-2 and will ensure there is no loss of habitat or supporting habitat for species that are necessary to maintain the integrity of European sites throughout the lifetime of the Draft LAP.

Table 4-2: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area

Plan	Ref.	Policy/Objective
LAP	OCLAP41	It is Policy to require that the approach to existing and proposed trees throughout the Draft Plan area is consistent with the dlr Tree Strategy 'A Climate for Trees 2024-2030', to ensure that the tree cover is managed, and developed to optimise the environmental, climatic and educational benefits, which derive from an 'urban forest', and holistic 'urban forestry' approach.
LAP	GIB4	It is an Objective to seek to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect, preserve, restore and enhance ecological connectivity within the Draft Plan area and beyond and to restore and mitigate fragmentation of ecological corridors. • Encourage the design and function of green infrastructure to support the movement of species across the area. • Facilitate the creation of new wildlife corridors within new development sites that connect to the wider landscape, as part of the development management process for planning applications in the Draft Plan area.
LAP	GIB7	It is an Objective to protect and maintain important trees and hedgerows within the Draft Plan area, where practicable, and to promote native tree/hedgerow enhancement and planting. The retention and protection of existing trees / woodlands / hedgerows shall accord with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
LAP	OCLAP38	It is Policy to protect and preserve the Ballyman Glen site as a designated Special Areas of Conservation and proposed Natural Heritage Areas.
LAP	OCLAP39	It is Policy that any development proposals with the potential to impact on the Ballyman Glen SAC or any Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE) within the area shall be assessed collaboratively at planning application stage by a hydrogeologist/hydrologist and ecologist and shall take cognizance of the requirement to maintain the rate, quality and general areas where groundwater recharge occurs in order to maintain or enhance the recharge supplying the groundwaterdependent habitats of the Ballyman Glen SAC or any other GWDTEs within the area. Detailed site-specific assessment shall be required for development proposals situated in the catchment area for GWDTE situated in Ballyman Glen SAC that have the potential to impact groundwater through emissions, abstraction or changes to hydrogeological/hydrological regimes. Appropriate cognizance shall be had to potential connections and interactions between surface water and groundwater.



Plan	Ref.	Policy/Objective
LAP	GIB14	It is an Objective in accordance with the Green Infrastructure Strategy of the dlr County Development Plan 2022 - 2028 to seek opportunities where appropriate to open up culverted elements of watercourses, to facilitate weir removal where appropriate and reconnect the riverine habitats. Any such proposals shall have regard to SFRA and Appropriate Assessment requirements.
LAP	OCLAP40	It is Policy to ensure adequate ecological surveys are undertaken at project level to inform development decisions, in accordance with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
LAP	OCLAP59	It is Policy to ensure the implementation of the surface water legislation 'Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009' to ensure that development permitted will not have an unacceptable impact on water quality including surface waters, ground water, river corridors, estuarine waters, bathing waters, coastal and transitional waters. Development within the Draft Plan area shall comply with the Policies and Objectives of the dlr County Development Plan relating to protection of existing water and drainage infrastructure.
LAP	OCLAP58	It is Policy to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the protection of groundwater resources and associated habitats and species in accordance with the EU Groundwater Directive. All new planning applications within the LAP area shall have regard to the likely impacts the proposed development may have on groundwater resources. • Ensure that planning applications take into account any existing groundwater protection schemes and groundwater source protection zones and/or the likely impacts that the development may have on groundwater.
LAP	OCLAP55	It is Policy to facilitate compliance with the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive and any relevant legislation. In this regard, the Council will facilitate compliance with the relevant objectives and measures set out in the ongoing 'River Basin Management Plan' (2022- 2028) and associated Programme of Measures, where relevant. Applications for development under this LAP must demonstrate that the proposal for development would not adversely affect a water body's ability to meet its objectives under the Water Framework Directive, individually as a result of the proposed development or cumulatively, in combination with other developments.
LAP	OCLAP26	It is a Policy, where practicable and possible, to protect existing green infrastructure and encourage and facilitate, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, the creation, management, restoration and enhancement of our natural and semi natural areas.
LAP	GIB13	It is an Objective to ensure the protection and where possible the restoration of the biodiversity associated with watercourses and their riparian (bankside) habitats, in line with the overarching objectives set out in the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
LAP	GIB11	It is an Objective that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals for strategic infrastructure include an appropriate level of tree/hedgerow planting.



Plan	Ref.	Policy/Objective
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The provision of new strategic infrastructure is subject to environmental constraints, including those related to habitats and potential impacts such as disturbance from lighting. Examples of project level mitigation will include minimising river crossings, avoiding sensitive habitats, not increasing barriers to flood waters and sustainable design and construction techniques.
LAP	GIB12	It is an Objective to support and promote tree planting and urban greening as part of the public realm at Old Connaught.
LAP	GIB15	It is an Objective that proposals for development demonstrate at preplanning and application stage how biodiversity has informed scheme layout and design. Applicants are encouraged, where appropriate, to pilot the Biodiversity Net Gain Approach (BNG) for development.
LAP	OCLAP42	It is a Policy to ensure biodiversity is factored into nature based solutions when developing proposals within the Draft Plan area.
CDP	GI1	It is an Objective to protect and maintain important hedgerows/tree lines, where appropriate, within the LAP lands (including those identified in the 'DLR Biodiversity Action Plan, 2021-2025' and the dlr Hedgerow review and evaluation (2021) and any hedgerows which form part of townland boundaries) and promote native hedgerow enhancement and planting.
CDP	GIB18	It is a Policy Objective to protect and conserve the environment including, in particular, the natural heritage of the County and to conserve and manage Nationally and Internationally important and EU designated sites - such as Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservations (SACs), proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) and Ramsar sites (wetlands) - as well as non-designated areas of high nature conservation value known as locally important areas which also serve as 'Stepping Stones' for the purposes of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.
CDP	GIB19	It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of natural heritage and biodiversity, including European Sites that form part of the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with relevant EU Environmental Directives and applicable National Legislation, Policies, Plans and Guidelines.
CDP	GIB21	It is a Policy Objective to protect and preserve areas designated as proposed Natural Heritage Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, and Special Protection Areas. It is Council policy to promote the maintenance and as appropriate, delivery of 'favourable' conservation status of habitats and species within these areas.
CDP	GIB22	It is a Policy Objective to protect and promote the conservation of biodiversity in areas of natural heritage importance outside Designated Areas and to ensure that notable sites, habitats and features of biodiversity importance - including species protected under the Wildlife Acts 1976 and 2000, the Birds Directive 1979, the Habitats Directive 1992, Birds and Habitats Regulations 2011, Flora (Protection) Order, 2015, Annex I habitats, local important areas, wildlife corridors and rare species - are adequately protected. Ecological assessments will be carried out for all developments in areas that support, or have potential to support, features of biodiversity importance or rare and protected species and appropriate mitigation/ avoidance measures will be implemented. In implementing this policy, regard shall be had to the Ecological Network, including the forthcoming DLR Wildlife Corridor Plan, and the recommendations and objectives of the Green City Guidelines (2008) and 'Ecological Guidance Notes for Local Authorities and Developers' (Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Version 2014).



Plan	Ref.	Policy/Objective
CDP	GIB23	It is a Policy Objective to protect the Ecological Network which will be integrated into the updated Green Infrastructure Strategy and will align with the DLR County Biodiversity Action Plan. Creating this network throughout the County will also improve the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network in accordance with Article 10 of the Habitats Directive. The network will also include non-designated sites.
CDP	GIB24	It is a Policy Objective to maintain and protect the natural character and ecological value of the river and stream corridors in the County and where possible to enhance existing channels and to encourage diversity of habitat and nature-based solutions that incorporate biodiversity features. It is also policy (subject to the sensitivity of the riverside habitat), to provide public access to riparian corridors, to promote improved passive recreational activities.
CDP	GIB25	It is a Policy Objective to retain and protect hedgerows in the County from development, which would impact adversely upon them. In addition, the Council will promote the protection of existing site boundary hedgerows and where feasible require the retention of these when considering a grant of planning permission for all developments. The Council will promote the County's hedgerows by increasing coverage, where possible, using locally native species and to develop an appropriate code of practice for road hedgerow maintenance. The Council will promote the protection of existing hedgerows when considering a grant of planning permission for all developments.

4.3.2 Habitat or species Fragmentation

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

The Draft LAP and higher-order CDP includes measures to minimise potential fragmentation and to facilitate the enhancement of ecological corridors such as riparian zones, planting of native tree species, management of habitats such as woodlands and minimising inappropriate lighting. These measures are presented in Table 4-3. These measures will ensure that habitat or species fragmentation does not occur in relation to the connectivity of the ecological resources necessary to maintain the integrity of European Sites.

Table 4-3: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Habitat or Species Fragmentation

Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	OCLAP41	It is Policy to require that the approach to existing and proposed trees throughout the Draft Plan area is consistent with the dlr Tree Strategy 'A Climate for Trees 2024-2030', to ensure that the tree cover is managed, and developed to optimise the environmental, climatic and educational benefits, which derive from an 'urban forest', and holistic 'urban forestry' approach.
LAP	GIB4	It is an Objective to seek to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect, preserve, restore and enhance ecological connectivity within the Draft Plan area and beyond and to restore and mitigate fragmentation of ecological corridors. • Encourage the design and function of green infrastructure to support the movement of species across the area.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate the creation of new wildlife corridors within new development sites that connect to the wider landscape, as part of the development management process for planning applications in the Draft Plan area.
LAP	GIB7	It is an Objective to protect and maintain important trees and hedgerows within the Draft Plan area, where practicable, and to promote native tree/hedgerow enhancement and planting. The retention and protection of existing trees / woodlands / hedgerows shall accord with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
LAP	OCLAP26	It is a Policy, where practicable and possible, to protect existing green infrastructure and encourage and facilitate, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, the creation, management, restoration and enhancement of our natural and semi natural areas.
LAP	GIB13	It is an Objective to ensure the protection and where possible the restoration of the biodiversity associated with watercourses and their riparian (bankside) habitats, in line with the overarching objectives set out in the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
LAP	OCLAP59	It is Policy to ensure the implementation of the surface water legislation 'Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009' to ensure that development permitted will not have an unacceptable impact on water quality including surface waters, ground water, river corridors, estuarine waters, bathing waters, coastal and transitional waters. Development within the Draft Plan area shall comply with the Policies and Objectives of the dlr County Development Plan relating to protection of existing water and drainage infrastructure.
LAP	OCLAP58	It is Policy to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the protection of groundwater resources and associated habitats and species in accordance with the EU Groundwater Directive. All new planning applications within the LAP area shall have regard to the likely impacts the proposed development may have on groundwater resources. Ensure that planning applications take into account any existing groundwater protection schemes and groundwater source protection zones and/or the likely impacts that the development may have on groundwater.
LAP	OCLAP55	It is Policy to facilitate compliance with the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive and any relevant legislation. In this regard, the Council will facilitate compliance with the relevant objectives and measures set out in the ongoing 'River Basin Management Plan' (2022- 2028) and associated Programme of Measures, where relevant. Applications for development under this LAP must demonstrate that the proposal for development would not adversely affect a water body's ability to meet its objectives under the Water Framework Directive, individually as a result of the proposed development or cumulatively, in combination with other developments.
LAP	OCLAP38	It is Policy to protect and preserve the Ballyman Glen site as a designated Special Areas of Conservation and proposed Natural Heritage Areas.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	OCLAP39	It is Policy that any development proposals with the potential to impact on the Ballyman Glen SAC or any Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE) within the area shall be assessed collaboratively at planning application stage by a hydrogeologist/hydrologist and ecologist and shall take cognisance of the requirement to maintain the rate, quality and general areas where groundwater recharge occurs in order to maintain or enhance the recharge supplying the groundwaterdependent habitats of the Ballyman Glen SAC or any other GWDTEs within the area. Detailed site-specific assessment shall be required for development proposals situated in the catchment area for GWDTE situated in Ballyman Glen SAC that have the potential to impact groundwater through emissions, abstraction or changes to hydrogeological/hydrological regimes. Appropriate cognisance shall be had to potential connections and interactions between surface water and groundwater.
LAP	GIB14	It is an Objective in accordance with the Green Infrastructure Strategy of the dlr County Development Plan 2022 - 2028 to seek opportunities where appropriate to open up culverted elements of watercourses, to facilitate weir removal where appropriate and reconnect the riverine habitats. Any such proposals shall have regard to SFRA and Appropriate Assessment requirements.
LAP	OCLAP40	It is Policy to ensure adequate ecological surveys are undertaken at project level to inform development decisions, in accordance with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
LAP	GIB15	It is an Objective that proposals for development demonstrate at preplanning and application stage how biodiversity has informed scheme layout and design. Applicants are encouraged, where appropriate, to pilot the Biodiversity Net Gain Approach (BNG) for development.
LAP	OCLAP42	It is a Policy to ensure biodiversity is factored into nature based solutions when developing proposals within the Draft Plan area.
CDP	GI1	It is an Objective to protect and maintain important hedgerows/tree lines, where appropriate, within the LAP lands (including those identified in the 'DLR Biodiversity Action Plan, 2021-2025' and the dlr Hedgerow review and evaluation (2021) and any hedgerows which form part of townland boundaries) and promote native hedgerow enhancement and planting.
CDP	GI6	It is an objective that the design of lighting within the LAP area should seek to minimise light pollution and adverse effects on bat species.
CDP	GI7	It is an objective that where development sites adjoin an ecologically sensitive area adequate buffer areas shall be provided. In accordance with the County Development Plan ecological and hedgerow assessment shall be carried out for such developments.
CDP	GIB18	It is a Policy Objective to protect and conserve the environment including, in particular, the natural heritage of the County and to conserve and manage Nationally and Internationally important and EU designated sites - such as Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservations (SACs), proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) and Ramsar sites (wetlands) - as well as non-designated areas of high nature conservation value known as locally important areas which also serve as 'Stepping Stones' for the purposes of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.
CDP	GIB19	It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of natural heritage and biodiversity, including European Sites that form part of the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with relevant EU Environmental Directives and applicable National Legislation, Policies, Plans and Guidelines.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
CDP	GIB21	It is a Policy Objective to protect and preserve areas designated as proposed Natural Heritage Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, and Special Protection Areas. It is Council policy to promote the maintenance and as appropriate, delivery of 'favourable' conservation status of habitats and species within these areas.
CDP	GIB22	It is a Policy Objective to protect and promote the conservation of biodiversity in areas of natural heritage importance outside Designated Areas and to ensure that notable sites, habitats and features of biodiversity importance - including species protected under the Wildlife Acts 1976 and 2000, the Birds Directive 1979, the Habitats Directive 1992, Birds and Habitats Regulations 2011, Flora (Protection) Order, 2015, Annex I habitats, local important areas, wildlife corridors and rare species - are adequately protected. Ecological assessments will be carried out for all developments in areas that support, or have potential to support, features of biodiversity importance or rare and protected species and appropriate mitigation/ avoidance measures will be implemented. In implementing this policy, regard shall be had to the Ecological Network, including the forthcoming DLR Wildlife Corridor Plan, and the recommendations and objectives of the Green City Guidelines (2008) and 'Ecological Guidance Notes for Local Authorities and Developers' (Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Version 2014).
CDP	GIB23	It is a Policy Objective to protect the Ecological Network which will be integrated into the updated Green Infrastructure Strategy and will align with the DLR County Biodiversity Action Plan. Creating this network throughout the County will also improve the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network in accordance with Article 10 of the Habitats Directive. The network will also include non-designated sites.
CDP	GIB24	It is a Policy Objective to maintain and protect the natural character and ecological value of the river and stream corridors in the County and where possible to enhance existing channels and to encourage diversity of habitat and nature-based solutions that incorporate biodiversity features. It is also policy (subject to the sensitivity of the riverside habitat), to provide public access to riparian corridors, to promote improved passive recreational activities.
CDP	GIB25	It is a Policy Objective to retain and protect hedgerows in the County from development, which would impact adversely upon them. In addition, the Council will promote the protection of existing site boundary hedgerows and where feasible require the retention of these when considering a grant of planning permission for all developments. The Council will promote the County's hedgerows by increasing coverage, where possible, using locally native species and to develop an appropriate code of practice for road hedgerow maintenance. The Council will promote the protection of existing hedgerows when considering a grant of planning permission for all developments.

4.3.3 Disturbance to Key Species

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



Noise and light will be managed through provisions such as GI6 and GI7 in the DLR CDP. Other disturbance effects could relate to a reduction in habitat quality for species. Measures to ensure the protection of habitat quality defined in the Draft LAP and DLR CDP are presented in Table 4-4.

Table 4-4: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Disturbance to Key Species

Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	GIB8	It is an Objective to promote and encourage planting of native tree and hedgerow species and to provide sufficient buffer to allow for wildlife corridors in new developments across the Draft Plan area.
LAP	GIB6	It is an Objective that the design of lighting within the Draft Plan area should seek to minimise light pollution and adverse effects on bat species, badgers and otters.
LAP	OCLAP38	It is Policy to protect and preserve the Ballyman Glen site as a designated Special Areas of Conservation and proposed Natural Heritage Areas.
LAP	OCLAP39	It is Policy that any development proposals with the potential to impact on the Ballyman Glen SAC or any Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE) within the area shall be assessed collaboratively at planning application stage by a hydrogeologist/hydrologist and ecologist and shall take cognisance of the requirement to maintain the rate, quality and general areas where groundwater recharge occurs in order to maintain or enhance the recharge supplying the groundwaterdependent habitats of the Ballyman Glen SAC or any other GWDTEs within the area. Detailed site-specific assessment shall be required for development proposals situated in the catchment area for GWDTE situated in Ballyman Glen SAC that have the potential to impact groundwater through emissions, abstraction or changes to hydrogeological/hydrological regimes. Appropriate cognisance shall be had to potential connections and interactions between surface water and groundwater.
LAP	OCLAP40	It is Policy to ensure adequate ecological surveys are undertaken at project level to inform development decisions, in accordance with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
LAP	OCLAP26	It is a Policy, where practicable and possible, to protect existing green infrastructure and encourage and facilitate, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, the creation, management, restoration and enhancement of our natural and semi natural areas.
LAP	GIB13	It is an Objective to ensure the protection and where possible the restoration of the biodiversity associated with watercourses and their riparian (bankside) habitats, in line with the overarching objectives set out in the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
LAP	OCLAP41	It is Policy to require that the approach to existing and proposed trees throughout the Draft Plan area is consistent with the dlr Tree Strategy 'A Climate for Trees 2024-2030', to ensure that the tree cover is managed, and developed to optimise the environmental, climatic and educational benefits, which derive from an 'urban forest', and holistic 'urban forestry' approach.
LAP	GIB4	It is an Objective to seek to: Protect, preserve, restore and enhance ecological connectivity within the Draft Plan area and beyond and to restore and mitigate fragmentation of ecological corridors. Encourage the design and function of green infrastructure to support the movement of species across the area. Facilitate the creation of new wildlife corridors within new development sites that connect to the wider landscape, as part of the development management process for planning applications in the Draft Plan area.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	GIB7	It is an Objective to protect and maintain important trees and hedgerows within the Draft Plan area, where practicable, and to promote native tree/hedgerow enhancement and planting. The retention and protection of existing trees / woodlands / hedgerows shall accord with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
LAP	GIB9	It is an Objective to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require that where the boundaries of sites incorporate or are adjacent to existing trees and hedgerows to be retained, these shall be utilised as part of the boundary. • Encourage the retention of hedgerows and other distinctive boundary treatments to prevent loss and fragmentation, where practically possible.
CDP	GI1	It is an Objective to protect and maintain important hedgerows/tree lines, where appropriate, within the LAP lands (including those identified in the 'DLR Biodiversity Action Plan, 2021-2025' and the dlr Hedgerow review and evaluation (2021) and any hedgerows which form part of townland boundaries) and promote native hedgerow enhancement and planting.
CDP	GI6	It is an objective that the design of lighting within the LAP area should seek to minimise light pollution and adverse effects on bat species.
CDP	GI7	It is an objective that where development sites adjoin an ecologically sensitive area adequate buffer areas shall be provided. In accordance with the County Development Plan ecological and hedgerow assessment shall be carried out for such developments.
CDP	GIB18	It is a Policy Objective to protect and conserve the environment including, in particular, the natural heritage of the County and to conserve and manage Nationally and Internationally important and EU designated sites - such as Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservations (SACs), proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) and Ramsar sites (wetlands) - as well as non-designated areas of high nature conservation value known as locally important areas which also serve as 'Stepping Stones' for the purposes of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.
CDP	GIB19	It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of natural heritage and biodiversity, including European Sites that form part of the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with relevant EU Environmental Directives and applicable National Legislation, Policies, Plans and Guidelines.
CDP	GIB21	It is a Policy Objective to protect and preserve areas designated as proposed Natural Heritage Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, and Special Protection Areas. It is Council policy to promote the maintenance and as appropriate, delivery of 'favourable' conservation status of habitats and species within these areas.
CDP	EI8	It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of the groundwater resources in and around the County and associated habitats and species in accordance with the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC and the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations, 2010. In this regard, the Council will support the implementation of Irish Water's Water Safety Plans to protect sources of public water supply and their contributing catchment.
CDP	EI15	It is a Policy Objective to ensure that the design of external lighting schemes minimise the incidence of light spillage or pollution in the immediate surrounding environment and has due regard to the residential amenity of surrounding areas.



4.3.4 Reduction in species density

Species densities are reliant on species distributions, habitat condition, connectivity of ecological resources and availability of resources such as prey/food. The Draft LAP introduces potential sources for adverse effects to affect these four determinant factors for species densities in the form of construction phase effects such as habitat destruction, light pollution, hydrological interaction or operational effects such as disturbance effects, habitat encroachment and trampling. Measures defined in the Draft LAP and the high-order CDP to prevent adverse effects on species density are presented in Table 4-5.

Table 4-5: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Reduction in Species Density

Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	OCLAP59	It is Policy to ensure the implementation of the surface water legislation ‘Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009’ to ensure that development permitted will not have an unacceptable impact on water quality including surface waters, ground water, river corridors, estuarine waters, bathing waters, coastal and transitional waters. Development within the Draft Plan area shall comply with the Policies and Objectives of the dlr County Development Plan relating to protection of existing water and drainage infrastructure.
LAP	OCLAP58	It is Policy to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the protection of groundwater resources and associated habitats and species in accordance with the EU Groundwater Directive. All new planning applications within the LAP area shall have regard to the likely impacts the proposed development may have on groundwater resources. • Ensure that planning applications take into account any existing groundwater protection schemes and groundwater source protection zones and/or the likely impacts that the development may have on groundwater.
LAP	OCLAP55	It is Policy to facilitate compliance with the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive and any relevant legislation. In this regard, the Council will facilitate compliance with the relevant objectives and measures set out in the ongoing ‘River Basin Management Plan’ (2022- 2028) and associated Programme of Measures, where relevant. Applications for development under this LAP must demonstrate that the proposal for development would not adversely affect a water body’s ability to meet its objectives under the Water Framework Directive, individually as a result of the proposed development or cumulatively, in combination with other developments.
LAP	OCLAP26	It is a Policy, where practicable and possible, to protect existing green infrastructure and encourage and facilitate, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, the creation, management, restoration and enhancement of our natural and semi natural areas.
LAP	GIB13	It is an Objective to ensure the protection and where possible the restoration of the biodiversity associated with watercourses and their riparian (bankside) habitats, in line with the overarching objectives set out in the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
LAP	OCLAP41	It is Policy to require that the approach to existing and proposed trees throughout the Draft Plan area is consistent with the dlr Tree Strategy ‘A Climate for Trees 2024-2030’, to ensure that the tree cover is managed, and developed to optimise the environmental, climatic and educational benefits, which derive from an ‘urban forest’, and holistic ‘urban forestry’ approach.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	GIB4	<p>It is an Objective to seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect, preserve, restore and enhance ecological connectivity within the Draft Plan area and beyond and to restore and mitigate fragmentation of ecological corridors. • Encourage the design and function of green infrastructure to support the movement of species across the area. • Facilitate the creation of new wildlife corridors within new development sites that connect to the wider landscape, as part of the development management process for planning applications in the Draft Plan area.
LAP	GIB7	<p>It is an Objective to protect and maintain important trees and hedgerows within the Draft Plan area, where practicable, and to promote native tree/hedgerow enhancement and planting. The retention and protection of existing trees / woodlands / hedgerows shall accord with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.</p>
LAP	GIB9	<p>It is an Objective to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require that where the boundaries of sites incorporate or are adjacent to existing trees and hedgerows to be retained, these shall be utilised as part of the boundary. • Encourage the retention of hedgerows and other distinctive boundary treatments to prevent loss and fragmentation, where practically possible.
LAP	GIB6	<p>It is an Objective that the design of lighting within the Draft Plan area should seek to minimise light pollution and adverse effects on bat species, badgers and otters.</p>
LAP	OCLAP38	<p>It is Policy to protect and preserve the Ballyman Glen site as a designated Special Areas of Conservation and proposed Natural Heritage Areas.</p>
LAP	OCLAP39	<p>It is Policy that any development proposals with the potential to impact on the Ballyman Glen SAC or any Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE) within the area shall be assessed collaboratively at planning application stage by a hydrogeologist/hydrologist and ecologist and shall take cognisance of the requirement to maintain the rate, quality and general areas where groundwater recharge occurs in order to maintain or enhance the recharge supplying the groundwater-dependent habitats of the Ballyman Glen SAC or any other GWDTEs within the area. Detailed site-specific assessment shall be required for development proposals situated in the catchment area for GWDTE situated in Ballyman Glen SAC that have the potential to impact groundwater through emissions, abstraction or changes to hydrogeological/hydrological regimes. Appropriate cognisance shall be had to potential connections and interactions between surface water and groundwater.</p>
LAP	GIB14	<p>It is an Objective in accordance with the Green Infrastructure Strategy of the dlr County Development Plan 2022 - 2028 to seek opportunities where appropriate to open up culverted elements of watercourses, to facilitate weir removal where appropriate and reconnect the riverine habitats. Any such proposals shall have regard to SFRA and Appropriate Assessment requirements.</p>
	OCLAP40	<p>It is Policy to ensure adequate ecological surveys are undertaken at project level to inform development decisions, in accordance with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.</p>
LAP	GIB8	<p>It is an Objective to promote and encourage planting of native tree and hedgerow species and to provide sufficient buffer to allow for wildlife corridors in new developments across the Draft Plan area.</p>



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	GIB6	It is an Objective that the design of lighting within the Draft Plan area should seek to minimise light pollution and adverse effects on bat species, badgers and otters.
CDP	GI1	It is an Objective to protect and maintain important hedgerows/tree lines, where appropriate, within the LAP lands (including those identified in the 'DLR Biodiversity Action Plan, 2021-2025' and the dlr Hedgerow review and evaluation (2021) and any hedgerows which form part of townland boundaries) and promote native hedgerow enhancement and planting.
CDP	GI6	It is an objective that the design of lighting within the LAP area should seek to minimise light pollution and adverse effects on bat species.
CDP	GI7	It is an objective that where development sites adjoin an ecologically sensitive area adequate buffer areas shall be provided. In accordance with the County Development Plan ecological and hedgerow assessment shall be carried out for such developments.
CDP	GIB18	It is a Policy Objective to protect and conserve the environment including, in particular, the natural heritage of the County and to conserve and manage Nationally and Internationally important and EU designated sites - such as Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservations (SACs), proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) and Ramsar sites (wetlands) - as well as non-designated areas of high nature conservation value known as locally important areas which also serve as 'Stepping Stones' for the purposes of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.
CDP	GIB19	It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of natural heritage and biodiversity, including European Sites that form part of the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with relevant EU Environmental Directives and applicable National Legislation, Policies, Plans and Guidelines.
CDP	GIB21	It is a Policy Objective to protect and preserve areas designated as proposed Natural Heritage Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, and Special Protection Areas. It is Council policy to promote the maintenance and as appropriate, delivery of 'favourable' conservation status of habitats and species within these areas.
CDP	GIB22	It is a Policy Objective to protect and promote the conservation of biodiversity in areas of natural heritage importance outside Designated Areas and to ensure that notable sites, habitats and features of biodiversity importance - including species protected under the Wildlife Acts 1976 and 2000, the Birds Directive 1979, the Habitats Directive 1992, Birds and Habitats Regulations 2011, Flora (Protection) Order, 2015, Annex I habitats, local important areas, wildlife corridors and rare species - are adequately protected. Ecological assessments will be carried out for all developments in areas that support, or have potential to support, features of biodiversity importance or rare and protected species and appropriate mitigation/ avoidance measures will be implemented. In implementing this policy, regard shall be had to the Ecological Network, including the forthcoming DLR Wildlife Corridor Plan, and the recommendations and objectives of the Green City Guidelines (2008) and 'Ecological Guidance Notes for Local Authorities and Developers' (Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Version 2014).
CDP	GIB23	It is a Policy Objective to protect the Ecological Network which will be integrated into the updated Green Infrastructure Strategy and will align with the DLR County Biodiversity Action Plan. Creating this network throughout the County will also improve the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network in accordance with Article 10 of the Habitats Directive. The network will also include non-designated sites.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
CDP	GIB24	It is a Policy Objective to maintain and protect the natural character and ecological value of the river and stream corridors in the County and where possible to enhance existing channels and to encourage diversity of habitat and nature-based solutions that incorporate biodiversity features. It is also policy (subject to the sensitivity of the riverside habitat), to provide public access to riparian corridors, to promote improved passive recreational activities.
CDP	GIB25	It is a Policy Objective to retain and protect hedgerows in the County from development, which would impact adversely upon them. In addition, the Council will promote the protection of existing site boundary hedgerows and where feasible require the retention of these when considering a grant of planning permission for all developments. The Council will promote the County's hedgerows by increasing coverage, where possible, using locally native species and to develop an appropriate code of practice for road hedgerow maintenance. The Council will promote the protection of existing hedgerows when considering a grant of planning permission for all developments.
CDP	GIB28	It is a Policy Objective to prepare an 'Invasive Alien Species Action Plan' for the County which will include actions in relation to Invasive Alien Species (IAS) surveys, management and treatment and to also ensure that proposals for development do not lead to the spread or introduction of invasive species. If developments are proposed on sites where invasive species are or were previously present, the applicants will be required to submit a control and management program for the particular invasive species as part of the planning process and to comply with the provisions of the European Communities Birds and Habitats Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477/2011).
CDP	E15	It is a Policy Objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the delivery of the relevant policies and objectives of the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018 – 2021 and any subsequent plan, including those relating to protection of water status, improvement of water status, prevention of deterioration and meeting objectives for designated protected sites. To support Irish Water in its implementation of Water Quality Management Plans for ground, surface, coastal and estuarine waters as part of the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive. To support Irish Water in the development of Drinking Water Protection Plans.
CDP	E17	It is a Policy Objective to require that all developments relating to water supply and wastewater treatment are subject to screening for Appropriate Assessment to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity, defined by the structure and function, of any European sites and that the requirements of Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive are met. (Consistent with RPO 10.7 of the RSES).
CDP	E18	It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of the groundwater resources in and around the County and associated habitats and species in accordance with the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC and the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations, 2010. In this regard, the Council will support the implementation of Irish Water's Water Safety Plans to protect sources of public water supply and their contributing catchment.
CDP	E115	It is a Policy Objective to ensure that the design of external lighting schemes minimise the incidence of light spillage or pollution in the immediate surrounding environment and has due regard to the residential amenity of surrounding areas.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
CDP	EI16	It is a Policy Objective to implement the provisions of water pollution abatement measures in accordance with national and EU Directives and other legislative requirements in conjunction with other agencies as appropriate.

4.3.5 Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value

Indicators of conservation value are identified as key ecological resources such as water quality, air quality, habitat quality, population health of ecosystem engineers or ‘keystone species’ etc. Land use development supported by the Draft LAP could result in negative effects on these indicators (e.g., through construction run-off, construction dust, development relate noise and emissions etc.) Emissions to air also have potential to adversely affect the conservation status of European Sites.

Various provisions have been included in the higher-order CDP, such as EI14, with the objective of protecting air quality. Additionally, measures in the Draft LAP and CDP provide broader scope to ensure the protection of indicators of conservation value, including the wider landscape associated with riparian zones and habitats sensitive to hydrological interactions. Measures defined in the Draft LAP and Higher-order CDP to prevent adverse effects on European sites are presented in Table 4-6.

Table 4-6: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Indicators of Conservation Value

Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	OCLAP59	It is Policy to ensure the implementation of the surface water legislation ‘Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009’ to ensure that development permitted will not have an unacceptable impact on water quality including surface waters, ground water, river corridors, estuarine waters, bathing waters, coastal and transitional waters. Development within the Draft Plan area shall comply with the Policies and Objectives of the dlr County Development Plan relating to protection of existing water and drainage infrastructure.
LAP	OCLAP58	It is Policy to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the protection of groundwater resources and associated habitats and species in accordance with the EU Groundwater Directive. All new planning applications within the LAP area shall have regard to the likely impacts the proposed development may have on groundwater resources. • Ensure that planning applications take into account any existing groundwater protection schemes and groundwater source protection zones and/or the likely impacts that the development may have on groundwater.
LAP	OCLAP55	It is Policy to facilitate compliance with the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive and any relevant legislation. In this regard, the Council will facilitate compliance with the relevant objectives and measures set out in the ongoing ‘River Basin Management Plan’ (2022- 2028) and associated Programme of Measures, where relevant. Applications for development under this LAP must demonstrate that the proposal for development would not adversely affect a water body’s ability to meet its objectives under the Water Framework Directive, individually as a result of the proposed development or cumulatively, in combination with other developments.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	OCLAP41	It is Policy to require that the approach to existing and proposed trees throughout the Draft Plan area is consistent with the dlr Tree Strategy 'A Climate for Trees 2024-2030', to ensure that the tree cover is managed, and developed to optimise the environmental, climatic and educational benefits, which derive from an 'urban forest', and holistic 'urban forestry' approach.
LAP	GIB7	It is an Objective to protect and maintain important trees and hedgerows within the Draft Plan area, where practicable, and to promote native tree/hedgerow enhancement and planting. The retention and protection of existing trees / woodlands / hedgerows shall accord with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
LAP	GIB9	It is an Objective to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require that where the boundaries of sites incorporate or are adjacent to existing trees and hedgerows to be retained, these shall be utilised as part of the boundary. Encourage the retention of hedgerows and other distinctive boundary treatments to prevent loss and fragmentation, where practically possible.
LAP	GIB8	It is an Objective to promote and encourage planting of native tree and hedgerow species and to provide sufficient buffer to allow for wildlife corridors in new developments across the Draft Plan area.
LAP	OCLAP38	It is Policy to protect and preserve the Ballyman Glen site as a designated Special Areas of Conservation and proposed Natural Heritage Areas.
LAP	OCLAP39	It is Policy that any development proposals with the potential to impact on the Ballyman Glen SAC or any Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE) within the area shall be assessed collaboratively at planning application stage by a hydrogeologist/hydrologist and ecologist and shall take cognizance of the requirement to maintain the rate, quality and general areas where groundwater recharge occurs in order to maintain or enhance the recharge supplying the groundwaterdependent habitats of the Ballyman Glen SAC or any other GWDTEs within the area. Detailed site-specific assessment shall be required for development proposals situated in the catchment area for GWDTE situated in Ballyman Glen SAC that have the potential to impact groundwater through emissions, abstraction or changes to hydrogeological/hydrological regimes. Appropriate cognizance shall be had to potential connections and interactions between surface water and groundwater.
LAP	GIB14	It is an Objective in accordance with the Green Infrastructure Strategy of the dlr County Development Plan 2022 - 2028 to seek opportunities where appropriate to open up culverted elements of watercourses, to facilitate weir removal where appropriate and reconnect the riverine habitats. Any such proposals shall have regard to SFRA and Appropriate Assessment requirements.
LAP	OCLAP40	It is Policy to ensure adequate ecological surveys are undertaken at project level to inform development decisions, in accordance with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
CDP	GI1	It is an Objective to protect and maintain important hedgerows/tree lines, where appropriate, within the LAP lands (including those identified in the 'DLR Biodiversity Action Plan, 2021-2025' and the dlr Hedgerow review and evaluation (2021) and any hedgerows which form part of townland boundaries) and promote native hedgerow enhancement and planting.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
CDP	GI7	It is an objective that where development sites adjoin an ecologically sensitive area adequate buffer areas shall be provided. In accordance with the County Development Plan ecological and hedgerow assessment shall be carried out for such developments.
CDP	CS10	It is a Policy Objective to implement a programme for the preparation of Local Area Plans and to prioritise areas in accordance with the overarching strategic objectives of the Core Strategy including those areas which are experiencing and/or likely to experience large scale development or regeneration.
CDP	PHP24	It is a Policy Objective to protect the green belt areas and restrict residential development.
CDP	T25	It is a Policy Objective that where projects for new roads, identified under Section 5.8, are not already provided for by existing plans/ programme or are not already permitted, that the feasibility of progressing these projects shall be examined, taking into account environmental sensitivities as identified in the SEA Environmental Report (including greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions to air) and the objectives of the Plan relating to sustainable mobility. A Corridor and Route Selection Process will be undertaken where appropriate, for relevant new road infrastructure in two stages: Stage 1 – Route Corridor Identification, Evaluation and Selection and Stage 2 – Route Identification, Evaluation and Selection. In implementing this Objective, the Council will comply with any national policy or guidelines issued relating to the assessment of greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions to air for new transport projects.
CDP	E20	It is a Policy Objective to support the transition to a low carbon economy.
CDP	GIB2	It is a Policy Objective to continue to protect, manage and plan to conserve, maintain or enhance the distinctive characteristics of the County's landscapes, townscapes and seascapes in accordance with the recommended strategies as originally outlined in the Landscape Character Assessment (2002 and since updated), in accordance with the 'Draft Guidelines for Landscape and Landscape Assessment' (2000) as issued by the Department of Environment and Local Government, in accordance with the European Landscape Convention (Florence Convention) and in accordance with 'A National Landscape Strategy for Ireland – 2015-2025'. The Council shall implement any relevant recommendations contained in the Department of Arts, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht's National Landscape Strategy for Ireland, 2015 - 2025.
CDP	GIB4	It is Policy Objective to conserve and enhance existing High Amenity Zones and to seek to manage these and other areas to absorb further recreational uses and activity without damaging their unique character
CDP	GIB12	It is a Policy Objective to promote, protect and enhance sustainable and appropriate access to the natural heritage of the County, where practicable, in a balanced way while protecting the natural heritage of the County.
CDP	GIB18	It is a Policy Objective to protect and conserve the environment including, in particular, the natural heritage of the County and to conserve and manage Nationally and Internationally important and EU designated sites - such as Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservations (SACs), proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) and Ramsar sites (wetlands) - as well as non-designated areas of high nature conservation value known as locally important areas which also serve as 'Stepping Stones' for the purposes of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
CDP	GIB19	It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of natural heritage and biodiversity, including European Sites that form part of the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with relevant EU Environmental Directives and applicable National Legislation, Policies, Plans and Guidelines.
CDP	GIB21	It is a Policy Objective to protect and preserve areas designated as proposed Natural Heritage Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, and Special Protection Areas. It is Council policy to promote the maintenance and as appropriate, delivery of 'favourable' conservation status of habitats and species within these areas.
CDP	GIB22	It is a Policy Objective to protect and promote the conservation of biodiversity in areas of natural heritage importance outside Designated Areas and to ensure that notable sites, habitats and features of biodiversity importance - including species protected under the Wildlife Acts 1976 and 2000, the Birds Directive 1979, the Habitats Directive 1992, Birds and Habitats Regulations 2011, Flora (Protection) Order, 2015, Annex I habitats, local important areas, wildlife corridors and rare species - are adequately protected. Ecological assessments will be carried out for all developments in areas that support, or have potential to support, features of biodiversity importance or rare and protected species and appropriate mitigation/ avoidance measures will be implemented. In implementing this policy, regard shall be had to the Ecological Network, including the forthcoming DLR Wildlife Corridor Plan, and the recommendations and objectives of the Green City Guidelines (2008) and 'Ecological Guidance Notes for Local Authorities and Developers' (Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Version 2014).
CDP	GIB23	It is a Policy Objective to protect the Ecological Network which will be integrated into the updated Green Infrastructure Strategy and will align with the DLR County Biodiversity Action Plan. Creating this network throughout the County will also improve the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network in accordance with Article 10 of the Habitats Directive. The network will also include non-designated sites.
CDP	GIB24	It is a Policy Objective to maintain and protect the natural character and ecological value of the river and stream corridors in the County and where possible to enhance existing channels and to encourage diversity of habitat and nature-based solutions that incorporate biodiversity features. It is also policy (subject to the sensitivity of the riverside habitat), to provide public access to riparian corridors, to promote improved passive recreational activities.
CDP	GIB25	It is a Policy Objective to retain and protect hedgerows in the County from development, which would impact adversely upon them. In addition, the Council will promote the protection of existing site boundary hedgerows and where feasible require the retention of these when considering a grant of planning permission for all developments. The Council will promote the County's hedgerows by increasing coverage, where possible, using locally native species and to develop an appropriate code of practice for road hedgerow maintenance. The Council will promote the protection of existing hedgerows when considering a grant of planning permission for all developments.
CDP	E13	It is a Policy Objective that all new developments in areas served by a public foul sewerage network connect to the public sewerage system, either directly or indirectly. It is a Policy Objective to promote the changeover from septic tanks to collection networks where this is feasible and to strongly discourage the provision of individual septic tanks and domestic wastewater treatment systems in order to minimise the risk of groundwater and surface water pollution. It is a Policy Objective to prohibit multiple dwelling units discharging to communal wastewater treatment systems.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
CDP	E14	It is a Policy Objective to require all development proposals to provide a separate foul and surface water drainage system – where practicable. (Consistent with RPO 10.12)
CDP	E15	It is a Policy Objective: To ensure the delivery of the relevant policies and objectives of the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018 – 2021 and any subsequent plan, including those relating to protection of water status, improvement of water status, prevention of deterioration and meeting objectives for designated protected sites. To support Irish Water in its implementation of Water Quality Management Plans for ground, surface, coastal and estuarine waters as part of the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive. To support Irish Water in the development of Drinking Water Protection Plans.
CDP	E13	It is a Policy Objective that all new developments in areas served by a public foul sewerage network connect to the public sewerage system, either directly or indirectly. It is a Policy Objective to promote the changeover from septic tanks to collection networks where this is feasible and to strongly discourage the provision of individual septic tanks and domestic wastewater treatment systems in order to minimise the risk of groundwater and surface water pollution. It is a Policy Objective to prohibit multiple dwelling units discharging to communal wastewater treatment systems.
CDP	E16	It is a Policy Objective to ensure that all development proposals incorporate Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).
CDP	E17	It is a Policy Objective to require that all developments relating to water supply and wastewater treatment are subject to screening for Appropriate Assessment to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity, defined by the structure and function, of any European sites and that the requirements of Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive are met. (Consistent with RPO 10.7 of the RSES).
CDP	E18	It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of the groundwater resources in and around the County and associated habitats and species in accordance with the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC and the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations, 2010. In this regard, the Council will support the implementation of Irish Water’s Water Safety Plans to protect sources of public water supply and their contributing catchment.
CDP	E19	It is a Policy Objective to ensure that all new development proposals include a Drainage Impact Assessment that meets the requirements of the Council’s Development Management Thresholds Information Document (see Appendix 3) and the Stormwater Management Policy (See Appendix 7.1).
CDP	E110	It is a Policy Objective to work alongside Irish Water to minimise the number and frequency of storm overflows of sewage to watercourses and to establish, in co-operation with the adjoining Local Authorities and Irish Water, a consistent approach to the design, improvement and management of these intermittent discharges to ensure that the needs of the Region’s receiving waters are met in a cost effective manner.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
CDP	EI14	It is a Policy Objective: To implement the provisions of national and EU Directives on air and noise pollution and other relevant legislative requirements in conjunction with other agencies as appropriate. (Consistent with RPO 10.10 of the RSES) To maintain and manage a Dublin County ambient air quality monitoring network in conjunction with the EPA and TII and to make available to the public the resulting air quality measurements via the EPA website www.epa.ie/air/quality . To support the implementation of objectives of the 'Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan 2018-2023'.
CDP	EI16	It is a Policy Objective to implement the provisions of water pollution abatement measures in accordance with national and EU Directives and other legislative requirements in conjunction with other agencies as appropriate.

4.3.6 Climate Change

The Draft LAP includes provisions that potentially conflict with climate mitigation and provisions that will help to contribute towards climate mitigation. Chapter 3 of the Draft LAP pertains to Climate Action and contains policy in support of the strategic policy ambitions of the DLR CDP, where the creation of a climate-resilient County is particularly important in the context of the United-Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Section 3.6.1 of the DLR CDP outlines the Council's approach to supporting the implementation of flood risk measures, and includes the following text in relation to managing flood risk and biodiversity:

"Existing wetland Habitats within the County which serve as flood protection/management measures shall be managed and enhanced."

Greenhouse gas emissions arising from the development supported by the Draft Plan will not affect changes projected to arise from climate change to the degree that it would affect the QIs or SCIs of the European Sites considered.

A variety of policies defined in both the Draft LAP and higher order CDP will serve to minimize the carbon impact of settlement in the area and improve climate resilience, indirectly benefiting biodiversity components. These are presented in table 4-7.

Table 4-7: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Climate Change

Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	OCLAP1	It is Policy to progress the development of Old Connaught as a low carbon and climate resilient community.
CDP	CA3	It is a Policy Objective that spatial and infrastructure planning are consistent with climate mitigation and adaptation objectives. When it is available, the Council will be informed by the work led by the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly to develop a methodology for quantifying the GHG impacts of spatial planning policies, (QGasSP, an ESPON EU research programme) and the forthcoming Development Plan Guidelines or other national guidance as appropriate.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
		The Council will quantify the GHG impacts for this County Development Plan when EMRA guidelines become available and also ensure the Development Plan is consistent with the approach to climate action recommended in any forthcoming revised Section 28 Development Plan Guidelines or other relevant guidelines and if necessary, vary the development plan (Consistent with NPO 54 of the NPF and RPO 3.6 of the RSES).
CDP	CA5	It is a Policy Objective to support high levels of energy conservation, energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources in existing and new buildings, including retro fitting of energy efficiency measures in the existing building stock.
CDP	CA13	It is a Policy Objective to encourage and support the development of solar energy infrastructure, including photo voltaic (PV) and solar thermal and seasonal storage facilities infrastructure in appropriate locations, as a renewable energy resource which can contribute to the transition to a low carbon climate resilient County. It is also a policy objective to support Ireland’s renewable energy commitments by facilitating utility scale PV installations for the production of electricity provided they do not negatively impact upon the environmental quality, amenity or heritage of the area.
CDP	CA14	It is Policy Objective to support the use of efficient energy storage systems and infrastructure that supports energy efficiency and reusable energy system optimization, in accordance with proper planning and sustainable development when these are undertaken in an environmentally acceptable manner.
CDP	PHP1	That increased delivery of housing throughout the County will be subject to the Strategic Policy Objective to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align with the provisions of the National Planning Framework and the Eastern and Midlands Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy. Accord with the Core Strategy set out in Chapter 2, the Housing Strategy and Housing Needs Demand Assessment for the County in Appendix 2 and/or the provisions of the future Regional Housing Need Demand Assessment. Embed the concept of neighbourhood and community into the spatial planning of the County by supporting and creating neighbourhoods and ensuring that residential development is delivered in tandem with the appropriate commensurate enabling infrastructure, including access to sustainable neighbourhood infrastructure, sustainable modes of transport, quality open space and recreation, and employment opportunities.
CDP	PHP2	It is a Policy Objective to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and improve existing sustainable neighbourhood infrastructure as appropriate. Facilitate the provision of new sustainable neighbourhood infrastructure that is accessible and inclusive for a range of users consistent with RPO 9.13 and RPO 9.14 of the RSES. Encourage the provision of multi-functional facilities, space and lands in the delivery and/or improvement of sustainable neighbourhood infrastructure.
CDP	PHP3	It is a Policy Objective to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for communities in accordance with the aims, objectives and principles of ‘Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas’ and the accompanying ‘Urban Design Manual – A Best Practice Guide’ and any amendment thereof.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that an appropriate level supporting neighbourhood infrastructure is provided or that lands are reserved for Sustainable Neighbourhood Infrastructure (SNI), in conjunction with, and as an integral component of, residential development in new residential communities as identified in the Core Strategy (see Figure 2.9, Chapter 2). Identify, provide and/or improve (as appropriate) supporting sustainable neighbourhood infrastructure in tandem with residential development in renewal/redevelopment areas and existing residential neighbourhoods. Create healthy and attractive places to live consistent with NPO 4 of the NPF and RPO 9.10 of the RSES.
CDP	PHP4	<p>It is a Policy Objective to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a strategy for resident development based on a concept of sustainable urban villages. Promote and facilitate the provision '10-minute' neighbourhoods.
CDP	T1	It is a Policy Objective to actively support sustainable modes of transport and ensure that land use and zoning are aligned with the provision and development of high quality public transport systems. (Consistent with NSO 1, NPO 26 of the NPF, 64, RPO 4.40, 5.3, 8.1 and Guiding Principles on Integration of Land Use and Transport of the RSES)
CDP	T12	It is a Policy Objective to maintain and expand the footway and pedestrian route network to provide for accessible, safe pedestrian routes within the County in accordance with best accessibility practice. (Consistent with NPO 27 and 64 of the NPF and RPO 5.3 of the RSES)
CDP	T13	It is a Policy Objective to secure improvements to the County Cycle Network in accordance with the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Cycle Network Review whilst supporting the NTA on the development and implementation of the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan 2013 and subsequent revisions, subject to environmental assessment and route feasibility. (Consistent with RPO 5.2, 5.3 of the RSES).
CDP	T21	It is a Policy Objective to liaise with the Park and Ride Office of the NTA to facilitate the provision of Park and Ride facilities, both short term and long term and to provide suitable electric charging structures and adequate cycle parking, in appropriate locations along strategic transport corridors, including Woodbrook and Carrickmines and other suitable sites to be identified with the NTA Park and Ride Office, subject to the outcome of environmental assessment and planning approval. (Consistent with RPO 8.14 of the RSES)
CDP	T23	It is a Policy Objective, in conjunction and co-operation with other transport bodies and authorities such as the TII and the NTA, to secure improvements to the County road network – including improved pedestrian and cycle facilities, subject to the outcome of environmental assessment (SEA, EIA and AA), flood risk assessment and the planning process (RPO 8.10, RPO 8.16)
CDP	E20	It is a Policy Objective to support the transition to a low carbon economy.



5. MITIGATION MEASURES

This section compiles the most relevant mitigation measures that have been embedded/incorporated into the Draft LAP in order to mitigate against potential adverse effects to European sites as identified above. The Draft LAP was prepared in an iterative manner whereby the Draft LAP and AA documents have informed subsequent versions of the other. These mitigation measures ensure that there will be no adverse effects to the integrity of any European site from implementation of the Draft LAP.

The Draft LAP development process was carried out in parallel with the SEA and AA processes. Regular communication and interaction took place between the environmental assessment teams and the plan development team. Environmental considerations that came to light during the SEA and AA processes, including consultation processes, were regularly communicated to the Plan-making team.

A strong level of 'embedded' environmental mitigation was present in the Draft LAP to mitigate potential adverse effects on European sites. Environmental mitigation measures applicable to the Plan area were also already defined in the higher-order CDP. The embedded mitigation in the Draft LAP, and the relevant mitigatory policy/objectives defined in the DLR CDP, serve to prevent and minimize potential adverse effects to European sites that may occur during Plan implementation.

Where necessary, additional environmental mitigation, in the form of policy/text additions, were integrated into the Draft LAP to further mitigate potential adverse effects on European sites. This process was carried out in an iterative manner to ensure optimal Plan-making and environmental outcomes.

Environmental mitigation measures embedded in the Draft LAP to mitigate adverse effects on European sites are presented in Table 5-1.

Environmental mitigation measures defined in the DLR CDP that will serve to mitigate adverse effects on European sites due to implementation of the Draft LAP are presented in Table 5-2.

Additional text clarifying the approaches to protecting European sites from adverse effects due to Plan implementation has been attached to a number of Draft LAP policies. These text additions are itemised and presented in Table 5-3 and have been fully integrated into the Draft LAP.

Due to the inter-relationship between various environmental components, environmental mitigation measures defined for one component can also serve to benefit other environmental components.



Table 5-1: Embedded Environmental Mitigation

FormattPolicy / Objective References	Policy/Objective
OCLAP59	It is Policy to ensure the implementation of the surface water legislation ‘Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009’ to ensure that development permitted will not have an unacceptable impact on water quality including surface waters, ground water, river corridors, estuarine waters, bathing waters, coastal and transitional waters. Development within the Draft Plan area shall comply with the Policies and Objectives of the dlr County Development Plan relating to protection of existing water and drainage infrastructure.
OCLAP58	It is Policy to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the protection of groundwater resources and associated habitats and species in accordance with the EU Groundwater Directive. All new planning applications within the LAP area shall have regard to the likely impacts the proposed development may have on groundwater resources. • Ensure that planning applications take into account any existing groundwater protection schemes and groundwater source protection zones and/or the likely impacts that the development may have on groundwater.
OCLAP55	It is Policy to facilitate compliance with the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive and any relevant legislation. In this regard, the Council will facilitate compliance with the relevant objectives and measures set out in the ongoing ‘River Basin Management Plan’ (2022- 2028) and associated Programme of Measures, where relevant. Applications for development under this LAP must demonstrate that the proposal for development would not adversely affect a water body’s ability to meet its objectives under the Water Framework Directive, individually as a result of the proposed development or cumulatively, in combination with other developments.
OCLAP26	It is a Policy, where practicable and possible, to protect existing green infrastructure and encourage and facilitate, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, the creation, management, restoration and enhancement of our natural and semi natural areas.
GIB13	It is an Objective to ensure the protection and where possible the restoration of the biodiversity associated with watercourses and their riparian (bankside) habitats, in line with the overarching objectives set out in the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
OCLAP41	It is Policy to require that the approach to existing and proposed trees throughout the Draft Plan area is consistent with the dlr Tree Strategy ‘A Climate for Trees 2024-2030’, to ensure that the tree cover is managed, and developed to optimise the environmental, climatic and educational benefits, which derive from an ‘urban forest’, and holistic ‘urban forestry’ approach.
GIB4	It It is an Objective to seek to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect, preserve, restore and enhance ecological connectivity within the Draft Plan area and beyond and to restore and mitigate fragmentation of ecological corridors. • Encourage the design and function of green infrastructure to support the movement of species across the area. • Facilitate the creation of new wildlife corridors within new development sites that connect to the wider landscape, as part of the development management process for planning applications in the Draft Plan area.
GIB7	It is an Objective to protect and maintain important trees and hedgerows within the Draft Plan area, where practicable, and to promote native tree/hedgerow enhancement and planting. The retention and protection of existing trees / woodlands / hedgerows shall accord with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
GIB9	It is an Objective to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require that where the boundaries of sites incorporate or are adjacent to existing trees and hedgerows to be retained, these shall be utilised as part of the boundary. • Encourage the retention of hedgerows and other distinctive boundary treatments to prevent loss and fragmentation, where practically possible.
GIB8	It is an Objective to promote and encourage planting of native tree and hedgerow species and to provide sufficient buffer to allow for wildlife corridors in new developments across the Draft Plan area.



FormattPolicy / Objective References	Policy/Objective
GIB6	It is an Objective that the design of lighting within the Draft Plan area should seek to minimise light pollution and adverse effects on bat species, badgers and otters.
OCLAP38	It is Policy to protect and preserve the Ballyman Glen site as a designated Special Areas of Conservation and proposed Natural Heritage Areas.
OCLAP39	It is Policy that any development proposals with the potential to impact on the Ballyman Glen SAC or any Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE) within the area shall be assessed collaboratively at planning application stage by a hydrogeologist/hydrologist and ecologist and shall take cognisance of the requirement to maintain the rate, quality and general areas where groundwater recharge occurs in order to maintain or enhance the recharge supplying the groundwaterdependent habitats of the Ballyman Glen SAC or any other GWDTEs within the area. Detailed site-specific assessment shall be required for development proposals situated in the catchment area for GWDTE situated in Ballyman Glen SAC that have the potential to impact groundwater through emissions, abstraction or changes to hydrogeological/hydrological regimes. Appropriate cognizance shall be had to potential connections and interactions between surface water and groundwater.
GIB14	It is an Objective in accordance with the Green Infrastructure Strategy of the dlr County Development Plan 2022 - 2028 to seek opportunities where appropriate to open up culverted elements of watercourses, to facilitate weir removal where appropriate and reconnect the riverine habitats. Any such proposals shall have regard to SFRA and Appropriate Assessment requirements.
OCLAP40	It is Policy to ensure adequate ecological surveys are undertaken at project level to inform development decisions, in accordance with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
GIB11	It is an Objective that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals for strategic infrastructure include an appropriate level of tree/hedgerow planting. • The provision of new strategic infrastructure is subject to environmental constraints, including those related to habitats and potential impacts such as disturbance from lighting. Examples of project level mitigation will include minimising river crossings, avoiding sensitive habitats, not increasing barriers to flood waters and sustainable design and construction techniques.
GIB12	It is an Objective to support and promote tree planting and urban greening as part of the public realm at Old Connaught.
GIB15	It is an Objective that proposals for development demonstrate at preplanning and application stage how biodiversity has informed scheme layout and design. Applicants are encouraged, where appropriate, to pilot the Biodiversity Net Gain Approach (BNG) for development.
OCLAP42	It is a Policy to ensure biodiversity is factored into nature based solutions when developing proposals within the Draft Plan area.



Table 5-2: Relevant Environmental Mitigation defined in the CDP

Policy / Objective Reference	Policy / Objective
CS10	It is a Policy Objective to implement a programme for the preparation of Local Area Plans and to prioritise areas in accordance with the overarching strategic objectives of the Core Strategy including those areas which are experiencing and/or likely to experience large scale development or regeneration.
PHP24	It is a Policy Objective to protect the green belt areas and restrict residential development.
T23	It is a Policy Objective, in conjunction and co-operation with other transport bodies and authorities such as the TII and the NTA, to secure improvements to the County road network – including improved pedestrian and cycle facilities, subject to the outcome of environmental assessment (SEA, EIA and AA), flood risk assessment and the planning process (RPO 8.10, RPO 8.16)
T25	It is a Policy Objective that where projects for new roads, identified under Section 5.8, are not already provided for by existing plans/ programme or are not already permitted, that the feasibility of progressing these projects shall be examined, taking into account environmental sensitivities as identified in the SEA Environmental Report (including greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions to air) and the objectives of the Plan relating to sustainable mobility. A Corridor and Route Selection Process will be undertaken where appropriate, for relevant new road infrastructure in two stages: Stage 1 – Route Corridor Identification, Evaluation and Selection and Stage 2 – Route Identification, Evaluation and Selection. In implementing this Objective, the Council will comply with any national policy or guidelines issued relating to the assessment of greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions to air for new transport projects.
T27	It is a Policy Objective to ensure that traffic noise levels are considered as part of new developments along major roads/rail lines in accordance with best practice guidelines.
E20	It is a Policy Objective to support the transition to a low carbon economy.
GIB4	It is Policy Objective to conserve and enhance existing High Amenity Zones and to seek to manage these and other areas to absorb further recreational uses and activity without damaging their unique character
GIB12	It is a Policy Objective to promote, protect and enhance sustainable and appropriate access to the natural heritage of the County, where practicable, in a balanced way while protecting the natural heritage of the County.
GIB18	It is a Policy Objective to protect and conserve the environment including, in particular, the natural heritage of the County and to conserve and manage Nationally and Internationally important and EU designated sites - such as Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservations (SACs), proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) and Ramsar sites (wetlands) - as well as non-designated areas of high nature conservation value known as locally important areas which also serve as ‘Stepping Stones’ for the purposes of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.
GIB19	It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of natural heritage and biodiversity, including European Sites that form part of the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with relevant EU Environmental Directives and applicable National Legislation, Policies, Plans and Guidelines.



Policy / Objective Reference	Policy / Objective
GIB21	It is a Policy Objective to protect and preserve areas designated as proposed Natural Heritage Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, and Special Protection Areas. It is Council policy to promote the maintenance and as appropriate, delivery of 'favourable' conservation status of habitats and species within these areas.
GIB22	It is a Policy Objective to protect and promote the conservation of biodiversity in areas of natural heritage importance outside Designated Areas and to ensure that notable sites, habitats and features of biodiversity importance - including species protected under the Wildlife Acts 1976 and 2000, the Birds Directive 1979, the Habitats Directive 1992, Birds and Habitats Regulations 2011, Flora (Protection) Order, 2015, Annex I habitats, local important areas, wildlife corridors and rare species - are adequately protected. Ecological assessments will be carried out for all developments in areas that support, or have potential to support, features of biodiversity importance or rare and protected species and appropriate mitigation/ avoidance measures will be implemented. In implementing this policy, regard shall be had to the Ecological Network, including the forthcoming DLR Wildlife Corridor Plan, and the recommendations and objectives of the Green City Guidelines (2008) and 'Ecological Guidance Notes for Local Authorities and Developers' (Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Version 2014).
GIB23	It is a Policy Objective to protect the Ecological Network which will be integrated into the updated Green Infrastructure Strategy and will align with the DLR County Biodiversity Action Plan. Creating this network throughout the County will also improve the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network in accordance with Article 10 of the Habitats Directive. The network will also include non-designated sites.
GIB24	It is a Policy Objective to maintain and protect the natural character and ecological value of the river and stream corridors in the County and where possible to enhance existing channels and to encourage diversity of habitat and nature-based solutions that incorporate biodiversity features. It is also policy (subject to the sensitivity of the riverside habitat), to provide public access to riparian corridors, to promote improved passive recreational activities.
GIB25	It is a Policy Objective to retain and protect hedgerows in the County from development, which would impact adversely upon them. In addition, the Council will promote the protection of existing site boundary hedgerows and where feasible require the retention of these when considering a grant of planning permission for all developments. The Council will promote the County's hedgerows by increasing coverage, where possible, using locally native species and to develop an appropriate code of practice for road hedgerow maintenance. The Council will promote the protection of existing hedgerows when considering a grant of planning permission for all developments.
GIB28	It is a Policy Objective to prepare an 'Invasive Alien Species Action Plan' for the County which will include actions in relation to Invasive Alien Species (IAS) surveys, management and treatment and to also ensure that proposals for development do not lead to the spread or introduction of invasive species. If developments are proposed on sites where invasive species are or were previously present, the applicants will be required to submit a control and management program for the particular invasive species as part of the planning process and to comply with the provisions of the European Communities Birds and Habitats Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477/2011).



Policy / Objective Reference	Policy / Objective
EI3	It is a Policy Objective that all new developments in areas served by a public foul sewerage network connect to the public sewerage system, either directly or indirectly. It is a Policy Objective to promote the changeover from septic tanks to collection networks where this is feasible and to strongly discourage the provision of individual septic tanks and domestic wastewater treatment systems in order to minimise the risk of groundwater and surface water pollution. It is a Policy Objective to prohibit multiple dwelling units discharging to communal wastewater treatment systems.
EI4	It is a Policy Objective to require all development proposals to provide a separate foul and surface water drainage system – where practicable. (Consistent with RPO 10.12)
EI5	It is a Policy Objective: To ensure the delivery of the relevant policies and objectives of the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018 – 2021 and any subsequent plan, including those relating to protection of water status, improvement of water status, prevention of deterioration and meeting objectives for designated protected sites. To support Irish Water in its implementation of Water Quality Management Plans for ground, surface, coastal and estuarine waters as part of the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive. To support Irish Water in the development of Drinking Water Protection Plans.
EI7	It is a Policy Objective to require that all developments relating to water supply and wastewater treatment are subject to screening for Appropriate Assessment to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity, defined by the structure and function, of any European sites and that the requirements of Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive are met. (Consistent with RPO 10.7 of the RSES).
EI8	It is a Policy Objective to ensure the protection of the groundwater resources in and around the County and associated habitats and species in accordance with the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC and the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations, 2010. In this regard, the Council will support the implementation of Irish Water’s Water Safety Plans to protect sources of public water supply and their contributing catchment.
EI10	It is a Policy Objective to work alongside Irish Water to minimise the number and frequency of storm overflows of sewage to watercourses and to establish, in co-operation with the adjoining Local Authorities and Irish Water, a consistent approach to the design, improvement and management of these intermittent discharges to ensure that the needs of the Region’s receiving waters are met in a cost effective manner.
EI14	It is a Policy Objective: To implement the provisions of national and EU Directives on air and noise pollution and other relevant legislative requirements in conjunction with other agencies as appropriate. (Consistent with RPO 10.10 of the RSES) To maintain and manage a Dublin County ambient air quality monitoring network in conjunction with the EPA and TII and to make available to the public the resulting air quality measurements via the EPA website www.epa.ie/air/quality . To support the implementation of objectives of the ‘Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan 2018-2023’.
EI15	It is a Policy Objective to ensure that the design of external lighting schemes minimise the incidence of light spillage or pollution in the immediate surrounding environment and has due regard to the residential amenity of surrounding areas.



Policy / Objective Reference	Policy / Objective
EI16	It is a Policy Objective to implement the provisions of water pollution abatement measures in accordance with national and EU Directives and other legislative requirements in conjunction with other agencies as appropriate.



Table 5-3: Amendments to Policies/Objectives Integrated into the Plan

Policy / Objective Reference	Policy/Objective	Amendments (shown in Red text)
OCLAP40	It is Policy to ensure adequate ecological surveys are undertaken at project level to inform development decisions, in accordance with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.	It is Policy to ensure adequate ecological surveys, and, where necessary, ecological impact assessments , are undertaken at project level to inform development decisions, in accordance with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.
OCLAP57	<p>It is Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) to manage surface and groundwater regimes sustainably. These should be applied to all developments, including new road and public spaces, in line with Appendix 7 (7.1 and 7.2) of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028, to suit individual site layouts and local ground conditions. Design of SuDS Systems should be in accordance with the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (GSDSDS) and the CIRIA SUDS Manual. The proposed networks should be designed in accordance with Appendix 7 (7.1 and 7.2) of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028, CIRIA C753 'The SuDS Manual' and the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Systems (GSDSDS). The primary regional pond to serve the Old Connaught area shall be provided at lands identified in Figure 10.6. An additional, secondary and smaller attenuation pond should be provided at lands identified in Figure 10.6. These ponds will provide storage to meet attenuation requirements for the 1% AED and provide the final stage of treatment for water runoff prior to discharge to the public network/stream outside of the Old Connaught LAP area. The ponds may provide amenity and biodiversity benefits in accordance with best design practice. To pilot and test new green infrastructure installations in the public realm to boost biodiversity and improve surface water management, including the use of permeable materials for surfaces, green roofs and the provision of storm water tree trenches / pit. 	<p>It is Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote the use and appropriate maintenance of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) to manage surface and groundwater regimes sustainably. These should be applied to all developments, including new road and public spaces, in line with Appendix 7 (7.1 and 7.2) of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028, to suit individual site layouts and local ground conditions. Design and maintenance of SuDS Systems should be in accordance with the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (GSDSDS) and the CIRIA SUDS Manual. The proposed networks should be designed in accordance with Appendix 7 (7.1 and 7.2) of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028, CIRIA C753 'The SuDS Manual' and the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Systems (GSDSDS). The primary regional pond to serve the Old Connaught area shall be provided at lands identified in Figure 10.6. An additional, secondary and smaller attenuation pond should be provided at lands identified in Figure 10.6. These ponds will provide storage to meet attenuation requirements for the 1% AED and provide the final stage of treatment for water runoff prior to discharge to the public network/stream outside of the Old Connaught LAP area. The ponds may provide amenity and biodiversity benefits in accordance with best design practice.



Policy / Objective Reference	Policy/Objective	Amendments (shown in Red text)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the development of soft landscaping in public open spaces and parks, where feasible in accordance with the principles of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To pilot and test new green infrastructure installations in the public realm to boost biodiversity and improve surface water management, including the use of permeable materials for surfaces, green roofs and the provision of storm water tree trenches / pit. To support the development of soft landscaping in public open spaces and parks, where feasible in accordance with the principles of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).
OCLAP39	<p>It is Policy that any development proposals with the potential to impact on the Ballyman Glen SAC or any Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE) within the area shall be assessed collaboratively at planning application stage by a hydrogeologist and ecologist and shall take cognisance of the requirement to maintain the rate, quality and general areas where groundwater recharge occurs in order to maintain or enhance the recharge supplying the groundwaterdependent habitats of the Ballyman Glen SAC or any other GWDTEs within the area.</p>	<p>It is Policy that any development proposals with the potential to impact on the Ballyman Glen SAC or any Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE) within the area shall be assessed collaboratively at planning application stage by a hydrogeologist/hydrologist and ecologist and shall take cognisance of the requirement to maintain the rate, quality and general areas where groundwater recharge occurs in order to maintain or enhance the recharge supplying the groundwaterdependent habitats of the Ballyman Glen SAC or any other GWDTEs within the area. Detailed site-specific assessment shall be required for development proposals situated in the catchment area for GWDTE situated in Ballyman Glen SAC that have the potential to impact groundwater through emissions, abstraction or changes to hydrogeological/hydrological regimes. Appropriate cognisance shall be had to potential connections and interactions between surface water and groundwater.</p>



6. CONCLUSION

An AA Screening and NIR were carried out for the Draft Old Connaught Local Area Plan. If unmitigated, the implementation of the Draft LAP has the potential to result in adverse effects on the integrity of the following European Sites:

- Ballyman Glen SAC
- Knocksink Wood SAC
- Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC
- Wicklow Mountains SPA
- Dalkey Islands SPA
- South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA
- The Murrough SPA
- North Bull Island SPA
- North-west Irish Sea SPA
- Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA

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

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

Having incorporated mitigation measures, it is concluded that the Draft Old Connaught LAP is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects⁴. This evaluation is made in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species, for which these sites have been designated.

The AA process is ongoing and be concluded at adoption of the Final LAP.

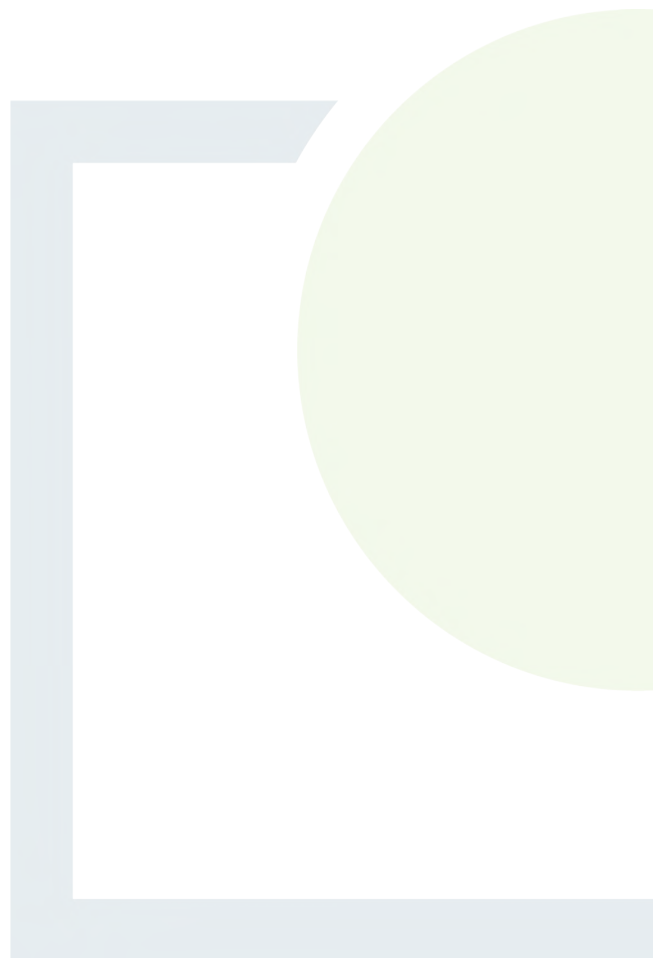
⁴ Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.



DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

APPENDIX 1

Assessment of Potential
Sources of Impact



Assessment of Potential Sources of Impact

An assessment of potential sources of environmental impact that may lead to likely significant associated with policies/objectives defined in the Draft Old Connaught Local Area Plan - that may lead to likely significant effects on European sites - has been carried out. This assessment has been undertaken having regard to the following source of impact criteria defined in the European Commission (2021) guidance document and the OPR (2021) practice note.

- Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration;
- Surface water run-off carrying suspended silt and contaminants, into local watercourses;
- Changes to groundwater quality, yield and/or flow paths associated with the proposed project;
- Plan related activities (noise, vibration, lighting, human presence, structures, etc) leading to disturbance / displacement of species;
- Plan related activities leading to a reduction in species populations / density;
- Air pollution due to dust and other airborne emissions; and
- Disturbance and potential spread of invasive species

Table 1 presents the codes associated with the potential source of impact criteria. Table 2 presents an assessment of the potential sources of impact associated with Draft Plan policies/objectives.

Table 1 Potential Source of Impacts Criteria and Associated Codes

Source of Impact	Code	Source of Impact	Code
Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration	HAB	Plan-related activities leading to reduction in species populations and density	RED
Surface water runoff carrying suspended silt and contaminants, into local watercourses	SWR	Air pollution due to dust and other airborne emissions	AP
Changes to groundwater quality , yield and/or flow paths associated with the proposed project	GWQ	Disturbance and potential spread of invasive species	IS
Plan-related activities (noise, vibration, lighting, human presence, structures, etc.) leading to disturbance and/or displacement of species	DDS		

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
SDF2	It is an Objective that a Masterplan is prepared by the Applicant(s) for significant development within each Character Area, for lands within the Applicant's ownership. The Masterplan shall accord with the objectives set out in the SDFs and be accompanied by a 'Consistency Statement' detailing how each of the objectives, where applicable, are to be achieved. The Masterplan shall include details of how the overall scale of development is to be delivered in accordance with the phasing and implementation strategy set out in Chapter 11.	The implementation of this policy provides a framework for land use and development that may introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
OCLAP3	It is Policy to promote a high standard of urban design throughout Old Connaught in accordance with the relevant policies set out in the County Development Plan, Section 28 Guidelines and other relevant guidance documents including: the 'Compact Settlement Guidelines' (2024), and the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (2019). Development shall be design-led, prioritising place making and be informed by the Key Indicators of Quality Design and Placemaking set out in the 'Compact Settlement Guidelines' (2024).	This policy promotes high quality urban design. In and off itself, it does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP4	It is Policy that new development provides connected, attractive, interesting and well used public realm and open spaces using place making and urban design principles, creating pedestrian centred environments with active, inviting public spaces and parks.	This policy promotes public realm and open space development, leading to a range of potential sources of impact. It may support human activity in areas containing important habitat	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
OCLAP5	It is Policy to support the delivery of sufficient SNI uses including community and educational uses that will be required to ensure sustainable living - in line with the 10-minute neighbourhood concept - for existing and future residents of the Draft Plan area, in accordance with Policy Objectives PHP1, PHP2, PHP3 and PHP4 in the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.	The implementation of this policy has the potential to drive Sustainable Neighbourhood Infrastructure development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
OCLAP6	It is Policy to encourage the co-location of existing and future sustainable neighbourhood facilities including community centres, schools, childcare facilities, healthcare services and also co-location of playgrounds and amenity spaces in accordance with Policy Objective PHP5 in the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028. Such an approach may enable the sharing of facilities such as car and cycle parking.	The implementation of this policy supports integrated land use, sustainable development and compact growth. In and off itself, it does not have the potential to introduce a source of impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP7	<p>It is Policy to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and support – in line with Policy Objective PHP7 of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028 - the use and access to school facilities including assembly halls, sporting and recreation facilities within school grounds outside of school teaching hours, at weekends and during school holidays by the wider community in order to augment the level of meeting space and sporting and recreational facilities available within the Draft Plan area Promote the sharing of outdoor recreational facilities between the local community and local schools, including the sharing of public open space provision with schools. 	<p>The implementation of this policy may support an increase in human activity being undertaken at non-designated areas of high nature conservation value known as locally important areas which also serve as 'Stepping Stones' for the purposes of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.</p>	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X
OCLAP8	<p>It is Policy to continue to liaise with the Department of Education to progress the phased delivery of school facilities to support residential growth in the Old Connaught and wider area.</p>	<p>The implementation of this policy does not have the potential to introduce an impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
SUV1	<p>It is an Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To retain and/or improve existing education provision within the Draft Plan area. To reserve lands for future education use within the Central Character Area and Northern Character Area as identified in Figure 5.2. To promote the use of urban typologies in the design of any education facilities. That the dual function of sports facilities/halls etc. outside of school hours will be encouraged where the use of such facilities will be of a benefit to the wider community, however any outside hour's usage of the school should not be to the detriment of adjoining residential amenities. 	<p>The implementation of this policy has the potential to drive Education development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.</p> <p>The implementation of this policy may support an increase in human activity being undertaken at non-designated areas of high nature conservation value known as locally important areas which also serve as 'Stepping Stones' for the purposes of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
OCLAP9	<p>It is Policy to provide an equitable and accessible distribution of community facilities to support the sustainable development of the Draft Plan area. Two preferred locations are identified for the provision of community infrastructure across the LAP area.</p>	<p>The implementation of this policy has the potential to drive Community development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP17	<p>It is Policy to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and support residential densities in line with Policy Objective PHP18 of the dlr County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 (or any subsequent Plan) and the ‘Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements Guidelines’, 2024. Provide a plan-led approach to residential density standards within the Draft Plan area. In this regard, residential density shall generally accord with the standards set out in Section 4.2.2 ‘Residential Density’ and Figure 4.2 and further detailed in Section 4.3.2 ‘Site Development Frameworks’, both included in Chapter 4 – Spatial Strategy and Site Development Frameworks. Minor deviations from the residential density standards set out in Section 4.2.2 ‘Residential Density’ may be considered by the Planning Authority on a case-by-case basis to allow for a range of potential design solutions. 	<p>The implementation of this policy supports sustainable land use and compact growth. In and off itself, it does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential density at lands including regeneration and infill sites will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by the Planning Authority. Such sites may define their own density (as agreed by the Planning Authority) in response to inter alia the scale and form of surrounding development. 								
OCLAP18	<p>It is Policy that building heights in Old Connaught shall generally be in accordance with the height parameters set out in Section 4.2.3 'Building Heights' and further detailed in Section 4.3.2 'Site Development Frameworks', both included in Chapter 4 – Spatial Strategy and Site Development Frameworks. Having regard to SPPR3 in the Section 28 Building Height Guidelines (2018), there may be instances where an argument can be made for increased height. In circumstances where compliance with Policy Objective BHS2 of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028 (see Appendix 5) can be demonstrated, additional height may be appropriate, subject to complying with; the safeguards outlined in the CDP, the policies and objectives of this Draft Plan and the performance based criteria set out in Table 5.1 of the dlr Building Height Strategy (see</p>	<p>The implementation of this policy provides a framework for building heights and supports the sustainable development of buildings in the Plan area. In and off itself, it does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote aging in place opportunities for older persons to 'right size' within their community. Take account of all abilities through the principles of universal homes design. Facilitate adaptable layouts to suit changing needs. Any proposed development for purpose-built accommodation for a specific need or group shall demonstrate how this objective can be secured long-term. 								
SUV2	<p>It is an Objective to ensure the provision of a range of housing options within the Draft Plan area, that take account of all ages and abilities as residents progress through different stages of life, that all new residential developments of 10+ units shall include a minimum of 25% of the total housing stock that is designed to facilitate an ageing population / people with a disability. In this regard, the following provisions should be taken into account in the design and location of such units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Units should be designed having regard to the universal design homes principles. 	<p>In and off itself, the implementation of this policy does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insofar as possible, units should be located at ground floor level with own door access. Ideally, units should be located where residents have a short walk to site entrances that adjoin public transport links and amenities within or adjacent to the proposed development. To assist with ease of access to public transport links and amenities, landscaping within any new development shall be designed having regard to ease of movement and legibility for all users. 								
SUV3	In line with the Section 28 Guidelines 'Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments', the Planning Authority will encourage provision of accessible communal rooms and/or facilities for the use of future residents in new residential apartment developments of 50+ units. Such communal facilities should have regard to the needs of all future residents of all ages and abilities. Where such facilities are to be provided, details of the management shall be submitted and agreed by the Planning Authority at application stage.	In and off itself, the implementation of this policy does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP21	<p>It is Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the delivery and integration of social and affordable housing within the Draft Plan area and to pursue further opportunities for social and affordable housing in an integrated manner, through 'Part V' housing, Council own build, Affordable Housing schemes and/or delivery through Approved Housing Bodies, in accordance with Policy Objective PHP31 in the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028 and the Council's Housing Strategy and HNDA. To support new and innovative ways to meet housing demands in the Plan area while also ensuring that there is an appropriate mix of tenure and dwelling types provided to meet the needs of the current and future residents of Old Connaught. 	The implementation of this policy has the potential to drive development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
OCLAP22	It is a policy to implement the dlr Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025-2029 (or any subsequent Programme), including for the provision of Traveller accommodation at Old Connaught Avenue.	The implementation of this policy has the potential to drive development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
<p>OCLAP23</p> <p>It is Policy to provide an appropriate multifunctional neighbourhood centre at Old Connaught having regard to the findings of the Floorspace Capacity Assessment set out in Section 5.4.4.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Neighbourhood Centre located in the Village Core (see Section 4.3.4) will comprise the primary multi-functional centre located within the LAP area and should, at a minimum, provide for the retail and service use needs associated with the current A1 zoned lands. The Neighbourhood Centre shall ensure a high quality and attractive civic environment and provide a sense of both place and vitality which also optimises active travel movement and access to public transport. Development of the Neighbourhood Centre shall be generally consistent with the provisions set out in the Site Development Framework for the Old Connaught Village Core – see Chapter 4. 	<p>The implementation of this policy has the potential to drive development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having regard to the fluid and evolving nature of retail and service provision, including changing shopping trends, the potential future development of lands identified as a Strategic Land Reserve for residential purposes will be subject to an assessment of additional retail and service floorspace need undertaken through the development management process. The outcome of the assessment will have particular regard to achieving inter alia the 10-minute neighbourhood concept. 								
SUV4	It is an Objective to facilitate the development of a small-scale remote working hub at the neighbourhood centre lands to support a reduction in commuting distances and provide for workers who may want to gain access to office space outside of the home.	The implementation of this policy has the potential to support minor ancillary development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	X
OCLAP24	It is a Policy to co-ordinate and co-operate with Transport Infrastructure Ireland, the Department of Transport, the National Transport Authority and Wicklow County Council to progress the N11/M11 Junction 4 to Junction 14 Improvement Scheme and/or the N11/M11 Bus Priority Interim Scheme, as appropriate.	The implementation of this policy has the potential to drive significant transport infrastructure development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP25	It is Policy to protect motorways and national routes and associated junctions in accordance with the Section 28 Guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads' (2012). The Council will protect the preferred route corridor of the N11/M11 Junction 4 to Junction 14 Improvement Scheme and prohibit development that could prejudice its future delivery.	The implementation of this policy will serve to restrict development in the relevant areas. In and off itself, it does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP26	It is Policy that future transport development in the Draft Plan area shall have regard to the requirements of the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines to protect the National Road Network.	In and off itself, this policy does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP27	It is Policy to support the extension of the Luas Green Line southwards in order to serve the Bray and Environs area.	The implementation of this policy has the potential to drive significant transport infrastructure development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP28	It is Policy to continue to co-ordinate and co-operate, as appropriate, with Wicklow County Council and the relevant transport agencies to facilitate the delivery of key enabling transport infrastructure and services to support the sustainable development of Old Connaught.	The implementation of this policy has the potential to drive significant transport infrastructure development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
OCLAP29	It is Policy to actively support sustainable modes of transport at Old Connaught and ensure that land uses are aligned with the provision and development of high-quality public transport systems.	The implementation of this policy has the potential to drive significant transport infrastructure development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
OCLAP30	It is Policy to promote and facilitate the '10-minute' settlement concept at Old Connaught where a range of facilities and services are accessible in a short walking and cycling timeframe from homes or are accessible by high quality public transport located within a short walk from home.	The implementation of this policy may act as a driver for active travel related infrastructure in the Plan area. The development of such infrastructure may lead to a range of sources of environmental impact (e.g., habitat fragmentation, habitat fragmentation due to active travel routes).	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
TM3	<p>It is an Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a plan-led approach to the delivery of a connected active travel network across the Draft Plan area. Subject to detailed design, the intended routing, function and purpose of the active travel network (as illustrated in Figure 6.12) shall, where practicable, be achieved. Further details with regards to the proposed active travel network is set out in Chapter 4 – Spatial Strategy and Site Development Frameworks, and Chapter 11 – Phasing and Implementation. That as part of the development management process, proposals for new development in the Draft Plan area must demonstrate how the proposal positively contributes to the proposed network of pedestrian and cycle linkages within the Draft Plan area. <p>That deviations from the proposed active travel network, as illustrated in Figure 6.12, may be considered by the Planning Authority on a case-by-case basis to allow for flexibility in scheme design.</p>	<p>This objective will promote active travel related infrastructure in the Plan area. The development of such infrastructure may lead to a range of sources of environmental impact (e.g., habitat fragmentation due to active travel routes).</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
TM4	<p>It is an Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To prioritise walking and cycling in the internal route hierarchy, to create a network of walking and cycling routes within the Plan area and to improve circulation and permeability. That all proposed access points, routes and streets must connect logically with the existing/proposed street network to aid legibility, permeability and walkability and also must complement local user desire lines. To ensure that active travel network provides attractive, legible and direct links to the neighbourhood centre, schools, public transport, parks, amenities and services, and the wider area outside the Draft Plan boundary. 	<p>This objective may drive/support active travel related development and use of active travel connections. It may lead to a range of sources of environmental impact (e.g., habitat fragmentation due to active travel routes, lighting impacts along active travel routes etc.).</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TM5	<p>It is an Objective to enhance pedestrian and cycle safety through the provision of safe road junctions, improved pedestrian crossing facilities and the incorporation of appropriate cycle measures including signalised crossings where necessary.</p>	<p>This objective may drive/support active travel related development and use of active travel connections. It may lead to a range of sources of environmental impact (e.g., habitat fragmentation due to active travel routes, lighting impacts along active travel routes etc.).</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
TM6	It is an Objective to progress opportunities for filtered permeability across the Old Connaught area which support improvements in active travel whilst maintaining access for existing vehicular users. Proposals for filtered permeability interventions will be subject to detailed design and development and will incorporate public engagement as part of the process	This objective may drive/support active travel related development and use of active travel connections. It may lead to a range of sources of environmental impact (e.g., habitat fragmentation due to active travel routes, lighting impacts along active travel routes etc.).	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TM7	It is an Objective that new development or significant re-development proposals will be required to maximise permeability and connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists where practicable and appropriate.	This objective may drive/support active travel related development and use of active travel connections. It may lead to a range of sources of environmental impact (e.g., habitat fragmentation due to active travel routes, lighting impacts along active travel routes etc.).	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP34	It is Policy to provide high quality cycle parking and cycle storage facilities across the Old Connaught LAP area in accordance with inter alia the provisions of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028 and the Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements Guidelines (2024).	This objective may drive/support active travel related development and use of active travel connections. It may lead to a range of sources of environmental impact (e.g., habitat fragmentation due to active travel routes, lighting impacts along active travel routes etc.).	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TM8	It is an Objective to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide for safe and secure cycle parking at appropriate locations within the Draft Plan area and in particular close to the neighbourhood centre, schools, parks, recreation and community facilities and residential units. • Provide for the integration of cycle parking at public transport stops across the Draft Plan area. 	This objective may drive/support active travel related development and use of active travel connections. It may lead to a range of sources of environmental impact (e.g., habitat fragmentation due to active travel routes, lighting impacts along active travel routes etc.).	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
TM9	It is an Objective to secure the retention of the established Public Right of Way connecting Crinken Lane and Ferndale Road, in accordance with Policy Objective GIB14 of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.	The objective will secure a right of way. In and off itself, it does not result in any land use change and does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TM10	It is an Objective to support and facilitate the development of an integrated public transport network at Old Connaught, in association with relevant transport providers, agencies and stakeholders.	This objective has the potential to drive public transport infrastructure development across the breadth the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TM11	It is an Objective to engage with the NTA, as the responsible statutory body, to facilitate the extension of the bus network to provide high frequency bus services to support planned population growth in the Old Connaught area.	This objective has the potential to drive public transport infrastructure development across the breadth the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP35	It is an Objective to facilitate and promote bus priority measures, where required, across the Draft Plan area.	This objective will support sustainable transport and travel. It does not support land use change of development that may introduce source of negative impacts that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TM12	It is an Objective to work with the NTA to determine the location and siting of bus stops and/or shelters within the Plan area in a manner that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimises walking distances between primary origin and destination land uses and bus stops. • Is fully accessible to all users and is aligned with safe, secure and well-lit routes and crossing points on desire lines. • Incorporates additional place-making opportunities and wayfinding signage where appropriate. 	This objective will influence the carrying out of minor, ancillary public transport related development in the Plan area. Such development may introduce a range of sources of environmental impact (e.g., lighting, human activity/presence)	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
TM17	It is an Objective to liaise with relevant stakeholders to establish the feasibility of providing Mobility Hubs at Old Connaught.	This objective relates to the carrying out of a feasibility assessment. It does not have land use implications, if and off itself, or the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TM18	It is an Objective to provide a plan-led approach to the delivery of a connected vehicular transport network across the Draft Plan area. Subject to detailed design, the intended routing, function and purpose of the vehicular transport network (as illustrated in Figure 6.13) shall, where practicable, be achieved and shall be subject to compliance with TII Publications where applicable. Further details with regards to the proposed vehicular transport network is set out in Chapter 4 – Spatial Strategy and Site Development Frameworks, and Chapter 11 – Phasing and Implementation.	This objective has the potential to drive significant transport infrastructure development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
TM22	It is an Objective to upgrade local junctions throughout the Draft Plan area, where required, through the development management process and other appropriate mechanisms, to support integrated transport proposals catering for all road users and to make a positive contribution to the public realm.	This objective has the potential to drive significant transport infrastructure development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TM23	It is an Objective to create multi-functional streets, where appropriate, that balance 'movement' and 'place' and safety for all users within a traffic calmed environment.	This objective has the potential to drive active travel development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TM24	It is an Objective to support a low-speed environment, where appropriate, across the Draft Plan area. The road layout of new residential, commercial, and/or mixed-use developments shall be designed in accordance with DMURS which seeks to create self-enforcing 30km/h zones.	This objective will have positive effects on traffic and transport conditions in the Plan area. In and off itself, it does not support or act as a driver for traffic and transport development. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
TM25	It is an Objective to review and assess the need for Transition Zones and Gateways at Old Connaught, subject to compliance with TII Publications.	This objective relates to the carrying out of traffic assessment. It does not have land use implications, if and off itself, or the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TM26	It is an Objective to seek to implement low traffic neighbourhoods in residential areas across the Old Connaught area.	This objective will have positive effects on traffic and transport conditions in the Plan area. In and off itself, it does not support or act as a driver for traffic and transport development. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
TM27	It is an Objective to seek to implement low traffic neighbourhoods in residential areas across the Old Connaught area.	This objective will have positive effects on traffic and transport conditions in the Plan area. In and off itself, it does not support or act as a driver for traffic and transport development. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TM28	It is an Objective to support the Safe Routes to School initiative and deliver walking and cycling infrastructure on key access routes from residential areas to schools and to provide 'front of school' treatments which will enhance access to school grounds.	This objective has the potential to drive active travel development in the area and introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TM29	It is an Objective that car parking within the Draft Plan area is controlled so as to determine car use and promote sustainable travel modes. The maximum car parking standards set out in Table 6.1 shall apply across all new residential development within the Draft Plan area, where such provision is justified to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority.	This objective will have positive effects on traffic and transport conditions in the Plan area. In and off itself, it does not support or act as a driver for traffic and transport development.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require the implementation of Green Infrastructure measures such as landscaping and grasscrete to reduce surface water run-off. Require minimum levels of visitor cycle parking levels and quality design in accordance with dlr's cycle parking design standards. 								
TM31	It is an Objective to ensure adequate provision of both disabled and age friendly car parking spaces at appropriate locations across the Draft Plan area.	<p>This objective will have positive effects for people in the Plan area. In and off itself, it does not support or act as a driver for traffic and transport development. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
TM32	It is an Objective to promote car clubs and car sharing schemes to aim to reduce the need for individual car ownership and encourage more sustainable travel.	This objective will have positive effects for traffic and transport conditions in the Plan area. In and off itself, it does not support or act as a driver for traffic and transport development. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TM33	It is an Objective to consider residential schemes, on a case by case basis, which seek to implement the principles of remote parking and vehicular restriction areas in an integrated manner.	This objective will have positive effects for traffic and transport conditions in the Plan area. In and off itself, it does not support or act as a driver for traffic and transport development. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
TM34	It is an Objective that the Council in conjunction with the NTA ensure that a consistent wayfinding system will be introduced and maintained across Old Connaught's transport network and to develop Smart initiatives where applicable.	This objective will have positive effects for traffic and transport conditions in the Plan area. In and off itself, it does not support or act as a driver for traffic and transport development. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TM35	It is an Objective to support the provision of publicly accessible charge points and infrastructure across the Draft Plan area in accordance with the development management standards set out in Section 12.4.11 of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.	This objective has the potential to support EV infrastructure, including linear connections, in the Plan area. The development of this infrastructure may introduce a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TM36	It is an Objective to require a high standard of urban design and placemaking in the planning and design of all major transport infrastructure schemes.	This objective supports high-quality design and development. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
TM37	It is an Objective to require a high standard of urban design and placemaking in the planning and design of all active travel schemes.	<p>It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p> <p>This objective supports high-quality design and development. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP26	It is a Policy, where practicable and possible, to protect existing green infrastructure and encourage and facilitate, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, the creation, management, restoration and enhancement of our natural and semi natural areas.	<p>This policy supports the protection and enhancement of natural areas. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
GIB1	It is an Objective that development within the Draft Plan Area has regard to, where relevant, the findings of the Landscape Character Assessment for Ballyman (no. 11) and Rathmichael (no. 10), as set out in Appendix 8 of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028, and any future County Landscape Character Assessments.	This objective supports landscape protection. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GIB2	It is an Objective that development within the Draft Plan area has regard to the Old Connaught Historic Landscape Character Assessment (2007).	This objective supports the protection of heritage. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP37	It is a Policy to ensure the preservation of the views and prospects at Old Connaught, as designated in the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.	This policy supports protection of visual amenity and landscape character. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
GIB3	It is an Objective that views and prospects within landholdings are further assessed as part of the development management process for planning applications in the Draft Plan area. Where possible, the Planning Authority will seek to integrate the viewing potential of existing views and/or prospects.	This objective supports protection of visual amenity and landscape character. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP38	It is Policy to protect and preserve the Ballyman Glen site as a designated Special Areas of Conservation and proposed Natural Heritage Areas.	This protective policy supports the protection of the Ballyman Glen SAC. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP39	It is Policy that any development proposals with the potential to impact on the Ballyman Glen SAC or any Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE) within the area shall be assessed collaboratively at planning application stage by a hydrogeologist and ecologist and shall take cognisance of the requirement to maintain the rate, quality and general areas where groundwater recharge occurs in order to maintain or enhance the recharge supplying the groundwaterdependent habitats of the Ballyman Glen SAC or any other GWDTEs within the area.	This protective policy supports the protection of the Ballyman Glen SAC. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GIB4	It is an Objective to seek to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, preserve, restore and enhance ecological connectivity within the Draft Plan area and beyond and to restore and mitigate fragmentation of ecological corridors. Encourage the design and function of green infrastructure to support the movement of species across the area. 	This objective supports protection and enhancement of biodiversity and green infrastructure. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
GIB5	It is an Objective to consider the Glendoo Mountain to Shanganagh Wildlife Corridor, identified in the dlr County Biodiversity Action Plan 2021 – 2025, as part of the development management process for planning applications in the Draft Plan area.	This objective supports protection and enhancement of biodiversity. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP40	It is Policy to ensure adequate ecological surveys are undertaken at project level to inform development decisions, in accordance with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.	This objective supports protection and enhancement of biodiversity. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GIB6	It is an Objective that the design of lighting within the Draft Plan area should seek to minimise light pollution and adverse effects on bat species, badgers and otters.	This objective supports protection and enhancement of light sensitive biodiversity. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP41	It is Policy to require that the approach to existing and proposed trees throughout the Draft Plan area is consistent with the dlr Tree Strategy 'A Climate for Trees 2024-2030', to ensure that the tree cover is managed, and developed to optimise the environmental, climatic and educational benefits, which derive from an 'urban forest', and holistic 'urban forestry' approach.	This policy supports the protection and enhancement of trees. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GIB7	It is an Objective to protect and maintain important trees and hedgerows within the Draft Plan area, where practicable, and to promote native tree/hedgerow enhancement and planting. The retention and protection of existing trees / woodlands / hedgerows shall accord with the requirements of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.	This objective supports the protection and enhancement of trees and hedgerows. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GIB8	It is an Objective to promote and encourage planting of native tree and hedgerow species and to provide sufficient buffer to allow for wildlife corridors in new developments across the Draft Plan area.	This objective supports planting of trees and hedgerows and the provision of nature space in the Plan area. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
GIB11	It is an Objective that proposals for strategic infrastructure include an appropriate level of tree/hedgerow planting.	This objective supports biodiversity protection and enhancement in the Plan area. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GIB12	It is an Objective to support and promote tree planting and urban greening as part of the public realm at Old Connaught.	This objective supports biodiversity protection and enhancement in the Plan area. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
GIB13	It is an Objective to ensure the protection and where possible the restoration of the biodiversity associated with watercourses and their riparian (bankside) habitats, in line with the overarching objectives set out in the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028.	This objective supports biodiversity protection and enhancement in the Plan area. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GIB14	It is an Objective in accordance with the Green Infrastructure Strategy of the dlr County Development Plan 2022 - 2028 to seek opportunities where appropriate to open up culverted elements of watercourses, to facilitate weir removal where appropriate and reconnect the riverine habitats. Any such proposals shall have regard to SFRA and Appropriate Assessment requirements.	This objective may lead to positive environmental effects; however, it may support the carrying out of works that could have unintended effects on hydrological conditions, water quality, aquatic ecology and biodiversity generally. Such works may result in a range of sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
GIB15	It is an Objective that proposals for development demonstrate at preplanning and application stage how biodiversity has informed scheme layout and design. Applicants are encouraged, where appropriate, to pilot the Biodiversity Net Gain Approach (BNG) for development.	This objective supports biodiversity protection and enhancement in the Plan area. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP43	It is Policy to ensure that the design of swales and stormwater attenuation areas and SuDS proposals include commitments to addressing a net gain in biodiversity. Where planting is required, native species must be used, including trees where suitable, with advice and input of a wetland ecologist.	This objective supports biodiversity protection and enhancement in the Plan area. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GIB17	It is an Objective to require that attenuations ponds are designed as naturalistic open features (e.g. ponds, wetlands) of value to wildlife and local amenity, with advice and input of a wetland ecologist. Their water quality and storage objectives shall be dealt with in combination with landscape integration, visual amenity and protection/enhancement of biological diversity.	This objective supports biodiversity protection and enhancement in the Plan area. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP44	It is Policy to implement the network of strategic parks and open spaces set out in Figure 8.2 and detailed in section 8.4.1. Plans, designs, detailed schedules and specifications of work for all strategic parks and spaces are to be agreed with the Local Authority.	This policy supports the development of parks and open spaces across the breadth of the Plan area. Works involved in the development of such amenity space may introduce a range of sources of impact.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective							
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS	
OCLAP46	It is Policy to conserve, protect and enhance (as appropriate) the built heritage of Old Connaught including Protected Structures and attendant grounds, in accordance with best conservation practice and policy objectives set out in Chapter 11 and Section 12.11 of the dlr County Development Plan, 2022-2028.	This objective supports heritage protection and enhancement in the Plan area. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP47	It is Policy to support proposals that enhance, extend or change the use of Protected Structures which result in a viable modern use, subject to appropriate design, materials and construction methods. All such proposals shall accord with Policy Objective HER8 and Section 12.11 of the County Development Plan 2022-2028.	This objective supports heritage protection and enhancement in the Plan area. It may support works that could result in sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X
OCLAP48	It is Policy to consider positively the change of use of Protected Structures where it can be shown that the structure, character, appearance and setting will not be adversely affected and where its reuse for an alternative purpose is necessary to ensure a viable future for the building(s).	This objective supports heritage protection and enhancement in the Plan area. It may support works that could result in sources of environmental impact.	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective							
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS	
HC1	<p>It is an Objective to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the continued use and/or potential adaptive re-use of the Victorian Walled Gardens in line with its underlying Objective 'F' zoning status. Enhance and extend the public realm setting of the Walled Gardens through the integration of strategic public open space immediately to the north (see section 8.4.1.3 – Walled Gardens Park). Ensure that any development in proximity of the Walled Gardens, including improvements to the public realm, protects, conserves and enhances its setting. 	<p>This objective supports heritage protection and enhancement in the Plan area. It may support works that could result in sources of environmental impact.</p>	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X
HC2	<p>It is an Objective to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek the regeneration of Jubilee Hall as part of the wider redevelopment of the Western Character Area and consider positively proposals that improve, extend or change the use of Jubilee Hall that results in a viable modern use, subject to appropriate design, materials and construction methods. 	<p>This objective supports heritage protection and enhancement in the Plan area. It may support works that could result in sources of environmental impact.</p>	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure a holistic approach to the regeneration of Jubilee Hall, proposals for the protected structure must form part of an application for the wider re-development of the area. Enhance and extend the public realm setting of Jubilee Hall through the integration of the Protected Structure with strategic public open space surrounding the structure (see section 8.4.1.6 – Jubilee Hall Park). Integrate the former walled gardens of Jubilee Hall as a heritage feature as part of Jubilee Hall Park. 								
OCLAP49	It is a Policy that future development at or in proximity to the Historic Old Connaught Village Core (see Figure 9.8) has regard to the distinct character and intrinsic qualities based on the areas historic built form and layout.	This policy is protective in nature. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
HC3	It is an Objective to protect, enhance and promote Old Connaught's built heritage through the possible designation of the village core as a candidate / Architectural Conservation Area as part of the forthcoming review of the dlr County Development Plan. An indicative boundary is shown in Figure 9.8.	This policy is protective in nature. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP50	It is Policy to ensure the protection of the historical character of Old Connaught and ensure that future development / redevelopment is carried out in a manner sympathetic to its special character, thus ensuring that the distinct character and intrinsic heritage qualities of the Old Connaught area are recognised.	This policy is protective in nature. It does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP51	It is a policy to encourage an interesting and eclectic mix of the old and the new, to strengthen the sense of place, character and identity of the Old Connaught area.	This policy supports the carrying out of sensitive, high quality and appropriate development in the Plan area. In and off itself, it does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP52	It is Policy to support appropriate development of high quality both in terms of design and materials which enhances the visual richness and character of the area.	This policy supports the carrying out of sensitive, high quality and appropriate development in the Plan area. In and off itself, it does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP53	It is Policy to manage the development of the Plan area in a manner that protects and conserves the archaeological heritage of the area and fully recognises its role in protecting this resource for future generations to enjoy.	This policy supports the carrying out of sensitive, high quality and appropriate development in the Plan area. In and off itself, it does not have the potential to introduce a source impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
HC4	<p>It is an Objective to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the potential of facilitating, in a sustainable manner, increased public access to the medieval church and graveyard, to provide on-site interpretation and improve the management of the grounds consistent with its conservation as a national monument. Ensure that any development in proximity to the medieval church and graveyard, including improvements to the public realm, protects and enhances the setting. 	<p>This objective may support increased human activity and maintenance activities in this area, resulting in potential source of impact.</p>	✓	X	X	✓	✓	X	✓
HC5	<p>It is an Objective to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate the heritage of Old Connaught through its sensitive integration with the public realm including the areawide open space and active travel networks. Facilitate, provide and/or retain where appropriate, plaques, signage and maps communicating an interpretation of the historical and natural heritage of Old Connaught. 	<p>This objective supports heritage protection. It does not have the potential to introduce an impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
HC6	It is an Objective to seek to preserve mass paths throughout Old Connaught, where possible.	This objective supports heritage protection. It does not have the potential to introduce an impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP54	It is Policy to promote an active land management approach through on-going co-ordination with relevant stakeholders and infrastructure providers in the delivery of enabling infrastructure at Old Connaught to support the sustainable development of the Draft Plan area.	This policy is communication/engagement. It will underpin development in the area but will not, in and of itself, provide a framework for development of introduce sources of environmental impacts	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP55	<p>It is Policy to facilitate compliance with the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive and any relevant legislation. In this regard, the Council will facilitate compliance with the relevant objectives and measures set out in the ongoing 'River Basin Management Plan' (2022- 2028) and associated Programme of Measures, where relevant.</p> <p>Applications for development under this LAP must demonstrate that the proposal for development would not adversely affect a water body's ability to meet its objectives under the Water Framework Directive, individually as a result of the proposed development or cumulatively, in combination with other developments.</p>	<p>This policy supports protection and improvement of water bodies. It does not have the potential to introduce an impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP56	<p>It is Policy to facilitate Uisce Éireann in ensuring that all wastewater generated is collected, treated and discharged after treatment in a safe and sustainable manner, having regard to the standards and requirements set out in EU and national legislation and guidance.</p>	<p>This policy supports the provision of adequate wastewater treatment in the Plan area and promote environmental protection. It does not have the potential to introduce an impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP57	<p>It is Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) to manage surface and groundwater regimes sustainably. These should be applied to all developments, including new road and public spaces, in line with Appendix 7 (7.1 and 7.2) of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028, to suit individual site layouts and local ground conditions. Design of SuDS Systems should be in accordance with the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (GSDSDS) and the CIRIA SUDS Manual. The proposed networks should be designed in accordance with Appendix 7 (7.1 and 7.2) of the dlr County Development Plan 2022-2028, CIRIA C753 'The SuDS Manual' and the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Systems (GSDSDS). The primary regional pond to serve the Old Connaught area shall be provided at lands identified in Figure 10.6. An additional, secondary and smaller attenuation pond should be provided at lands identified in Figure 10.6. These ponds will provide storage to meet attenuation requirements for the 1% 	<p>The implementation of this policy supports water quality protection, the minimisation of flood risk and biodiversity protection. Works involved in the development of the range of SuDs supported may result in a range sources of environmental impact</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
	<p>AED and provide the final stage of treatment for water runoff prior to discharge to the public network/stream outside of the Old Connaught LAP area. The ponds may provide amenity and biodiversity benefits in accordance with best design practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To pilot and test new green infrastructure installations in the public realm to boost biodiversity and improve surface water management, including the use of permeable materials for surfaces, green roofs and the provision of storm water tree trenches / pit. To support the development of soft landscaping in public open spaces and parks, where feasible in accordance with the principles of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS). 								

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP58	<p>It is Policy to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the protection of groundwater resources and associated habitats and species in accordance with the EU Groundwater Directive. All new planning applications within the LAP area shall have regard to the likely impacts the proposed development may have on groundwater resources. Ensure that planning applications take into account any existing groundwater protection schemes and groundwater source protection zones and/or the likely impacts that the development may have on groundwater. 	<p>This policy supports protection and improvement of groundwater bodies. It does not have the potential to introduce an impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OCLAP59	<p>It is Policy to ensure the implementation of the surface water legislation 'Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009' to ensure that development permitted will not have an unacceptable impact on water quality including surface waters, ground water, river corridors, estuarine waters, bathing waters, coastal and transitional waters.</p>	<p>This policy supports protection and improvement of surface water bodies. It does not have the potential to introduce an impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective							
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS	
	Development within the Draft Plan area shall comply with the Policies and Objectives of the dlr County Development Plan relating to protection of existing water and drainage infrastructure.									
OCLAP60	<p>It is Policy to manage flood risk in the Old Connaught LAP area in accordance with the requirements of The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities, DECLG and OPW (2009) and Circular PL02/2014 (August 2014) and to require all proposed developments to carry out a Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment that shall demonstrate compliance with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Planning System and Flood Risk Management, Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DEHLG/OPW, 2009), as may be revised and/or updated. • The prevailing Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan. • Any SSFRA shall not be required to carry out a Plan-Making Justification Test, given that this exercise was already carried out at County Development Plan-level. 	<p>This policy the effective management of flood risk in the Plan area. It does not have the potential to introduce an impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SSFRA shall pay particular emphasis to site specific mitigation measures and any necessary management measures, as per Appendix B4 of the above 2009 National Guidelines. 								
OCLAP61	<p>It is Policy that proposed development in and adjacent to Flood Zone A and B will include for the management of flooding on site, and within the scope of the SSFRA. Use of the sequential approach should be presented in a Masterplan which should demonstrate that there is no highly vulnerable development within Flood Zones A or B. There should be no loss of floodplain storage for the 1% AEP event and the impact of any changes to ground levels and storage areas as part of flood management proposals should be assessed for the 0.1% AEP flood. As overland flow is the primary source of flood risk, it is important that conveyance routes through the site are maintained. The SSFRA will also need to demonstrate there is no impact in flood risk to third party lands.</p>	<p>This policy the effective management of flood risk in the Plan area. It does not have the potential to introduce an impact that can be transmitted to any European Site via an environmental pathway. It will not result in any likely significant effects on European Sites.</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deviations from the phasing strategy may be considered on a case-by-case basis, and agreed to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority, to allow for unforeseen circumstances beyond the reasonable control of an individual developer or the Local Authority. Deviations may comprise viable alternatives or interim measures that accord with the overall objectives of the Draft Plan. Any interim proposals must ensure and maintain consistency with the build-out or 'longterm' infrastructure objectives of the Draft Plan. 								
PI1	It is an Objective to engage with the Department of Education to coordinate the timely delivery of new schools to support the sustainable development of the Draft Plan area.	This is an engagement based objective. It does not have the potential to introduce sources of impact that may result in effects on European sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
PI2	It is an Objective to progress medium/long term infrastructure projects in conjunction with other statutory agencies and stakeholders.	This is an engagement based objective. It does not have the potential to introduce sources of impact that may result in effects on European sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

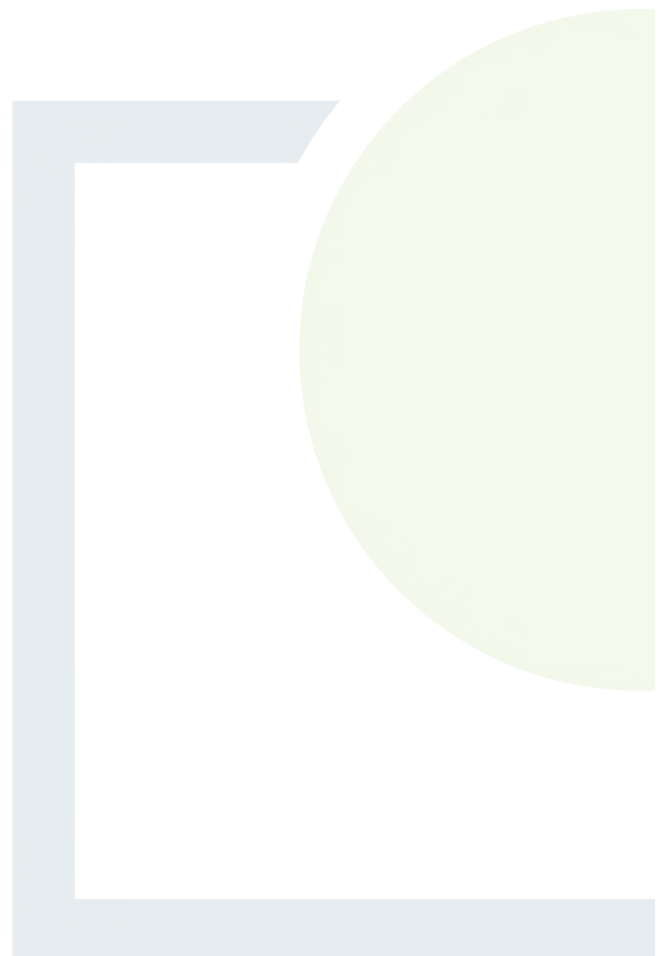
Reference	Policy / Objective	Assessment Potential Sources of Impact	Potential Sources of Impact Associated with the Policy / Objective						
			HAB	SWR	GWQ	DDS	RED	AP	IS
OCLAP67	It is Policy to establish a plan monitoring framework to strategically evaluate the progress of the Draft Plan.	This is an monitoring based objective. It does not have the potential to introduce sources of impact that may result in effects on European sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X



DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

APPENDIX 2

Defining Zone of Influence



Release of pollutants and sedimentation to watercourses with hydrological connectivity to European sites

As a precautionary approach in defining the ecological receptors that may be affected, all European sites hydrologically connected (i.e. whereby there is potential for surface water from a Plan area or project to runoff directly into a watercourse or drain which flows into a European Site) to the subject Plan area were identified during the assessment.

Potential effects to groundwater / hydrogeology

In accordance with the 'Guidance on Assessing the Impacts of Development Proposals on Groundwater Abstractions and Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems, Land Use Planning System SEPA Guidance Note 31' (2017) a 250 m potential zone of influence from the Plan area was considered in assessing the potential for interaction with Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE).

Potential effect to mobile SCI's from surrounding SPAs

The assessment has considered the potential pathways for effects on bird species based on the following principles: Generally, the core foraging range for SCI birds species is less than 15km. However, SNH (2016)⁵ core foraging range for some geese species can be larger. Namely:

- Greylag goose Core range of 15-20km* Greylag Geese feed mostly on cereal stubble and grassland in their wintering areas.
- Barnacle goose Core range of 15km, with maximum recorded distance of up to 25km.

Therefore, as a precautionary approach in defining the ecological receptors that may be affected, all SPA's within 15 km and SPA's within 25 km designed for Greylag and Barnacle Geese were examined using Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping. The conservation objectives of these European sites were assessed to identify potential physical or ecological connectivity to the Plan area having regard to the habitats within the subject lands and the surrounding area.

European sites geographically overlapping or adjacent to the Plan area

All European sites geographically overlapping or adjacent to the Plan area were considered in the assessment.

The Institute of Air Quality Management 'Guidance on the Assessment of dust from demolition and construction' (Holman et al, 2014)⁶ states that for sensitive ecological receptors, sensitivity to dust is 'High' up to 20m from the source and reduces to 'Medium' over 50m from the source. Holman et al, 2014 also stipulates that trackout⁷ may occur from roads up to 500 m from large sites, 200 m from medium sites and 50 m from small sites. Dust from soiling (excavation works) can occur up to 25 m, 50 m and 100 m, at minor, moderate, and major construction sites respectively (NRA, 2011).

The disturbance response of birds (e.g., becoming alert or a flight response) can vary depending on season, species sensitivity, and weather. Goodship and Furness (2022)⁸ provides estimates of species-specific buffer zones to protect birds from human disturbance during breeding and non-breeding seasons. Therefore, a disturbance Zone of Influence of 1 km is adopted on the basis of the disturbance distances review.

⁵ Scottish Natural Heritage. (2016). Assessing Connectivity with Special Protection Areas (SPAs) Guidance.

⁶ Holman et al (2014). IAQM Guidance on the assessment of dust from demolition and construction, Institute of Air Quality Management, London. www.iaqm.co.uk/text/guidance/construction-dust-2014.pdf.

⁷ The movement of dust and dirt from a construction/demolition site onto the public road network.

⁸ Goodship, N.M. and Furness, R.W. (MacArthur Green) Disturbance Distances Review: An updated literature review of disturbance distances of selected bird species. NatureScot Research Report 1283.

Other emission sources associated with the Plan area likely to be more localised than the distances stated for noise impacts and are assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Considering the nature of the Plan, a precautionary Zol of 2 km has been adopted.

Disturbance and potential spread of invasive species

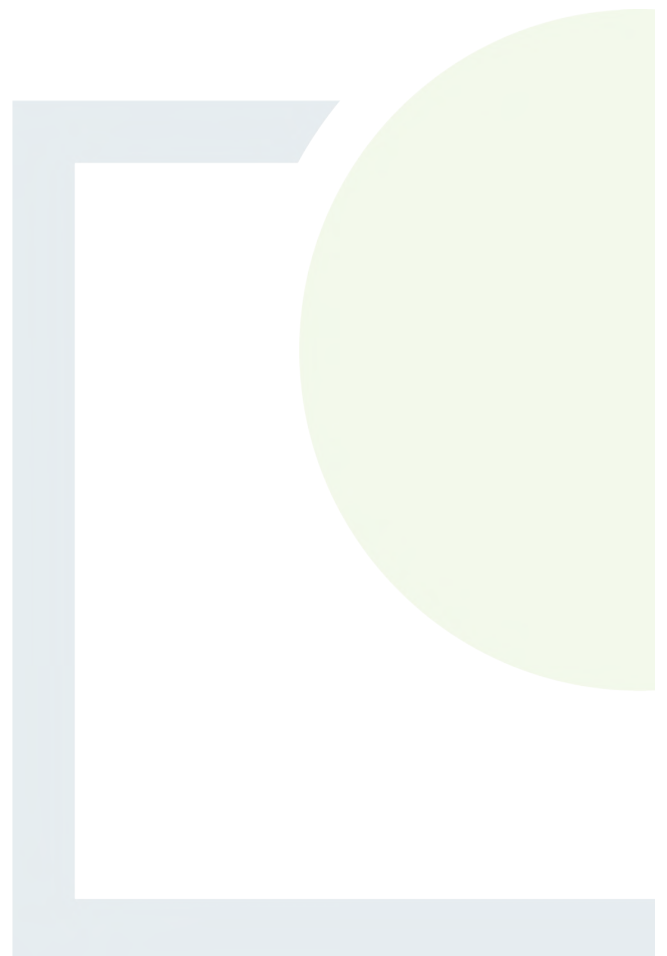
Invasive species can spread to other habitats by the transportation of plant fragments or soil containing seeds / plant material. This typically can occur during excavation and vegetation clearance. Machinery, vehicles and personnel coming into contact with infected areas can spread these species outside of the site. The Zol of this potential impact requires the consideration of European sites in close proximity to the footprint of works. As a precautionary approach a Zol of 2 km has been adopted.



DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

APPENDIX 3

Relationship with other Plans
and Programmes



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

European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (2014/94/EU)	This Directive establishes a common framework of measures for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure in the Union in order to minimise dependence on oil and to mitigate the environmental impact of transport.	This Directive sets out minimum requirements for the building-up of alternative fuels infrastructure, including recharging points for electric vehicles and refueling points for natural gas (LNG and CNG) and hydrogen, to be implemented by means of Member States' national policy frameworks, as well as common technical specifications for such recharging and refueling points, and user information requirements.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Bali Road Map (2007)	The overall goals of the project are twofold: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase national capacity to coordinate ministerial views, participate in the UNFCCC process, and negotiate positions within the timeframe of the Bali Action Plan; and To assess investment and financial flows to address climate change for up to three key sectors and/or economic activities. 	The Bali Action Plan is centred on four main building Blocks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> mitigation adaptation technology financing 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Bern Convention (Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats)	<p>The convention has three main aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats to promote cooperation between states to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species 	<p>The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to ensure the conservation of nature in their countries, paying particular attention to planning and development policies and pollution control. Look at implementing the Bern Convention in central Eastern Europe and the Caucasus. Take account of the potential impact on natural heritage by other policies. Promote education and information of the public, ensuring the need to conserve species is understood and acted upon. Develop an extensive number of species action plans, codes of conducts, and guidelines, at their own initiative or in co-operation with other organisations. Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p>Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 - Bringing nature back into our lives (European Commission, 2020)</p>	<p>The EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030 is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan to protect nature and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. The strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030, and contains specific actions and commitments.</p>	<p>The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea, building upon existing Natura 2000 areas, with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value. • An EU Nature Restoration Plan - a series of concrete commitments and actions to restore degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, and manage them sustainably, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss. • A set of measures to enable the necessary transformative change: setting in motion a new, strengthened governance framework to ensure better implementation and track progress, improving knowledge, financing and investments and better respecting nature in public and business decision making. • Measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge, demonstrating that the EU is ready to lead by example towards the successful adoption of an ambitious global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Birds Directive (79/409/EEC as amended by 2009/147/EC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats. • Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation. • The species included in Annex I shall be the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1. • Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas). • Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones, re-establish destroyed biotopes and creation of biotopes. • Measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I is required as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. The protection of wetlands and particularly wetlands of international importance. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Cancun Agreements (2010)	<p>Set of decisions taken at the COP 16 Conference in Cancun in 2010 which addresses a series of key issues in the fight against climate change. Cancun Agreements' main objectives cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation • Transparency of actions • Technology • Finance • Adaptation • Forests • Capacity building 	<p>Among the most prominent agreements is the establishment of a Green Climate Fund to transfer money from the developed to developing world to tackle the impacts of climate change.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)	<p>The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It also affirms the need for European solidarity with regard to heritage conservation and is designed to foster practical co-operation among the Parties. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reinforcement and promotion of policies for protecting and enhancing the heritage within the territories of the parties. • The affirmation of European solidarity with regard to the protection of the heritage and the fostering of practical co-operation between states and regions. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p>Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro 2005)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time. A heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, to sustain and transmit to future generations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise that rights relating to cultural heritage are inherent in the right to participate in cultural life, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Recognise individual and collective responsibility towards cultural heritage. Emphasise that the conservation of cultural heritage and its sustainable use have human development and quality of life as their goal. Take the necessary steps to apply the provisions of this Convention concerning the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society. Greater synergy of competencies among all the public, institutional and private actors concerned. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Council Regulation (EU) 2022/2577 (laying down a framework to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy)</p>	<p>This regulation introduces faster permitting processes for projects that have the highest potential for a quick roll-out of renewable energy and the least impact on the environment.</p>	<p>The regulation introduces urgent and targeted measures that address specific technologies and types of projects, which have the highest potential for quick deployment and the least impact on the environment.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Derelict Sites Act 1990 (as amended, latest Act No. 12 of 2024 and S.I. No. 242 of 2024)	The Act provides a definition of a "derelict site" and imposes a general duty upon the owner or occupier of any land to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the land does not become or continue to be "a derelict site".	The Act provides that all local authorities shall compile and maintain a register of all derelict sites within their area. Local authorities are obliged to levy and collect a charge to be known as a "derelict sites levy" from the owner of all derelict sites within their area. The Act provides that this levy, and interest on it, shall be a charge on the land to which it relates.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Directive 2010/75/EU on Industrial Emissions	The purpose of this Directive is lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection.	<p>The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • energy; • metal production and processing; • minerals; • chemicals; • waste management; • and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs. <p>All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Doha Climate Gateway (2012)	Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which paved the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015.	<p>The following actions were committed to by governments at this conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015 (to come into effect in 2020); Complete the work under Bali Action Plan and to focus on new completing new targets; Strengthen the aim to cut greenhouse gases and help vulnerable countries to adapt; Amend Kyoto Protocol to include a new commitment period for cutting down the greenhouse gases emissions; and Provide the financial and technology support and new institutions to allow clean energy investment and sustainable growth in developing countries. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Drinking Water Directive (2020/2184)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recast Drinking Water Directive is the EU's main law on drinking water. It concerns the access to and the quality of water intended for human consumption to protect human health. The EU adopted the recast Drinking Water Directive in December 2020 and the Directive entered into force in January 2021. Member States have to transpose the Directive into national law and comply with its provisions by 12 January 2023. The recast Drinking Water Directive will further protect human health thanks to updated water quality standards, tackling pollutants of concern, such as endocrine disruptors and microplastics, and leading to even cleaner water from the tap for all. 	<p>Key features of the revised Directive are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reinforced water quality standards, in line or, in some cases, even more stringent than the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommendations tackling emerging pollutants, such as endocrine disruptors and PFAs, as well as microplastics a preventive approach favouring actions to reduce pollution at source by introducing the risk-based approach measures to ensure better access to water, particularly for vulnerable and marginalised groups measures to promote tap water, including in public spaces and restaurants, to reduce (plastic) bottle consumption harmonisation of the quality standards for materials and products in contact with water measures to reduce water leakages and to increase transparency of the sector 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

European Level		
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.
<p>EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. Aims to assess and implement avoidance or mitigation measures to eliminate environmental effects, before consent is given of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to a requirement for development consent and an assessment with regard to their effects. Those projects are defined in Article 4. 	<p>Relevance to the Plan</p> <p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

European Level		
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.
<p>Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC, Directive 2013/30/EU and Regulation (EU) 2019/1010</p>	<p>Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage.</p>	<p>Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures. Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7. The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive. The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator. The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met. The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives that are not of significant relevance to the SEA for the Guidelines. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing knowledge and new needs.
		<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
		<p>Relevance to the Plan</p>

European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package	Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU.	The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030, and contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Binding legislation which aims to ensure the European Union meets its climate and energy targets for 2020. • Aims to achieve a 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels. • Aims to raise the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20%. • Achieve a 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency. 	<p>Four pieces of complementary legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reform of the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) to include a cap on emission allowances in addition to existing system of national caps. • Member States have agreed national targets for non-EU ETS emissions from countries outside the EU. • Meet the national renewable energy targets of 16% for Ireland by 2020. • Preparing a legal framework for technologies in carbon capture and storage. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
European Wind Power Action Plan (COM/2023/669)	The action plan will support the European wind manufacturing sector in overcoming the difficulties it faces and improve its competitiveness to ensure that this sector fully contributes to the ongoing energy transition. The action plan is an initiative established under the EU Wind Power Package in October 2023.	<p>The Plan is based on six pillars, each of which have set actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accelerating deployment through faster permitting and increased predictability. 2. Improved auction design. 3. Access to finance. 4. Creating a fair and competitive international environment. 5. Skills (investment in skills development). 6. Industry engagement and member state commitments. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 2030 Framework for climate and energy, including EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period between 2020 and 2030 that has been agreed by European countries. • Targets include a 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels, at least a 27% share of renewable energy consumption and at least 27% energy savings compared with the business-as-usual scenario. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reformed EU emissions trading scheme (ETS). • New indicators for the competitiveness and security of the energy system, such as price differences with major trading partners, diversification of supply, and interconnection capacity between EU countries. • First ideas for a new governance system based on national plans for competitive, secure, and sustainable energy. These plans will follow a common EU approach. They will ensure stronger investor certainty, greater transparency, enhanced policy coherence and improved coordination across the EU. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

European Level		
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.
<p>EU Action Plan: 'Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil' 2050</p>	<p>The Action Plan sets the key 2030 targets for reducing pollution at source and outlines a number of flagship initiatives. In addition, as pollution does not stop at borders and as the EU acknowledges that it is both the victim and the source of pollution, the Action Plan foresees reinforced external action. The EU in fact is committed to leading the global fight against pollution</p>	<p>Guided by the 9 Flagship Initiatives, the key actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> align the air quality standards to the latest recommendations of the World Health Organisation, review the standards for the quality of water, including in EU rivers and seas, reduce soil pollution and enhance restoration, review the majority of EU waste laws to adapt them to clean and circular economy principles, foster zero pollution from production and consumption (through the revision of the Industrial Emissions Directive, EU Ecolabel and other measures), minimize EU external pollution footprint through export restriction of harmful products and wastes, present a Scoreboard of EU regions' green performance to promote zero pollution across regions, showcase zero pollution solutions for buildings, launch Living Labs for green digital solutions and smart zero pollution, including by targeting the building and farming sectors, consolidate the EU's Knowledge Centres for Zero Pollution and bringing stakeholders together in the Zero Pollution Stakeholder Platform. Stronger enforcement of zero pollution together with environmental and other authorities.
		<p>Relevance to the Plan</p> <p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
EU Bathing Water Directive (revised) 2006 [2006/7/EC]	The purpose of this Directive is to preserve, protect and improve the quality of the environment and to protect human health by complementing Directive 2000/60/EC	<p>This Directive lays down provisions for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the monitoring and classification of bathing water quality; the management of bathing water quality; and the provision of information to the public on bathing water quality 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Climate Adaptation Strategy 2050	The Strategy sets out how the European Union can adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change and become climate resilient by 2050.	The Strategy has four principle objectives: to make adaptation smarter, swifter and more systemic, and to step up international action on adaptation to climate change.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

European Level		
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.
<p>EU Common Agricultural Policy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve agricultural productivity, so that consumers have a stable supply of affordable food; and To ensure that EU farmers can make a reasonable living. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring viable food production that will contribute to feeding the world's population, which is expected to rise considerably in the future; Climate change and sustainable management of natural resources; Looking after the countryside across the EU and keeping the rural economy alive. <p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

European Level		
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.
<p>EU Energy Efficiency Directive 2023/1791</p>	<p>The new directive introduces a series of measures to help accelerate energy efficiency, including embracing the “energy efficiency first” principle in the energy and non-energy policies.</p>	<p>Establishing an EU legally-binding target to reduce the EU’s final energy consumption by 11.7% by 2030 (relative to the 2020 reference scenario). This includes for each Member State the requirement to set its indicative national contribution based on objective criteria reflecting national circumstances. If the national contributions do not add up to the EU target, an ambition gap mechanism is applied by the Commission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing annual energy savings from 0.8% (at present) to 1.3% (2024-2025), then 1.5% (2026-2027) and 1.9% from 2028 onwards. That’s an average of 1.49% of new annual savings for the period from 2024-2030. Obliging Member States to prioritise vulnerable customers and social housing within the scope of their energy savings measures. Introducing an annual energy consumption reduction target of 1.9% for the public sector as a whole. Extending the annual 3% buildings renovation obligation to all the levels of public administration. Introducing a different approach, based on energy consumption, for business to have an energy management system or to carry out an energy audit. Bringing in a new obligation to monitor the energy performance of data centres, with an EU-level database collecting and publishing data. Promoting local heating & cooling plans in larger municipalities. Progressively increasing the efficient energy consumption in heat or cold supply, also in district heating. <p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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EU Environment Action Programme to 2030	<p>The long-term priority objective is that, by 2050 at the latest, Europeans should live well, within planetary boundaries, in a healthy economy where nothing is wasted, growth is regenerative, climate neutrality is a reality and inequalities are significantly reduced.</p> <p>Building on the European Green Deal, the environmental action programme aims to speed up the transition to a climate-neutral, resource-efficient economy, recognising that human well-being and prosperity depend on a healthy ecosystem.</p>	<p>Six priority objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attain the 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction target and achieve climate neutrality by 2050. • Enhance the ability to adapt by strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change. • Move towards a regenerative growth model, detaching economic growth from resource use and environmental degradation, while transitioning faster to a circular economy. • Aim for zero pollution of the air, water and soil and protect the health and well-being of Europeans. • Protect, preserve and restore biodiversity by improving the state of ecosystems and of the environment, as well as by combating desertification and soil degradation. • Reduce environmental and climate pressures from production and consumption, in particular energy, industrial development, buildings and infrastructure, mobility and food systems. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
EU Green Infrastructure Strategy	<p>Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas. • Supporting EU-level GI projects. • Improving access to finance for GI projects. • Improving information and promoting innovation. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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EU Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive (2008/1/EC)	The purpose of this Directive is to achieve integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from the activities listed in Annex I. It lays down measures designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions in the air, water and land from the abovementioned activities, including measures concerning waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole, without prejudice to Directive 85/337/EEC and other relevant Community provisions.	<p>The IPPC Directive is based on several principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an integrated approach • best available techniques, • flexibility; and • public participation 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)	Reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and - preventing further such pollution.	<p>Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme is designed to prevent pollution of surface waters and ground water from agricultural sources and to protect and improve water quality. Ireland's third NAP came into operation in 2014.</p> <p>Each Member State's NAP must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a limit on the amount of livestock manure applied to the land each year • set periods when land spreading is prohibited due to risk • set capacity levels for the storage of livestock manure 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p>EU Plant Protection (Products) Directive 2009/127/EC</p>	<p>The Directive aims at reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment by introducing different targets, tools and measures such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM) or National Action Plans (NAPs).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Framework Directive applies to pesticides which are plant protection products. • Regarding pesticide application equipment already in professional use, the Framework Directive introduces requirements for the inspection and maintenance to be carried out on such equipment. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006)(as amended)</p>	<p>Aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances.</p>	<p>The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration, • Evaluation, • Authorisation; and • Restriction of chemicals. <p>REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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EU Renewable Energy Directive 2023/2413 (recast)	This Directive sets an overall renewable energy target of at least 42.5% binding at EU level by 2030 - but aiming for 45%.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building on the 2009 and 2018 directives, the revised directive introduces stronger measures to ensure that all possibilities for the further development and uptake of renewables are fully utilised. • Strong policy framework to facilitate electrification in different sectors, with new increased sector-specific targets for renewables in heating and cooling, transport, industry, buildings and district heating/cooling, but also with a framework promoting electric vehicles and smart recharging. • Permitting procedures will also be easier and faster both for renewable energy projects (including through shorter approval periods and the creation of 'Renewables acceleration areas') and for the necessary infrastructure projects. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)	This Directive lays down rules for the prevention of major accidents which involve dangerous substances, and the limitation of their consequences for human health and the environment, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection throughout the Union in a consistent and effective manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Seveso Directive is well integrated with other EU policies, thus avoiding double regulation or other administrative burden. This includes the following related policy areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals; • The Union's Civil Protection Mechanism; • The Security Union Agenda including CBRN-E and Protection of critical infrastructure; • Policy on environmental liability and on the protection of the environment through criminal law; • Safety of offshore oil and gas operations. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p>European 2020 Strategy for Growth</p>	<p>Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe's social market economy for the 21st century and puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation; • Sustainable growth: promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy; • Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion. 	<p>In order to reach these priorities, the Commission proposes five quantitative targets to fulfil by 2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed; 2. 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D; 3. the "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right); 4. the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree; 5. 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty.
<p>European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)</p>	<p>The aim of this (revised) Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study.</p>	<p>The Valletta Convention makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies. The Convention sets guidelines for the funding of excavation and research work and publication of research findings. It also deals with public access, in particular to archaeological sites, and educational actions to be undertaken to develop public awareness of the value of the archaeological heritage. It also constitutes an institutional framework for pan-European co-operation on the archaeological heritage, entailing a systematic exchange of experience and experts among the various States.</p>
		<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
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European Landscape Convention 2000	<p>The developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, together with the practices followed in town and country planning, transport, networks, tourism and recreation, and at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases accelerated the transformation of landscapes. The Convention expresses a concern to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. It aims to respond to the public's wish to enjoy high quality landscapes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. Organise European co-operation on landscape issues.
Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks. Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess all water courses and coast lines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps outlining the extent or potential of flooding and assets and humans at risk in these areas at River Basin District level (Article 3(2) (b)) and areas covered by Article 5(1) and Article 13(1) (b) in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3. Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above. Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process.
		<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
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Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect, control and conserve groundwater. • Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater. • Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive. • Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II.
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. • Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. • Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of community interest. • Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species. • Establish a network of European sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, to enable the natural habitat types and the species' habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range. • Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present. • Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV.
		<p>Relevance to the Plan</p> <p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> <p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes ('Dublin Principles')</p>	<p>It is aimed to assist in the documentation, protection, conservation and appreciation of industrial heritage as part of the heritage of human societies around the World.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Document and understand industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes and their values; 7. Ensure effective protection and conservation of the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; 8. Conserve and maintain the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; and 9. Present and communicate the heritage dimensions and values of industrial structures, sites, areas and landscapes to raise public and corporate awareness, and support training and research. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC), as amended</p>	<p>European legislation which aims to achieve Good Environment Status (GES) for all marine waters in Europe and protect the resource base for marine related economic and social activities.</p>	<p>This was adopted on June 17th, 2008, establishing a framework for EU Community Action specifically regarding marine environmental policy.</p> <p>The MSFD is implemented in cycles of 6 years, with member state being obliged to report to the EU every 2 years. The third cycle of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2023 – 2028) for Ireland is underway. The MSFD is implemented through a national Marine Strategy.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Nature Restoration Law (Regulation (EU) 2024/1991)	The regulation sets binding targets to restore degraded ecosystems, particularly those with the most potential to capture and store carbon and to prevent and reduce the impact of natural disasters. It is also a key instrument to help the EU and its Member States meet international biodiversity commitments under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.	<p>The law aims to restore ecosystems, habitats and species across the EU's land and sea areas in order to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enable the long-term and sustained recovery of biodiverse and resilient nature contribute to achieving the EU's climate mitigation and climate adaptation objectives <p>meet international commitments</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	The Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source.	<p>The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw up strategic noise maps for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators and use these maps to assess the number of people which may be impacted upon as a result of excessive noise levels; Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise. <p>The Directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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OSPAR Convention	The mission of OSPAR is to conserve marine ecosystems and safeguard human health in the North-East Atlantic by preventing and eliminating pollution; by protecting the marine environment from the adverse effects of human activities; and by contributing to the sustainable use of the seas.	<p>OSPAR's work is organised under six strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity and Ecosystem Strategy • Eutrophication Strategy • Hazardous Substances Strategy • Offshore Industry Strategy • Radioactive Substances Strategy • Strategy for the Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme <p>These six strategies fit together to underpin the ecosystem approach. For each strategy a programme of work is designed and implemented annually.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Public Participation Directive (2003/35/EC)	The objective of this Directive is to contribute to the implementation of the obligations arising under the Aarhus Convention, in particular by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) providing for public participation in respect of the drawing up of certain plans and programmes relating to the environment; (b) improving the public participation and providing for provisions on access to justice within Council Directives 85/337/EEC and 96/61/EC. 	Not applicable.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Ramsar Convention	The Convention's mission is "the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world".	<p>Under the "three pillars" of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work towards the wise use of all their wetlands; • Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") and ensure their effective management; • Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. • Provide for a high level of protection of the environment by carrying out an environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out and environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive. • Prepare an environmental report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives that consider the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme. • Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission. • Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects. • Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme. • Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive. • Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p>Soil monitoring law: EU on the pathway to healthy soils by 2050</p>	<p>According to the EU soil strategy, presented by the Commission in 2021, the lack of a dedicated EU legislation was singled out as a major cause for the alarming state of EU soils. To ensure the same level of protection to soil that exists for water, the marine environment and air in the EU, the Commission put forward the soil monitoring directive on 5 July 2023.</p>	<p>The general approach reached by the Council today aims to make soil health monitoring obligatory, provides guiding principles for sustainable soil management and addresses situations where soil contamination poses unacceptable health and environment risks.</p>
<p>Stockholm Convention</p>	<p>The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit and/or eliminate the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex A to the Convention • Restrict the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex B to the Convention • Reduce or eliminate releases from unintentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex C to the Convention • Ensure that stockpiles and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs are managed safely and in an environmentally sound manner • To target additional POPs • Other provisions of the Convention relate to the development of implementation plans, information exchange, public information, awareness and education, research, development and monitoring, technical assistance, financial resources and mechanisms, reporting, effectiveness evaluation and non-compliance
		<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
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<p>The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC) (EU Air Framework Directive)</p> <p>Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive). Sets new air quality objectives for PM2.5 (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives. Accounts for the possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values. Allows the possibility for time extensions of three years (PM10) or up to five years (NO₂, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission. The Fourth Daughter Directive lists pollutants, target values and monitoring requirements for the following: arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>The Eighth Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obligation for the Commission to present a monitoring framework, based on a limited number of headline indicators. These should include, where available, systemic indicators that address interlinkages between environment-social and environmental-economic policy considerations, respectively. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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The European Green Deal (EGD) 2019	The deal sets out how to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, boosting the economy, improving people's quality of life, caring for nature and leaving no one behind.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It sets out a roadmap with actions to boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy, restore biodiversity and cut pollution. • It outlines investments required, financing tools available and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition. • In order to meet the goal to become climate neutral by 2050 as part of the European Green Deal, the European Union (EU) Commission proposed on 4th March 2020 to bring about the first European Climate Law and legally bind the target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN (1992) Framework Convention on Climate Change	It is aimed at stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.	The Convention acknowledges the vulnerability of all countries to the effects of climate change and calls for special efforts to ease the consequences, especially in developing countries which lack the resources to do so on their own.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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UN (1992) The Convention on Biological Diversity	An overall objective is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	<p>The Convention has three main goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity); the sustainable use of its components; and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN Kyoto Protocol (2nd Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement)	<p>The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol.</p> <p>At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II). EU member states implement measures to improve on or compliment the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP. Under COP21, governments agreed to come together every 5 years to set more ambitious targets as required by science; report to each other and the public on how well they are doing to implement their targets; track progress towards the long-term goal through a robust transparency and accountability system. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
UNESCO (1972) The Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Links concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties; and Recognizes the way in which people interact with nature, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out the duties of States Parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them; Each country pledges to conserve not only the World Heritage sites situated on its territory, but also to protect its national heritage; Encourages to integrate the protection of the cultural and natural heritage into regional planning programmes, set up staff and services at their sites, undertake scientific and technical conservation research and adopt measures which give this heritage a function in the day-to-day life of the community. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors. The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban waste water entering collecting systems shall before discharge, be subject to secondary treatment. Annex II requires the designation of areas sensitive to eutrophication which receive water discharges. Establishes minimum requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems in specified agglomerations to include special requirements for sensitive areas and certain industrial sectors. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies to include inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater and their dependent wildlife and habitats. Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain "good status" of water bodies. Promote sustainable water usage. The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive Sampling Drinking Water Directive Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive Shellfish Directive Freshwater Fish Directive Groundwater Directive Dangerous Substances Directive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive. Achieve "good status" for all waters. Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts. Involve the public and streamline legislation. Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas. Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas. Recover costs for water services. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Ag Climatise - A Roadmap towards Climate Neutrality	This roadmap has been developed by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) on foot of extensive engagement with industry, research, policy, farmer and environmental stakeholders. It is a roadmap designed to help all stakeholders to work together to tackle climate change and air pollution	<p>The roadmap proposes 29 actions across two strands of activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions that can be implemented now: to ensure farmers act immediately on the changes necessary to address climate change. This is made up of three parts, the mitigation measures in the next section, the removals from the landscape measures, and the sustainable energy measures that follow. • The development of cross cutting enabling actions into the future: This will focus on a number of actions, including further research and innovation. Where appropriate, it will require the establishment of consultative groups to assist with the development and delivery of the actions 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Agrivision 2015 Action Plan	Outlines the vision for agricultural industry to improve competitiveness and response to market demand while respecting and enhancing the environment	Not applicable.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p>All Island Grid Study 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The All Island Grid Study is the first comprehensive assessment of the ability of the electrical power system and, as part of that, the transmission network (“the grid”) on the island of Ireland to absorb large amounts of electricity produced from renewable energy sources. The objective of this five-part study is to assess the technical feasibility and the relative costs and benefits associated with various scenarios for increased shares of electricity sourced from renewable energy in the all island power system. 	<p>Key conclusions of the study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presented results indicate that the differences in cost between the highest cost and the lowest cost portfolios are low (7%), given the assumptions made and costs included in the Study. All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to significant reductions of CO2 emissions compared to portfolio 1 All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to reductions on the dependency of the all island system on fuel and electricity imports. The limitations of the study may overstate the technical feasibility of the portfolios analysed and could impact the costs and benefits resulting. Further work is required to understand the extent of such impact. Timely development of the transmission networks, requiring means to address the planning challenge, is a precondition for implementation of the portfolios considered. Market mechanisms must facilitate the installation of complementary, i.e. flexible, dispatchable plant, so as to maintain adequate levels of system security. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>All-Ireland Pollinator Plans: All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 (latest)</p>	<p>The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is a framework bringing together different sectors across the island of Ireland to create a landscape where pollinators can survive and thrive. Implementation is coordinated by the National Biodiversity Data Centre.</p>	<p>The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan for 2021-2025 is a five-year road map that aims to help bees, other pollinating insects and our wider biodiversity. The AIPP 2021-2025 has 186 actions spread across six objectives.</p> <p>Objective 1: Making farmland pollinator friendly Objective 2: Making public land pollinator friendly Objective 3: Making private land pollinator friendly Objective 4: All-Ireland Honeybee Strategy Objective 5: Conserving rare pollinators Objective 6: Strategic coordination of the Plan</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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All-Island Strategic Rail Review	The Review aims to inform policy and future strategy for the railways in both jurisdictions on the island of Ireland.	<p>The Review sets out six high-level goals which aim to use rail as effectively as possible to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contribute to decarbonisation; • improve All Island connectivity between major cities; • enhance regional accessibility; • stimulate economic activity; • encourage sustainable mobility; and achieve economic and financial feasibility. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Bioeconomy Action Plan 2023-2025	<p>The first national action plan for an Irish bioeconomy.</p> <p>The purpose of this plan is to further develop Ireland's bioeconomy in delivering the vision of the 2018 National Policy Statement on the Bioeconomy; for Ireland "to be a global leader for the bioeconomy through a coordinated approach that harnesses Ireland's natural resources and competitive advantage and that fully exploits the opportunities available while monitoring and avoiding unintended consequences".</p>	<p>This action plan approaches the bioeconomy using seven pillars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance & Awareness • Research, Development & Innovation • Nature, Climate, Energy & Circular Economy • Agriculture, Food, Forestry, And The Marine • Communities, Regions & Cities • Industry & Enterprise • Knowledge & Skills <p>The Action Plan is aligned with the implementation of the National Policy Statement on the Bioeconomy.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Building Regulations	The aim of the building regulations is to provide for the safety and welfare of people in and about buildings.	The building regulations apply to the design and construction of a new building (including a dwelling) or an extension to an existing building.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Clean Air Strategy for Ireland (2023)	The Clean Air Strategy provides the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through this document Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation. The Strategy should also help tackle climate change. The Strategy considers a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture. In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people's health is paramount, this is a strong theme of the Strategy. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p>Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015</p> <p>Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021</p>	<p>An Act to provide for the approval of plans by the Government in relation to climate change for the purpose of pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy.</p>	<p>When considering a plan or framework, for approval, the Government shall endeavour to achieve the national transition objective within the period to which the objective relates and shall, in endeavouring to achieve that objective, ensure that such objective is achieved by the implementation of measures that are cost effective and shall, for that purpose, have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ultimate objective specified in Article 2 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change done at New York on 9 May 1992 and any mitigation commitment entered into by the European Union in response or otherwise in relation to that objective, • The policy of the Government on climate change, • Climate justice, • Any existing obligation of the State under the law of the European Union or any international agreement referred to in section 2; and • The most recent national greenhouse gas emissions inventory and projection of future greenhouse gas emissions, prepared by the Agency. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Climate Action Plan 2024</p>	<p>The Climate Action Plan 2024 (CAP24) is the third annual update to Ireland's Climate Action Plan.</p> <p>The purpose of the Climate Action Plan is to lay out a roadmap of actions which will ultimately lead us to meeting our national climate objective of pursuing and achieving, by no later than the end of the year 2050, the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy. It aligns with the legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings that were agreed by Government in July 2022.</p>	<p>Climate Action Plan 2024 builds upon CAP23 by refining and updating the measures and actions required to deliver the carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings. The Plan provides a roadmap for taking decisive action to halve Ireland's emissions by 2030 and reach net zero by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage (2019)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage in Ireland ranges from private homes, commercial and public buildings, national monuments, underwater and buried archaeology and the physical and cultural settings of all of these. This plan considers not only those structures and sites that have been statutorily listed, but all man-made assets that have historical, aesthetic and cultural value, but does not consider natural heritage. <p>Aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build adaptive capacity within the sector Reduce the vulnerability of built and archaeological heritage to climate change Identify and capitalise on the various potential opportunities for the sector. 	<p>The five adaptation goals for built and archaeological heritage in Ireland are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To improve understanding of each heritage resource and its vulnerability to climate change To develop and mainstream sustainable policies and plans for climate-change adaptation of built and archaeological heritage To conserve Ireland's heritage for future generations To communicate and transfer knowledge To exploit the opportunities for built and archaeological heritage to demonstrate value and secure resources 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan (2022-2025)</p>	<p>The Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan is a major public transport initiative developed by the National Transport Authority (NTA) with the aim of increasing connectivity, particularly for people living outside our major towns and cities. The plan aims to improve mobility in rural areas by providing frequent and affordable transport services that offer freedom to travel and sustainable transport connections.</p>	<p>The Plan focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding new high-frequency services; Enhancing existing services; and Providing improved connectivity to the wider transport network 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry. The Strategy aims both to increase the capacity of the sector to create and maintain jobs, and to deliver a sustainable sector, operating at an appropriate level. It seeks to learn the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated. 	<p>This Strategy therefore addresses issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A strategic approach to the provision of housing, based on real and measured needs, with mechanisms in place to detect and act when things are going wrong; Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements; The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects; Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms; Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety; Ensuring a fit for purpose sector supported by a highly skilled workforce achieving high quality and standards; and Ensuring opportunities are provided to unemployed former construction workers to contribute to the recovery of the sector. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 - 2020	<p>The Draft Bioenergy Plan sets out a vision as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bioenergy resources contributing to economic development and sustainable growth, generating jobs for citizens, supported by coherent policy, planning and regulation, and managed in an integrated manner. 	<p>Three high level goals of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To harness the market opportunities presented by bioenergy in order to achieve economic development, growth and jobs. To increase awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits of developing bioenergy. To ensure that bioenergy developments do not adversely impact the environment and its living and non-living resources. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE) 2016</p>	<p>Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2018/2001: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.</p>	<p>Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2019</p>	<p>These Guidelines offer advice to planning authorities on planning for wind energy through the development plan process and in determining applications for planning permission.</p>	<p>The guidelines are intended to ensure a consistency of approach throughout the country in the identification of suitable locations for wind energy development and the treatment of planning applications for wind energy developments.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>Energy Security in Ireland to 2030</p>	<p>Energy Security in Ireland to 2030 outlines a new strategy to ensure energy security in Ireland for this decade, while ensuring a sustainable transition to a carbon neutral energy system by 2050. This report is being published as part of an Energy Security Package, containing a range of supplementary analyses, consultations, and reviews, which have informed the recommendations and actions related to energy security.</p>	<p>The Energy Security Package states that we must ensure energy security is prioritised, monitored, and reviewed regularly, and includes a range of measures to implement this approach in the short and medium term by prioritising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced and Responsive Demand • A Renewables-Led System • More Resilient Systems • Robust Risk Governance <p>Under each of these four areas of actions, the report sets out a range of mitigation measures, including the need for additional capacity of indigenous renewable energy, but also energy imports, energy storage, fuel diversification, demand side response, and renewable gases. The governance structures supporting the energy system, including oversight and accountability reforms, were also examined.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011, as amended)</p>	<p>These Regulations provide a new for the implementation in Ireland of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on habitats and protection of wild fauna and flora (as amended) and for the implementation of Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of wild birds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They provide, among other things, for: the appointment and functions of authorized officers; identification, classification and other procedures relative to the designation of Community sites. • The Regulations have been prepared to address several judgments of the CJEU against Ireland, notably cases C-418/04 and C-183/05, in respect of failure to transpose elements of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive into Irish law. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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S.I. No. 435 of 2004 (European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011 (European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations 2011)	The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning. These Regulations also amend certain provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to provide the statutory basis for the transposition of the Directive in respect of land-use planning. Transposition in respect of the land-use planning sector is contained in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004). 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
S.I. No. 436 of 2004 (Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 201 of 2011 (Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2011).	The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of statutory land use plan on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Regulations cover statutory land use plans, including Development Plans, Local Area Plans, Regional Planning Guidelines etc. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011	The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning. These Regulations also amend certain provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to provide the statutory basis for the transposition of the Directive in respect of land-use planning. Transposition in respect of the land-use planning sector is contained in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004). 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of 2003) European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014) European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009) (as amended)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation. Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water. Identifies the competent authorities in charge of water policy (amended to Irish Water in 2013) and gives EPA and the CER the authority to regulate and supervise their actions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implements River basin districts and characterisation of RBDs and River Basin Management Plans. Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on RBDs. Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies. Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body. Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances. Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater. Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies. Outlines surface water quality standards. Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p>Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme</p>	<p>The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive.</p>	<p>CFRAM Studies have been undertaken for all River Basin Districts. The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. Flood Risk and Hazard mapping, including Flood Extent Mapping, was finalised in 2017. The final outputs from the studies are the CFRAM Plans, finalised in 2018. The Plans define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Food Harvest 2020</p>	<p>Food Harvest 2020 is a roadmap for the Irish food industry, as it seeks to innovate and expand in response to increased global demand for quality foods. It sets out a vision for the potential growth in agricultural output after the removal of milk quotas.</p>	<p>Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Food Vision 2030	The Food Vision 2030 Strategy is a new ten year Strategy for the Irish agri-food sector (taken to include primary agriculture, food and drink processing and manufacturing, fisheries, aquaculture and fish processing, forestry and forestry processing and the equine sector).	<p>The Strategy consists of 22 Goals, grouped into four high-level Missions for the sector to work toward:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector 2. Viable and Resilient Primary Producers with Enhanced Well-Being 3. Food Which is Safe, Nutritious And Appealing, Trusted And Valued at Home and Abroad 4. An Innovative, Competitive and Resilient Agri-Food Sector, Driven by Technology And Talent 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Food Wise 2025 (DAFM)	Food Wise 2025 sets out a ten year plan for the agri-food sector. It underlines the sector's unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further.	<p>Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 85% increase in exports to €19 billion. • 70% increase in value added to €13 billion. • 60% increase in primary production to €10 billion. • The creation of 23,000 additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high end value added product development. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Governments White Paper 'Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future' (2015 – 2030)	The White Paper sets out a vision and a framework to guide Irish energy policy between now and 2030. A complete energy policy update informed by the vision to transform Ireland into a low carbon society and economy by 2050.	2030 will represent a significant milestone, meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced GHG emissions from the energy sector by between 80% and 95% Ensuring that secure supplies of competitive and affordable energy remain available to citizens and businesses. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
GRID25 Implementation Programme and associated Grid Implementation Plan 2023-2028 for the Electricity Transmission System in Ireland	Grid25 is a high-level strategy outlining how EirGrid intends to undertake the development of the electricity transmission grid in the short-, medium- and longer-terms, to support a long-term sustainable and reliable electricity supply. This Grid25 Implementation Programme (IP) is a practical strategic overview of how the early stages of Grid25 are intended to be implemented. The IP identifies the best current understanding of those parts of the transmission system that are envisaged as likely to be developed over the next five years. The IP identifies the issues, objectives and associated processes that will need to be adopted when making decisions about how and where developments will occur. This Grid Implementation Plan 2023-2028 supersedes the Grid Implementation Plan 2017-2022. It is focused on the Transmission Development Plan (TDP) 2023-2032.	Grid25, EirGrid's roadmap to upgrade the electricity transmission grid by 2025, continues to be implemented so as to increase the capacity of the grid, to satisfy future demand, and to help Ireland meet its target of 40 per cent of electricity from renewable energy by 2020. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EirGrid Shaping Our Electricity Future Version 1.1 (SOEF - published in June 2023) is a core context for grid development as part of this Plan. The SOEF addresses matters such as why EirGrid develops the electricity transmission network, Government policy context that underpins this, and the importance of an efficient and economical grid network. The Transmission Development Plan (TDP) 2023 also forms a core context for this Plan. The TDP lists the committed projects and projects under development for the enhancement of the Irish transmission network over the coming ten years. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p>Heritage related legislation and guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Monuments Act 1930 as amended; • Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999; and • The Heritage Act 2018. • Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities 	<p>Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the CDP. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage.</p>	<p>Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the CDP. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>S.I. No. 549/2018 - European Communities (Environmental Noise) Regulations 2018 (as amended)</p>	<p>The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. The Directive aims to provide a common framework to avoid, prevent or reduce, on a prioritised basis, the harmful effects of exposure to environmental noise.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Regulations set out a two-stage process for addressing environmental noise (preparation of strategic noise maps and preparation of noise action plans for each area concerned. • The Regulations designate noise-mapping bodies and action planning authorities for the making and reviewing of strategic noise maps and action plans. • The Regulations designate the Environmental Protection Agency as the National Authority for the purposes of the Regulations. <p>The Regulations provide for strategic noise maps and action plans and revised noise maps and action plans to be made available to the general public.</p>	<p>The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Housing for All (2021)	Housing for All (2021) is the Government's housing plan to 2030. The overall aim of the housing plan for Ireland is that everyone in the State should have access to a home to purchase or rent at an affordable price, built to a high standard and in the right place, offering a high quality of life. The plan's vision is to have a steady supply of housing in the correct locations with economic, social, and environmental sustainability built into the system.	Housing for All provides four pathways to achieving its overarching objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Homeownership and Increasing Affordability. • Eradicating Homelessness, Increasing Social Housing Delivery and Supporting Social Inclusion. • Increasing New Housing Supply. • Addressing Vacancy and Efficient Use of Existing Stock. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025	The vision is: <i>"A Healthy Ireland, where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone's responsibility."</i>	These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life • Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities • Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing • Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p>Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, the National Planning Framework, and the National Development Plan (2021 - 2030)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Planning Framework is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of to the year 2040. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for people, and to protect and enhance the environment - from villages to cities, and everything around and in between. The National Development Plan sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the successful implementation of the new National Planning Framework. This will guide national, regional and local planning and investment decisions in Ireland over the next two decades, to cater for an expected population increase of over 1 million people. 	<p>The National Planning Framework published alongside the National Development Plan yields ten National Strategic Outcomes as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compact Growth 2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility 3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities 4. Sustainable Mobility 5. A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills 6. High-Quality International Connectivity 7. Enhanced Amenity and Heritage 8. Transition to a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Society 9. Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources 10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023 - 2030</p>	<p>Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) sets the national biodiversity agenda for the period 2023-2030 and aims to deliver the transformative changes required to the ways in which we value and protect nature.</p>	<p>It will continue to implement actions within the framework of five strategic objectives, while addressing new and emerging issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1 - Adopt a Whole of Government, Whole of Society Approach to Biodiversity. • Objective 2 - Meet Urgent Conservation and Restoration Needs. • Objective 3 - Secure Nature's Contribution to People. • Objective 4 - Enhance the Evidence Base for Action on Biodiversity. • Objective 5 - Strengthen Ireland's Contribution to International Biodiversity Initiatives. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Ireland's Long-term Strategy on Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction 2024	This long-term strategy aims to build on the targets, policies, measures and actions that Ireland has committed to in the period to 2030 (as set out in success annual national Climate Action Plans and the EU National Energy and Climate Plans.	<p>The Strategy sets out Ireland's 2050 climate action targets and describes sector-specific pathways to reaching those targets. These sectors include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity • Industry • Built Environment • Transport <p>Agriculture, Forestry and Land-Use</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ireland's Second National Implementation Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals (2022 - 2024)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Implementation Plan 2022 - 2024 is in direct response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a whole-of-government approach to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). • The first version of the Plan (2018 – 2020) provided a 'SDG Matrix' which identifies the responsible Government Departments for each of the 169 targets. It also included a 'SDG Policy Map' indicating the relevant national policies for each of the targets. 	<p>The Plan identifies five strategic objectives to guide implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To embed the SDG framework into the work of Government Departments to achieve greater Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development; • To integrate the SDGs into Local Authority work to better support the localisation of the SDGs; • Greater partnerships for the Goals; • To further incorporate the principle of Leave No One Behind into Ireland's Agenda 2030 implementation and reporting mechanisms; and • Strong reporting mechanisms 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (as amended)	<p>This act is designed to regulate the maritime area within Ireland. This regulation will be achieved by means of the National Marine Planning Framework.</p> <p>The Act provides the legislative framework for a new streamlined development consent process for activities in the maritime area including offshore renewable energy projects. The Bill will also establish a new body, the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority to undertake certain consenting and enforcement functions in the new regime. Enactment and implementation of the Bill will help Ireland to reach its climate action and renewable energy targets.</p>	<p>The key features of the plan are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of Maritime Area Consents (MACs) for permission to occupy a maritime area over undefined or relatively long periods of time. • It is required that projects obtain a MAC as a pre-requisite before seeking planning permission for developments which fall under the Planning and Development Act 2000. • Provision of licenses for certain maritime usages which do not require planning permission or an EIA. <p>Establishment of a Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) which will grant MACs, licence specified maritime usages, ensure compliance with MACs, licences and offshore planning permissions.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines	<p>The Department produces a range of guidelines designed to help planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála, developers and the general public and cover a wide range of issues amongst others, architectural heritage, childcare facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density.</p>	<p>The Minister issues statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act which planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to in the performance of their planning functions.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2018 and associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans (including transport)</p>	<p>NAF specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities in their administrative areas in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptation under this Framework should seek to minimise costs and maximise the opportunities arising from climate change. Adaptation actions range from building adaptive capacity (e.g. increasing awareness, sharing information and targeted training) through to policy and finance based actions. Adaptation actions must be risk based, informed by existing vulnerabilities of our society and systems and an understanding of projected climate change. Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland 2024</p>	<p>This framework specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities to reduce the vulnerability of Ireland to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur. It sets out an extended suite of guiding principles that underscore the need for smarter, faster and transformative adaptation actions, which demand a pathway planning approach to account for a range of future warming and impact scenarios. It acts as a roadmap for governments, organisations, and communities to plan and implement adaptation strategies. The Framework helps coordinate efforts, allocate resources, and prioritise actions that reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience. A robust framework not only enables more effective responses to immediate climate related challenges but also fosters long-term sustainability by ensuring that adaptation measures are integrated into policymaking, infrastructure development, and local planning.</p>	<p>Key actions under the framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Putting in place revised governance and reporting arrangements Formalising the status of existing guidelines Formalising long term operational support for key sectors Facilitating the establishment of regional local authority climate action offices Increasing awareness around climate adaptation and resilience Integrating climate adaptation into key national plans and policies 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP)</p>	<p>The National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP) is a technical document which outlines the pathway Ireland will follow to achieve compliance with its commitments under the National Emission Ceilings Directive (NEC Directive).</p> <p>The National Emissions Ceilings Directive (NEC Directive) establishes emission ceilings for 2020 and 2030 for five specified pollutants: nitrogen oxides (NOx), non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs), sulphur dioxide (SO₂), ammonia (NH₃) and fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}).</p> <p>It also mandates the development of a National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP) for each Member State.</p>	<p>The programme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of sectors and national policy frameworks in Ireland that impact on emissions of the five NEC pollutants • An overview of the current outlook for compliance with NEC targets for each pollutant • Projections of relevant pollutant emissions to 2030 • Policy options, measures and actions across sectors but in particular in the residential, transport agricultural and energy sectors aimed at reducing emissions of the five specified air pollutants 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>National Aviation Policy 2015</p>	<p>Specifically, the principal goals of this National Aviation Policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enhance Ireland's connectivity by ensuring safe, secure and competitive access responsive to the needs of business, tourism and consumers; • To foster the growth of aviation enterprise in Ireland to support job creation and position Ireland as a recognised global leader in aviation; and • To maximise the contribution of the aviation sector to • Ireland's economic growth and development. 	<p>The National Aviation Policy commits to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining safety as the number one priority in Irish aviation and ensuring that safety regulation is robust, effective and efficient; • Creating conditions to encourage the development of new routes and services, particularly to new and emerging markets; • Ensuring a high level of competition among airlines operating in the Irish market; • Optimising the operation of the Irish airport network to ensure maximum connectivity to the rest of the world; • Ensuring that the regulatory framework for aviation reflects best international practice and that economic regulation facilitates continued investment in aviation infrastructure at Irish airports to support traffic growth; • Supporting the aircraft leasing and aviation finance sectors to maintain Ireland's leading global position in these spheres; and • Maintaining a safe and innovative general aviation sector to support Ireland's broader aviation industry 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>National Broadband Plan (2019)</p>	<p>The National Broadband Plan (NBP) is the government's initiative to deliver high speed broadband services to all premises in Ireland. This will be delivered through investment by commercial enterprises coupled with intervention by the State in those parts of the country where private companies have no plans to invest.</p>	<p>The Plan sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High Speed Broadband. • Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered. • The strategy and interventions that will underpin the successful implementation of these targets. • A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>National Demand Management Strategy - Moving Together: A Strategic Approach to Improving the Efficiency of Ireland's Transport System</p>	<p>The Strategy encourages an urban first approach to rolling out measures, where other travel options exist, and aims to improve journey times for car drivers, public transport users, business and freight, leading to improvements in local air quality and reduced stress with associated health benefits for drivers and non-drivers alike.</p>	<p>The Strategy does not contain a prescriptive series of actions. Instead, it provides a firm policy direction and suite of options - such as road space reallocation, progressive taxation, freight efficiency, or behavioural incentives - that can be taken at national, regional and local levels to bring about the systems changed needed.</p> <p>It is also intended that the Strategy will provide guidance needed for local authorities and local council representatives to develop plans for their own areas that suit their own communities' needs best.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030	The NECP outlines Ireland's energy and climate policies in detail for the period from 2021 to 2030 and looks onwards to 2050. The NECP is a consolidated plan which brings together energy and climate planning into a single process for the first time.	The NECP facilitates the ongoing analysis at EU level. It will be revised to bring it in line with the 7% trajectory and to include policies and measures currently being developed to achieve the 7% trajectory.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Energy Security Framework	The Framework outlines the structures which are in place within Government to monitor and manage our energy supplies. It sets out the plans which are in place to deal with energy security emergencies should they arise, and outlines out how these plans will be tested in light of the war in Ukraine. The Framework also sets out how Government can support households and businesses, with a particular focus on protecting those most at risk of fuel poverty, how it is already ensuring Ireland's energy security, how it will speed up the country's shift to increased energy efficiency and indigenous renewable energy systems. It also sets out how consumers and businesses can be supported to save energy and save money.	The Framework sets out the government's action in response to these issues across three key themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> managing the impact on consumers and businesses, with a specific focus on financially vulnerable residential consumers in the short-term ensuring security of energy supply in the near term, with a focus on the period up to and including winter 2022/23 reducing our dependency on imported fossil fuels, in the context of the phasing out of Russian energy imports across the EU 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p>National Forestry Programme 2023 – 2027</p>	<p>The national Forestry Programme 2023-2027 came into force in 2023, as soon as State Aid approval by the European Commission has been received. The new Programme sets out increased support for a number of schemes.</p>	<p>The Forestry Programme 2023-2027 contains a series of eight different interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest creation; • Agroforestry; • Infrastructure and technology investments; • Sustainable forest management; • Developing skills and empowering the forest sector for sustainable forest management; • Open forests - social, cultural and heritage forests; • Climate resilient reforestation; • Reconstruction. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2021 - 2027</p>	<p>This Plan sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous plan and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous plan was published.</p> <p>Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended, sets out the overarching objectives for the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan. In this context, the following objectives are included as priorities for the revised Plan period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To prevent and reduce the generation of hazardous waste by industry and society generally; • To maximise the collection of hazardous waste with a • view to reducing the environmental and health impacts of any unregulated waste; • To strive for increased self-sufficiency in the management of hazardous waste and to minimise hazardous waste export; • To minimise the environmental, health, social and economic impacts of hazardous waste generation and management. 	<p>The revised Plan makes 20 recommendations under the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy and Regulation • Prevention • Collection and Treatment • Implementation 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>National Inspection Plan - Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems 2022 - 2026</p>	<p>The Water Services Act 2007 (as amended) requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to produce a national inspection plan for domestic waste water treatment systems (DWWTSs).</p> <p>The purpose of the plan is to protect human health and water quality from the risks posed by DWWTSs.</p> <p>This document is the fourth plan and covers the period 2022 to 2026.</p>	<p>The plan sets out the background, minimum inspection numbers, risk based allocation of inspections, requirements for enforcement of advisory notices and for engagement to promote broader compliance.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NIFTI is the Department of Transport's framework for prioritising future investment in the land transport network to support the delivery of the National Strategic Outcomes. The NIFTI will guide transport investment in the years ahead to enable the National Planning Framework, support the Climate Action Plan, and promote social, environmental and economic outcomes throughout Ireland. 	<p>The four investment priorities stated in NIFTI are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobility of people and goods in urban areas. Protection and renewal. Enhanced regional and rural connectivity. Decarbonisation. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Landscape Strategy will be used to ensure compliance with the European Landscape Convention and to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change. It will provide a high level policy framework to achieve balance between the protection, management and planning of the landscape by way of supporting actions. Landscape Strategy Vision: "Our landscape reflects and embodies our cultural values and our shared natural heritage and contributes to the well-being of our society, environment and economy. We have an obligation to ourselves and to future generations to promote its sustainable protection, management and planning." 	<p>The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the European Landscape Convention by integrating landscape into the approach to sustainable development; Establish and embed a public process of gathering, sharing and interpreting scientific, technical and cultural information in order to carry out evidence-based identification and description of the character, resources and processes of the landscape; Provide a policy framework, which will put in place measures at national, sectoral - including agriculture, tourism, energy, transport and marine - and local level, together with civil society, to protect, manage and properly plan through high quality design for the sustainable stewardship of the landscape; Ensure that we take advantage of opportunities to implement policies relating to landscape use that are complementary and mutually reinforcing and that conflicting policy objectives are avoided in as far as possible. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>National legislation transposing the Industrial Emissions Directive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992, amended by the Protection of the Environment Act 2003; and • Environmental Protection Agency (Integrated Pollution Control) (Licensing) Regulations 2013. • European Union (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992)(Amendment) Regulations 2020 • Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 2020. • European Union (Industrial Emissions) Regulations 2013 • Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing)Regulations 2013. <p>Environmental Protection Agency (Licensing Fees) Regulations 2013</p>	<p>The purpose of this Directive is to lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection. This legislation transposes the provisions of the Directive.</p>	<p>The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • energy; • metal production and processing; • minerals; • chemicals; • waste management; • and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs. <p>All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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National Marine Planning Framework 2021	The NMPP is a key consideration for decision makers on all marine authorisations. The NMPP creates the overarching framework for decision making that is consistent, evidence based, and secures a sustainable future for the maritime area.	<p>The National Marine Planning Framework is a succinct strategic document that will deal with, inter alia, the following environmental, social and economic issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key marine activities such as fisheries, tourism, transport, offshore renewable energy generation, oil and gas exploration and production, aquaculture, and how they interact; • Climate change and related impacts; • Communities and health; • Cultural heritage; • Marine environment and biodiversity; • Transboundary interactions with other jurisdictions. 	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Mitigation Plan 2017	The National Mitigation Plan represents an initial step in transitioning Ireland to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050. This whole-of-government Plan draws on the perspectives and responsibilities of a range of government departments, and reflects the central roles of key ministers responsible for electricity generation, the built environment, transport and agriculture.	<p>The Plan includes over 100 individual actions for ministers and public bodies to implement and began the process of developing medium to long term mitigation choices for the next and future decades.</p> <p>The Plan is structured across several key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Action Policy Framework • Decarbonising Electricity Generation • Decarbonising the Built Environment • Decarbonising Transport <p>An Approach to Carbon Neutrality for Agriculture, Forest and Land Use Sectors</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this.</p> <p>The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)</p>	<p>This Strategy aims to provide a long-term framework within which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and economic contribution to the well-being of this and future generations.</p>	<p>Objectives of the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To give direction to Ireland's approach to peatland management. To apply to all peatlands, including peat soils. To ensure that the relevant State authorities and state owned companies that influence such decisions contribute to meeting cross-cutting objectives and obligations in their policies and actions. To ensure that Ireland's peatlands are sustainably managed so that their benefits can be enjoyed responsibly. To inform appropriate regulatory systems to facilitate good decision making in support of responsible use. To inform the provision of appropriate incentives, financial supports and disincentives where required. To provide a framework for determining and ensuring the most appropriate future use of cutover and cutaway bogs. <p>To ensure that specific actions necessary for the achievement of its objectives are clearly identified and delivered by those involved in or responsible for peatlands management or for decisions affecting their management.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport represents the first step in communicating our longer term national vision for decarbonising transport by 2050, the cornerstone of which is our ambition that by 2030 all new cars and vans sold in Ireland will be zero-emissions capable. By 2030 it is envisaged that the movement in Ireland to electrically-fuelled cars and commuter rail will be well underway, with natural gas and biofuels developing as major alternatives in the freight and bus sectors. This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non- infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework. 	<p>This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce overall travel demand Maximise the efficiency of the transport network Reduce reliance on fossil fuels Reduce transport emissions Improve accessibility to transport <p>These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework. Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFV forecasts Electricity targets Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets Hydrogen targets Biofuels targets LPG targets Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>National Ports Policy 2013</p>	<p>The core objective of National Ports Policy is to facilitate a competitive and effective market for maritime transport services.</p>	<p>National Ports Policy introduces clear categorisation of the ports sector into Ports of National Significance (Tier 1), Ports of National Significance (Tier 2) and Ports of Regional Significance.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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National Renewable Energy Action Plan	The National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) sets out the Government's strategic approach and concrete measures to deliver on Ireland's targets under the Renewable Energy Directive (as amended)	<p>The Action Plan will address and achieve the following sectoral targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electricity: The government has set a target of 40% electricity consumption from renewable sources by 2020 Transport: The government has set a target of 10% electric vehicles by 2020. Heat: The government has set a target of 12% renewable heat by 2020. <p>The government is additionally looking beyond 2020 in terms of significant opportunities to develop Ireland's abundant offshore renewable energy resources, including offshore wind, wave and tidal energy.</p>	The CDP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Retrofit Plan	The National Retrofit Plan sets out how the Government will deliver on the Climate Action Plan targets of retrofitting the equivalent of 500,000 homes to a BER of B2/cost-optimal and installing 400,000 heat pumps in existing homes to replace older, less efficient heating systems by the end of 2030.	<p>The Plan is designed to address barriers to retrofit across four key pillars: driving demand and activity; financing and funding; supply chain, skills and standards; and governance. For each pillar, barriers were identified and time-bound policies, measures and actions were put in place to address them. The initiatives in the Plan were guided by a number of key principles.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Roads 2040	NR2040 sets out TII's long-term strategy for the maintenance, development, and management of Ireland's National Roads network. NR2040 is fully aligned with NIFTI and Project Ireland 2040 and focuses on strategic issues for National Roads identified by TII.	<p>The following objectives have been defined.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe and efficient transport network for people and goods • Environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable • Tailored for different customers in different places • Managed and improved as a key public asset 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
National Rural Development Programme	The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas	<p>At a more detailed level, the programme also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation; • Aims to improve the environment, biodiversity and the amenity value of the countryside by support for land management through funds such as Natura 2000 payments etc.; and • Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as non-agricultural activities 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development 2030	Article 34 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Common Fisheries Policy ('the CFP'), on the promotion of sustainable aquaculture, calls for the establishment of multiannual national strategic aquaculture plans. The NSPSA 2030 is the second such plan under the current CFP.	<p>This Plan proposes 58 actions to be implemented over the period up to 2030. The purpose is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To align and mainstream the recently updated but non-binding guidance for the sustainable development of EU aquaculture (2021 – 2030) with national aquaculture sector planning. To help inform the investment priorities for aquaculture in Ireland's new Seafood Development Programme 2021-2027 (EMIFAF). To provide a framework so that strategic planning for the aquaculture sector in Ireland responds to the latest thinking in terms of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for Irish aquaculture in order to promote the development of a sustainable and forward-looking sector. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Sustainable Mobility Policy and the Sustainable Mobility Policy Action Plan 2022 - 2025	The National Sustainable Mobility Policy sets out a strategic framework to 2030 for active travel (walking and cycling) and public transport journeys to help Ireland meet its climate obligations. It is accompanied by an action plan to 2025 which contains actions to improve and expand sustainable mobility options across the country by providing safe, green, accessible and efficient alternatives to car journeys. It also includes demand management and behavioural change measures to manage daily travel demand more efficiently and to reduce the journeys taken by private car.	<p>The policy aims to deliver at least 500,000 additional daily active travel and public transport journeys by 2030 and a 10% reduction in the number of kilometres driven by fossil fuelled cars. It will make it easier for people to choose walking, cycling and use public transport daily instead of having to use a petrol or diesel car.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p>National Transport Authority's Integrated Implementation Plan 2019-2024</p>	<p>Section 13(1) of the Dublin Transport Authority Act 2008 (the DTA Act) requires the NTA to prepare an integrated implementation plan covering a six year period.</p>	<p>In accordance with the DTA Act, the Plan comprises the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An infrastructure investment programme, identifying the key objectives and outputs to be pursued by the Authority over the period of the Plan; • The actions to be taken by the Authority to ensure the effective integration of public transport infrastructure over the period of the Plan; • An integrated service plan, identifying the key objectives and outputs to be pursued by the Authority in relation to the procurement of public passenger transport services over the period of the Plan; • The actions to be taken by the Authority in relation to small public service vehicles; • The actions to be taken by the Authority to ensure the effective integration of public passenger transport services over the period of the Plan; and • Such other matters as the Authority considers appropriate or as may be prescribed by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030</p>	<p>The National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030 has been published and replaces the Regional Waste Management Plans.</p> <p>The Plan sets out a framework for the prevention and management of waste in Ireland for the period 2024 to 2030.</p>	<p>The ambition of this Plan is 0% total waste growth per person over the life of the Plan with an emphasis on non-household wastes including waste from commercial activities and the construction and demolition sector. This ambition is underpinned with a comprehensive series of targets, policies, actions and a suite of key deliverables.</p> <p>The Plan is presented in 5 Volumes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VOLUME I Sets out the current situation including policy, the existing waste landscape and financial, human and market resources deployed. It also identifies the key waste management challenges facing the State. • VOLUME II Sets out the responses to the waste management challenges identified including the Plan ambition, targets, policies and priority actions. Targeted policies and priority actions are identified for a range of focus areas chosen to align with the challenges. • VOLUME III Sets out the delivery roadmap for the responses contained in Volume II and contains key deliverables required to enable the ambition, targets, policies, and actions identified. • VOLUME IV Provides the supporting information for the Plan in a series of technical appendices. • VOLUME V Contains the Strategic Environmental Assessment Statement and Natura Impact Statement. <p>Key challenges identified in the Plan include resources, organisational capability, policy requirements, specific material stream targets, the provision of infrastructure and waste generation.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy Ireland's National Waste Policy 2020-2025</p>	<p>The Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy is an action-focused plan that will place Ireland at the vanguard of EU efforts. It will act as a roadmap for Ireland to embrace the opportunities in becoming a circular economy in the upcoming decade.</p>	<p>The overarching objectives of this action plan are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shift the focus away from waste disposal and treatment to ensure that materials and products remain in productive use for longer thereby preventing waste and supporting reuse through a policy framework that discourages the wasting of resources and rewards circularity Make producers who manufacture and sell disposable goods for profit environmentally accountable for the products they place on the market; Ensure that measures support sustainable economic models (for example by supporting the use of recycled over virgin materials); Harness the reach and influence of all sectors including the voluntary sector, R&D, producers / manufacturers, regulatory bodies, civic society; and <p>Support clear and robust institutional arrangements for the waste sector, including through a strengthened role for Local Authorities (LAs).</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>National Water Resources Plan (2021)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NWRP is a plan on how to provide a safe, secure and reliable water supply to customers for the next 25 years, without causing adverse impact on the environment. The objective of the NWRP is to set out how we intend to maintain the supply and demand for drinking water over the short, medium and long term whilst minimising the impact on the environment. 	<p>The key objectives of the plan are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account normal and extreme weather conditions Assess the current and future water demand from homes, businesses, farms, and industry Consider the impacts of climate change on Ireland's water resources Develop a drought plan advising measures to be taken before and during drought events Develop a plan detailing how we deal with the material that is produced as a result of treating drinking water Identify, develop and assess options to help meet potential shortfalls in water supplies Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>Our Rural Future: Rural Development Policy 2021-2025</p>	<p>The policy provides a framework for the development of rural Ireland over the next five years.</p>	<p>The policy focuses on the following thematic objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimising the opportunities for rural communities from high speed broadband. • Supporting improved quality employment and career opportunities in rural areas. • Assisting the regeneration, repopulation and development of rural towns and villages. • Enhancing the participation, leadership and resilience of rural communities. • Enhancing public services in rural areas • Supporting a Just Transition to a climate neutral economy. • Supporting the sustainability of Agriculture, the Marine and Forestry. • Supporting the sustainability of our island and coastal communities. • Nurturing our culture and heritage 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012</p>	<p>A medium to long term framework for advancing sustainable development and the green economy in Ireland. It identifies spatial planning as a key challenge for sustainable development and sets a series of measures to address these challenges.</p>	<p>Sets out the challenges facing us and how we might address them in making sure that quality of life and general wellbeing can be improved and sustained in the decades to come.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)</p>	<p>The core principal objectives of this Act are to amend the Planning Acts of 2000 – 2022 with specific regard given to supporting economic renewal and sustainable development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development, with certain exceptions, is subject to development control under the Planning Acts and the local authorities grant or refuse planning permission for development, including ones within protected areas. • There are, however, a range of exemptions from the planning system. Use of land for agriculture, peat extraction and afforestation, subject to certain thresholds, is generally exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission. • Additionally, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for a range of classes and large scale projects. • Under planning legislation, Development Plans must include mandatory objectives for the conservation of the natural heritage and for the conservation of European sites and any other sites which may be prescribed. There are also discretionary powers to set objectives for the conservation of a variety of other elements of the natural heritage. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Planning and Development Act 2024</p>	<p>This new Act consolidates and revises the law relating to planning and development; to provide for proper planning and sustainable development in the interests of the common good; to provide for the licensing of events and control of funfairs; for those purposes to repeal and replace the Planning and Development Act 2000; to amend certain other enactments; and to provide for matters connected therewith.</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040 (PLUTO)	PLUTO's objective is to develop a transport investment framework which delivers a land transport network that meets the travel needs of the population in the coming decades and which supports the National Strategic Outcomes of Project Ireland 2040.	<p>The PLUTO will take account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies and will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term; Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and, Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Areas 2017 - 2022	Aims to meet nature conservation obligations while having regard to national and local economic, social and cultural needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the implications of management choices for water levels, quantity and quality are fully explored, understood and factored into policy making and land use planning. Review the current raised bog NHA network in terms of its contribution to the national conservation objective for raised bog habitats and determine the most suitable sites to replace the losses of active raised bog habitat and high bog areas within the SAC network and to enhance the national network of NHAs. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Renewable Electricity Spatial Policy Framework (RESPF)	<p>Under Action EL/23/2 of CAP23, the Renewable Electricity Spatial Policy Framework (RESPF) is currently being prepared. In effect, this will be the national policy for onshore renewable electricity and will inform and reshape the development and distribution of onshore renewables in order to enable the delivery of Ireland's renewable electricity targets, as set out in CAP23.</p> <p>The RESPF will promote a plan-led and evidence-based approach to the allocation of renewable electricity spatial and generation targets across the three Regional Assemblies, to facilitate the achievement of the national target of 80% RES-E by 2030.</p>	<p>The objective of this spatial policy framework is to effectively translate renewable electricity objectives, as those outlined in Climate Action Plan 2023, to the regional level and allocate regional spatial and renewable generation capacity targets.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Renewable Energy Ireland Strategy (2023)	<p>The vision of the Strategy is to ensure by 2050 that Ireland will be energy independent through using indigenous, clean, carbon-free renewable energy supported by, and supporting, communities across the country.</p>	<p>Priority actions for the Strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the Planning and Development Acts to instruct An Bord Pleanála to prioritise planning applications for renewable energy and associated grid infrastructure. • Delivery of grid is a necessary foundation for decarbonisation of the economy. Market designs must include system services, flexibility, and capacity markets and fully exploit demand side resources. • Simplify administrative & regulatory requirements for renewable heat, energy efficiency, flexible demand, and storage technologies • Encourage EVs, enhanced public mobility and cycling infrastructure while harnessing Ireland's strengths for the appropriate use of sustainable biofuels and green hydrogen. <p>Bring together industry, Government and other key stakeholders to identify ways to cut the price of renewable energy in Ireland so that we can deliver clean energy at the lowest possible price for Irish consumers.</p>	<p>The CDP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

National Level			
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<p>River Basin Management Plan</p> <p>Draft Third Cycle Draft River Basin Management Plan 2022-2027</p>	<p>River Basin Management Plans set out the measures planned to maintain and improve the status of waters.</p> <p>The aim of the River Basin Management Plan is to ensure that our natural waters are sustainably managed, that freshwater resources are protected so that there is no further deterioration; and where required, Ireland's rivers, lakes and coastal water bodies are restored to good ecological status.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim to protect and enhance all water bodies in the RBD and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Water Framework Directive. • Identify and manages water bodies in the RBD. • Establish a programme of measures for monitoring and improving water quality in the RBD. • Involve the public through consultations. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS)</p> <p>Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS)</p> <p>Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection. • GLAS is the new replacement for REPS and AEOS which are both expiring. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation. • Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats. • Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment. • Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans. • Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p>S.I. 79 of 2008 - Bathing Water Quality Regulations 2008, as amended (latest S.I. No. 163/2016)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These Regulations provide for transposition of the EU Bathing Water Directive 2006 (Directive 2006/7/EC of 15 February 2006) which aims: • To improve health protection for bathers • To establish a more pro-active approach to management of bathing waters, and • To promote increased public involvement and dissemination of information to the public. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Regulations establish a new classification system for bathing water quality based on four classifications “poor”, “sufficient”, “good” and “excellent” and generally require that a classification of at least “sufficient” be achieved by 2015 for all bathing waters. • Local authorities must take appropriate measures with a view to improving waters which are classified as “poor” and increasing the number of bathing waters classified as “good” or “excellent”. • A permanent advice against bathing must be issued in a case where a bathing water is classified as “poor” for five consecutive years. • Local authorities are required annually to identify bathing waters, establish a monitoring calendar, carry out the specified monitoring, report the results to the EPA, carry out appropriate management measures where necessary and provide information to the public. • There must be public participation in the identification of waters and the general implementation of the Regulations. • The EPA is required by the Regulations to classify bathing waters, generally on the basis of the monitoring results for the four preceding bathing seasons, and to publish an annual report in relation to bathing water quality. • Monitoring by local authorities is to commence not later than 2011 with a view to ensuring that a classification is assigned to bathing waters not later than 2015. • Private controllers of access lands may be required to contribute towards the costs incurred by a local authority or the EPA. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>S.I. No. 113/2022 - European Union (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2022, as amended</p>	<p>The purpose of the Regulations is to provide a basic set of measures to ensure the protection of waters, including drinking water sources, against pollution caused by nitrogen and phosphorus from agricultural sources, with the primary emphasis on the management of livestock manures and other fertilisers. The set of measures also provide some basic safeguards against possible harmful impacts on water quality arising from agricultural expansion. This basic set of measures has been strengthened over the last two reviews and this new programme provides a further strengthened set of measures to help reduce nitrogen and phosphorus losses from agriculture and contribute to improvements in water quality.</p>	<p>The Regulations include measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periods when land application of fertilisers is prohibited • Limits on the land application of fertilisers • Storage requirements for livestock manure; and • Monitoring of the effectiveness of the measures in terms of agricultural practice and impact on water quality. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>S.I. No. 254/2001 - Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations, 2001, as amended (latest S.I. No. 48/2010)</p>	<p>These regulations concern the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors.</p>	<p>The objective of these regulations is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of the abovementioned waste water discharges.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>S.I. No. 296/2009 - European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009, as amended (latest S.I 355/2018)</p>	<p>The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels</p>	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set environmental quality objectives for the habitats of the freshwater pearl mussel populations named in the First Schedule to these Regulations that are within the boundaries of a site notified in a candidate list of European sites, or designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 94/1997). • Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of measures to achieve these objectives. • Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>S.I. No. 9/2010 - European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010, as amended (latest S.I. No. 287/2022)</p>	<p>These Regulations are made to give effect to the measures needed to achieve the environmental objectives established for groundwater by Article 4(1)(b) of the Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC) and to give effect to the requirements of the Groundwater Directive (Directive 2006/118/EC) on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration.</p>	<p>The Regulations establish clear environmental objectives to be achieved in groundwater bodies within specified timeframes and introduce the legal basis for a more flexible, proportionate and risk-based approach to implementing the legal obligation to prevent or limit inputs of pollutants into groundwater, which already exists under Directive 80/68/EEC. Measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • measures to prevent or limit the input of pollutants into groundwater and to prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater • measures to protect, enhance and restore all bodies of groundwater and to ensure a balance between abstraction and recharge of groundwater, with the aim of achieving good groundwater within a particular timeframe • measures requiring the reversal of any significant and sustained upward trend in the concentration of any pollutant resulting from the impact of human activity in order to progressively reduce pollution of groundwater • measures for determining groundwater quantitative and chemical status • measures establishing procedures for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and the definition of the starting point for trend reversal • the laying down of rules for the presentation and reporting of groundwater monitoring results, trend assessments and the classification of quantitative status and chemical status of groundwater bodies 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The objective of this Strategy is to assist in the strategic development of nationally and regionally significant Greenways in appropriate locations constructed to an appropriate standard in order to deliver a quality experience for all Greenways users. It also aims to increase the number and geographical spread of Greenways of scale and quality around the country over the next 10 years with a consequent significant increase in the number of people using Greenways as a visitor experience and as a recreational amenity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Strategic Greenway network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and/or link with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure; Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in activity tourism to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors, domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity; Greenways that provide a substantially segregated offroad experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
The Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (CAFE) Directive (2008/50/EC) as transposed into Irish legislation by the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 180 of 2011 as amended)	<p>The Directive sets air quality standards for European Union member states.</p>	<p>Limit values for air quality parameters are set in this Directive.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>The CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027</p>	<p>Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan provides a framework for the application of the Common Agricultural Policy in Ireland. It aims to promote the agricultural sector and the provision of safe and sustainable food in the county.</p> <p>Ireland as an EU member state is responsible for the running of our own CAP Strategic Plan, in close co-operation with the European Commission, and the EU Court of Auditors as the guardian of EU finances.</p> <p>he CAP is divided into two pillars. Pillar 1 covers direct support and market supports, and rural development is in Pillar 2.</p>	<p>The Irish CAP Strategic Plan aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protect farm family incomes 2. Recognise the hard work of our farm families as food producers regardless of where they are in the country 3. Play a meaningful role in supporting our climate ambitions. <p>It provides for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pillar 1 agri-environment schemes, including direct support consisting of payments granted directly to farmers and provides baseline income support and operates as a safety net in cases of market disturbances, and market measures to manage and control the agricultural economy. • Pillar 2 direct payments supporting rural development. <p>Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan has a strong emphasis on achievement of a higher level of climate and environment ambition that will be achieved through the CAP's new green architecture.</p> <p>It contains measures that will help to achieve significant improvements in the areas of biodiversity and water quality, as well as contributing to national and EU climate and environmental targets, including through increased sequestration and carbon removal.</p> <p>There are three key areas in the new green architecture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conditionality 2. Pillar 1 Eco-schemes 3. Pillar 2 climate and environment-related interventions 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>The Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets out comprehensive mechanisms for the incorporation of flood risk identification, assessment and management into the planning process. • Ensures flood risk is a key consideration in preparing land use plans and in the assessment of planning applications. • Implementation of the Guidelines is through actions at national, regional, local authority and site-specific levels. • Planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are required to have regard to the Guidelines in carrying out their functions under the Planning Acts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding. • Avoid new developments increasing flood risk elsewhere, including that which may arise from surface water run-off. • Ensure effective management of residual risks for development permitted in floodplains. • Avoid unnecessary restriction of national, regional or local economic and social growth. • Improve the understanding of flood risk among relevant stakeholders. • Ensure that the requirements of EU and national law in relation to the natural environment and nature conservation are complied with at all stages of flood risk management. <p>The 2009 Flood Risk Management Guidelines were amended by Circular PL 2/2014 (Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government) that provides advice on the use of OPW flood mapping in assessing planning applications and clarifies some advice from the 2009 Guidelines.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025</p>	<p>The main goal of this policy statement is to have a vibrant, attractive tourism sector that makes a significant contribution to employment across the country; is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable; helps promote a positive image of Ireland overseas, and is a sector in which people want to work.</p>	<p>The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overseas tourism revenue of €5 billion per year net of inflation excluding carrier receipts; • 250,000 people employed in tourism; and • 10 million overseas visitors to Ireland per year. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>Uisce Éireann Water Services Strategic Plan 2015, Water Services Strategic Plan 2050, and associated Proposed Capital Investment Plan (2020 - 2024)</p>	<p>The Water Services Strategic Plan (WSSP) presents Uisce Éireann's objectives for the next 25 years and the means by which we will achieve them. It aligns to requirements set out in the Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013. The first Water Services Strategic Plan was published in 2015 and are the draft Water Services Strategic Plan 2050 (WSSP 2050) is in the process of consultation which will replace the current plan.</p>	<p>The new Water Services Strategic Plan 2050 will be an important strategic document that will focus on the provision of safe drinking water and ensure that the environment is protected from the impacts of wastewater discharges.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Waste Management Act 1996, as amended</p>	<p>To make provision in relation to the prevention, management and control of waste; to give effect to provisions of certain acts adopted by institutions of the European communities in respect of those matters; to amend the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992, and to repeal certain enactments and to provide for related matters.</p>	<p>The Waste Management Act contains a number of key legal obligations, including requirements for waste management planning, waste collection and movement, the authorisation of waste facilities, measures to reduce the production of waste and/or promote its recovery.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Water Action Plan 2024 - A River Basin Management Plan for Ireland	<p>The Water Action Plan 2024 is Ireland's third River Basin Management Plan and it outlines the measures the Government and other sectors are taking to improve water quality in Ireland's groundwater, rivers, lakes, estuarine and coastal waters, and provide sustainable management of our water resources (as specified under SDG 6).</p> <p>This Water Action Plan enhances and builds upon the work of the first and second cycle plans. Where necessary, this plan addresses the shortcomings experienced during the implementation of previous plans.</p>	<p>The objectives of the Water Framework Directive are</p> <p>(i) to prevent the deterioration of water bodies and to protect, enhance and restore them with the aim of achieving at least good status and</p> <p>(ii) to achieve compliance with the water standards and objectives for designated protected areas.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Water Pollution Acts 1977 to 1990	<p>The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division.</p>	<p>The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosecute for water pollution offences. • Attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters. • Issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution. • Issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remedying of any effects of the pollution in the manner and within the period specified in such notices; • Seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects. • Prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>Water Services Act 2007, and amendments in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides the water services infrastructure. Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services. Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and wastewater supply. Irish Water was given the responsibility of the provision of water and wastewater services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland. 	<p>Key strategic objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring Irish Water delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector. Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services. Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary wastewater treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive. Promoting water conservation through Irish Water's Capital Investment Plan, the Rural Water Programme and other measures. Monitoring the on-going implementation of septic tanks inspection regime and the National Inspection Plan for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems. Ensuring a fair funding model to deliver water services. Overseeing the establishment of an economic regulation function under the CER. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Wildlife Act of 1976</p> <p>Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000</p> <p>Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2023</p>	<p>The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems Give statutory protection to NHAS Enhances wildlife species and their habitats Includes more species for protection 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p>Development Plans, Local Area Plans and other land use plans in adjacent counties in Ireland – Dublin City, South Dublin and Wicklow.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline planning objectives for land use development (including transport objectives). • Strategic frameworks for planning, and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies. • Sets out the policies and proposals to guide development in the bordering and connected Local Authority areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify future infrastructure, development and zoning required. • Protect and enhance amenities and environment. • Guides neighbouring planning authority in assessing proposals. • Aim to guide development in neighbouring areas • Aim to promote sustainable development in neighbouring and connected areas. • Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>DLR Invasive Alien Species (IAS) Action Plan</p>	<p>The overall aim of the DLR IAS Action Plan is to provide a roadmap for IAS to be eradicated from Dún Laoghaire Rathdown when possible, controlled when eradication is not possible, for new introductions to be prevented, and for damaged habitats to be restored.</p>	<p>Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council recognise that the significant threats posed by IAS require a structured and coordinated approach to minimise their impact and to prevent further introductions and spread. This requires a comprehensive countywide strategy and establishing links with other counties and agencies.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Dublin Agglomeration Noise Action Plan 2024-2028	The Noise Action Plan is required under the Environmental Noise Directive ("END") (2002/49/EC) which was transported into Irish law through the European Communities (Environmental Noise) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 549/2018) and the European Communities (Environmental Noise) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 663/2021). The regulations require Strategic Noise Maps and Noise Action Plans to be made or revised every five years.	The Environmental Noise Directive (END) requires local authorities to draw-up plans of action which will include measures to "address priorities which may be identified by the exceeding of any relevant limit value or by other criteria chosen by the Member State and apply in particular to the most important areas as established by strategic noise mapping." It also requires plans to identify and protect "quiet areas against an increase in noise."	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Dublin Regional Tourism Development Strategy 2023–2027	The plan sets out a strategic approach to unlocking the commercial potential of Dublin. It will ensure focus on tourism development is sustainable and regenerative and that the benefits accrue to local communities and to nature.	<p>Focuses on the following 4 strategic objectives:</p> <p>Strategic Objective 1: Increase destination resilience by optimising visitor mix and maximizing revenue by increasing dwell time and range of activities engaged in.</p> <p>Strategic Objective 2: Re-ignite business tourism, positioning Dublin as a leader internationally, with a focus on sustainability.</p> <p>Strategic Objective 3: Develop differentiating experiences, providing domestic and international tourists with reasons to visit and to stay longer.</p> <p>Strategic Objective 4: Build a committed stakeholder and industry partnership to develop Destination Dublin, encompassing the whole region and leveraging citizen-centric and visitor-centric initiatives for mutual benefit, while reducing the industry's carbon footprint and ensuring net contribution to the protection of our cultural and natural heritage.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Dublin to Galway Greenway Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a segregated cycling and walking trail to international standards, extending from Dublin City to Galway which is of a scale that will allow Ireland to harness the potential of an identified growing tourism market for cycling. This route forms part of an interconnected National Cycle Network of high quality, traffic free, inter urban routes, which will establish Ireland as a quality international tourism destination for a broad range of associated recreational activities and pursuits. 	To provide a segregated, substantially off road cycle route from Dublin City to Clifden via Galway City, maximising the use of – where feasible – existing and approved routes and disused railway line corridors and to also use existing plans and/or permitted projects where these have been subject to a consent process that has previously included the carrying out or screening for SEA, EIA and AA.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Biodiversity Action Plan 2021 -2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required by the National Biodiversity Action Plan. Purpose is to ensure the protection and appreciation of biodiversity at the county (local) level. This is the second Plan for the County, builds on the aims of the first Plan. 	The plan is focused around 5 themes and 5 objectives, with a total of 65 actions across all themes.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional / County / Local Level		
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.
<p>Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029</p>	<p>Ireland's Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act (2021) required each local authority to prepare a Local Authority Climate Action Plan to meet national climate targets and develop resilience to the impacts of climate change. The plans are consistent with the most recently approved National Climate Action Plan and National Adaptation Framework.</p> <p>Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council has prepared their Climate Action Plan for the period 2024 to 2029 to create a low carbon and climate resilient county, by delivering and promoting best practice in climate action in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.</p>	<p>The plan demonstrates the ambition, focus and commitment of each local authority to reduce carbon emissions and improve the quality of life for people living, working and studying in each county.</p> <p>The plan is built on a strong evidence base. To help inform the plans, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council developed a Climate Change Risk Assessment which sets out the likely risks in terms of climate change, such as increased rainfall or flooding. They also did a Baseline Emissions Inventory which calculates the emissions within the local authority area and sets out emission by sector such as transport, the built environment and agriculture.</p> <p>As part of its local authority climate action plan, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council is responsible for establishing a decarbonising zone within their local authority area. Decarbonising zones (DZs) are intended to be the focus for a range of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity measures and will help local authorities to identify projects which will contribute to the delivery of the national climate objective. Dún Laoghaire and Blackrock have been designated as the decarbonizing zone.</p>
		<p>Relevance to the Plan</p> <p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Regional / County / Local Level		
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024	<p>Sets out a vision for the County: 'Creating a progressive and vibrant County that is attractive, inclusive and accessible for everyone.'</p>	<p>Adopts eight specific Corporate Goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Showing leadership in protecting the environment through education and in how we work. 2. Facilitate the development of a variety of housing options enabling improved choice, that drives quality of life for all. 3. Enhance people's lives through access to sustainable travel choices across our network of communities. 4. Provide quality community, recreational, sporting and cultural opportunities for all who live, work and visit the County. 5. Enhance the vitality of our town and villages while preserving our natural and built heritage. 6. Engage with businesses to support their presence and growth in the County. 7. Promote equality and human rights by implementing the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty. 8. Optimise human, financial and physical resources to deliver accessible customer focused quality services.
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022-2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets out the policies and objectives for the development of the County over the Plan period. • The Vision for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is to embrace inclusiveness, champion quality of life through healthy placemaking, grow and attract a diverse innovative economy and deliver this in a manner that enhances our environment for future generations. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
		<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Heritage Plan 2021-2025	This is the third Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Heritage Plan and builds on the work of the previous 2004-2008 and 2013-2019 plans. It sets out a framework for heritage activity across the community, volunteer and NGO sectors and for state agencies with a role in DLR heritage.	The Plan consists of 7 Areas of Focus with Actions defined for each Area.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Landscape Character Assessment	Characterises the geographical dimension of the landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area. Guides strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional / County / Local Level		
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023-2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out the objectives and actions needed to promote the community and economic development of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown's neighbourhoods and communities. 	<p>Not applicable.</p> <p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Regional / County / Local Level		
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.
<p>Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Tourism Strategy 2024-2028</p>	<p>Ambition is to develop an attractive and accessible tourist destination where visitors are given the opportunity to seamlessly explore the County's rich history and immerse themselves in the local culture.</p>	<p>Highlights of the strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the development of Dún Laoghaire Harbour Masterplan & develop water-based recreational infrastructure such as floating swimming area, • Identify and encourage good practice among tourism related businesses that will enable them to become more universally accessible, • Acquire and restore historic ships/boats to use as heritage assets and permanent visitor attractions, • Coast and beaches visitor experience and services plan, • Identify opportunity for a permanent, stand-out visitor attraction in a coastal location, • New water-sports facilities at Killiney Beach, • Support Fáilte Ireland in the development and implementation of a Dublin Mountains Destination Experience Development Plan (DEDP), • Enhance Mountain bike trail (MTB) infrastructure and development of facilities at strategic hubs (such as new mountain biking centres at Ticknock, Glencullen GAP, and Ballinastoe), • Work collaboratively to create an Open-Air Archaeology and/or Coastal Heritage Museum, • Feasibility study for a cable-car development in the Dublin Mountains, • Consider short-hop, sustainable-visitor-experience service to connect key visitor locations, • Further enhance the Coastal Mobility Route through improved supporting infrastructure (such as expansion of bikeshare services along the route), • Investigate opportunities to maximise economic opportunity from motorhome visitors and 'glamping' in the County, • Develop a 'night-time economy plan', • Identify key opportunity sites for a new conference and multi-functional events centre.
		<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
		<p>Relevance to the Plan</p>

Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p>Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub-Basin Management Plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies the current status of the species and the reason for loss or decline. Identifies measure required to improve or restore current status. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies pressures on Freshwater Pearl Mussels for each of the designated populations in Ireland. Outlines restoration measures required to ensure favourable conservation status. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Regional / County / Local Level		
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.
<p>Greater Dublin Area (GDA) Transport Strategy (2022-2042)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It sets out how transport will be developed across the region, covering Dublin, Meath, Wicklow and Kildare, over the period of the strategy and has been approved by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport in accordance with the relevant legislation. 	<p>They set out a number of core principles deriving from the strategic vision, which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dublin as the capital city of Ireland and a major European centre shall grow and progress, competing with other cities in the EU, and serving a wide range of international, national, regional and local needs. The Dublin and Mid-East Regions will be attractive, vibrant locations for industry, commerce, recreation and tourism and will be a major focus for economic growth within the Country. The GDA, through its ports and airport connections will continue to be the most important entry/exit point for the country as a whole, and as a Gateway between the European Union and the rest of the World. Access to and through the GDA will continue to be a matter of national importance. Development in the GDA shall be directly related to investment in integrated high quality public transport services and focused on compact urban form. Development within the existing urban footprint of the Metropolitan Area will be consolidated to achieve a more compact urban form Development in the Hinterland Area will be focused on the high quality integrated growth and consolidation of development in key identified towns, separated from each other by extensive areas of strategic green belt land devoted to agriculture and similar uses.
		<p>Relevance to the Plan</p> <p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Regional / County / Local Level		
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.
Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out a ten year cycling strategy for Counties Dublin, Kildare, Meath and Wicklow Plan to increase regions cycle network dramatically The Plan refers to the EuroVelo International Cycle Route Network of the European Cyclists Federation is a network of 15 long distance cycle routes connecting and uniting the whole European continent. Two of these routes are in Ireland including EV2 from Galway through Dublin to London, Berlin, Warsaw and Moscow. 	<p>Aims to identify and determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Urban Cycle Network at the Primary, Secondary and Feeder level The Inter-Urban Cycle Network linking the relevant sections of the Urban Network including the elements of the National Cycle Network within the Greater Dublin Area including linkages to key transport locations outside of urban areas such as airports and ports <p>The Green Route Network being cycle routes for development of tourist, recreational and leisure purposes.</p>
Groundwater Protection Schemes	<p>A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> <p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Regional / County / Local Level		
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.
<p>Local Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produced by Local Authorities. Outlines areas local flood risk. Sets out measures to manage and prevent flood risk at a local level. 	<p>Not applicable.</p>
<p>Local Transport Plans and Strategies</p>	<p>Local Transport Plans and Strategies relevant to a particular local authority functional area provide a more granular framework for the delivery of sustainable transport systems in accordance with higher-level plans.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote sustainable transport. To promote integrated and proper transport planning. To promote safe travel. To promote active travel infrastructural development. To encourage modal shift.
		<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p> <p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p>NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs</p>	<p>Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest To describe the site and its management To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation objectives for SACs and SPAs (i.e. sites within the Natura 2000 network) have to be set for the habitats and species for which the sites are selected. These objectives are used when carrying out appropriate assessments for plans and projects that might impact on these sites. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Port Masterplans (such as the Dublin Port Masterplan 2040)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Masterplan sets out a vision for the operations of the port and land utilisation. The Masterplan is a non-statutory plan which has nonetheless been framed within the context of EU, national, regional and local development plan policies. 	<p>Not applicable.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies	The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies provide a long-term regional level strategic planning and economic framework in support of the implementation of the National Planning Framework.	<p>The Eastern and Midland Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its 12 constituent local authorities: Fingal County Council; Dublin City Council; South Dublin County Council; Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council; Louth County Council; Kildare County Council; Meath County Council; Wicklow County Council; Longford County Council; Laois County Council; Offaly County Council; and Westmeath County Council.</p> <p>The Southern Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its nine constituent local authorities: Waterford City and County Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Tipperary County Council, Wexford County Council, Kerry County Council, Clare County Council, Limerick City and County Council, Kilkenny County Council and Carlow County Council.</p> <p>The Northern and Western Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy includes provisions for its eight constituent local authorities: Donegal County Council, Leitrim County Council, Sligo County Council, Cavan County Council, Monaghan County Council, Mayo County Council, Roscommon County Council, and Galway County Council.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Shellfish Pollution Reduction Programmes	Aims to improve water quality and ensure the protection or improvement of designated shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth and contribute to the high quality of shellfish products directly edible by man.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies key and secondary pressures on water quality in designated shellfish areas. Outlines specific measures to address identified key and secondary pressures on water quality. Addresses the specific pressures acting on water quality in each area. 	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

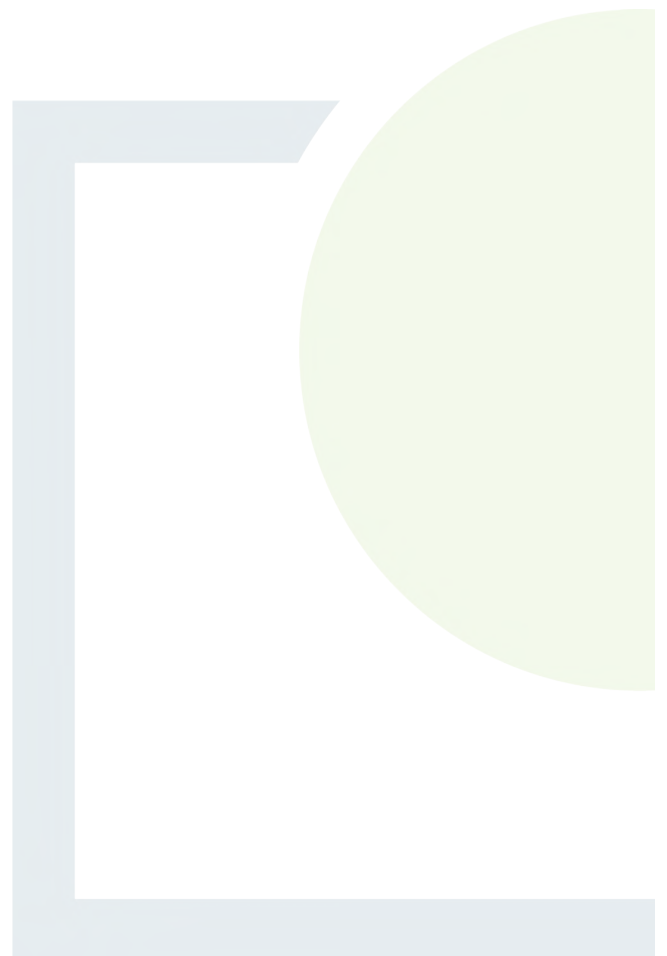
Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p>Water Quality Management Plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the quality of waters covered by the plan is maintained. • Maintain and improve the quantity and quality of water included in the Plan scope. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of water bodies against quality standards. • Outlines management programmes for water catchments. • Purpose is to maintain and improve the quantity and quality of groundwater. 	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>



DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

APPENDIX 4

Background Information to
European Sites



Appendix 3 - Table 1 Quality and site characteristics of European sites considered in Natura Impact Report

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000713	Ballyman Glen SAC	A small but extremely species-rich site with a high diversity of habitats in a predominantly agricultural area. The site is notable for the presence of many petrifying springs for alkaline fen and for wet woodland.	A small glen cut through calcareous sands and gravels with a tributary stream of the Dargle river flowing west to east through it. The site supports a strip of wet woodland a small area of alkaline fen fed by petrifying springs and grades to scrub and dry calcareous grassland on the upper edges of the valley sides.
000725	Knocksink Wood SAC	A relatively small but diverse wooded valley notable for the occurrence of good examples of tufa-forming springs and associated alluvial forest. The site is also important for a number of rare plants including <i>Erigeron acer</i> , <i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i> and <i>Wahlenbergia hederacea</i> and a particularly diverse woodland invertebrate fauna. Its proximity to Dublin adds to its value as an educational and amenity resource.	A wooded valley cut through calcareous glacial drift with the fast-flowing Glencullen river flowing west to east through it. Vegetation types include broadleaf deciduous woods including wet woodland near the river head and a number of tufa-forming springs and seepage areas.
003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	The area selected for designation represents a key habitat for the Annex II species - harbour porpoise within the Irish Sea. Population survey data show that porpoise occurrence within the site boundary meets suitable reference values for other designated sites in Ireland. The species occurs year-round within the site and comparatively high group sizes have been recorded. Porpoises with young (i.e., calves) are observed at favourable typical reference values for the species. Casual and effort-related sighting rates from coastal observation stations are significant for the east coast of Ireland and the latter appear to be relatively stable across all seasons. The selected site contains a wide array of habitats believed to be important for harbour porpoise including inshore shallow sand and mud-banks and rocky reefs scoured by strong current flow.	The selected site forms a strip of dynamic inshore and coastal waters in the western Irish Sea extending approximately 40 km in length and encompassing a range of comparatively shallow marine habitats including diverse seabed structures reefs islets and islands. It borders existing designated sites for Annexed species and habitats and is adjacent to a wide array of coastal features e.g., mudflats lagoons estuaries coastal cliffs sea caves several of which are also designated. Extending east from Dublin Bay towards the offshore Kish Bank the site contains the entire Burford Bank a sedimentary seabed structure (i.e., fine sand) at the mouth of Dublin Bay that on its north side is flanked by gravel and coarse sand deposits. The site also contains the northern segment of the Frazer Bank (i.e., fine sand) off Dalkey Island and Killiney Bay.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	<p>The site also contains two Annex II seal species – Harbour seal (<i>Phoca vitulina vitulina</i>) Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>) for which terrestrial haul-out sites occur in immediate proximity to the site. Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) has also occasionally been recorded in the area. Along the eastern seaboard the habitat type Reef is uncommon due to prevailing geology and hydrographical conditions. Expansive surveys of the Irish coast have indicated that the greatest resource of this habitat within the Irish Sea is found fringing offshore islands which are concentrated along the Dublin coast. A detailed survey of selected suitable islands has shown areas with typical biodiversity for this habitat both intertidally and subtidally. These Reefs are subject to strong tidal currents with an abundant supply of suspended matter resulting in good representation of filter feeding fauna such as sponges anemones and echinoderms.</p> <p>The site supports good examples of both upland and woodland bird communities. It has breeding Falco columbarius and Falco peregrinus as well as Turdus torquatus and Lagopus lagopus both of the latter being Red-listed in Ireland. It is the only site in Ireland where Mergus merganser breeds regularly. It is important for rare breeding passerines of oakwoods notably Phoenicurus phoenicurus and Phylloscopus sibilatrix. It also has Sylvia borin and Sylvia atricapilla.</p>	<p>Reef habitats within the site occur at Dalkey Island Maiden Rock and Murlins in the southern portion off Howth Head Ireland's Eye and Lambay Island in the central portion and Rockabill in North Dublin.</p>
			<p>This is an extensive upland site comprising a substantial part of the Wicklow Mountains. The underlying geology of the site is mainly of Leinster granites flanked by Ordovician schists mudstones and volcanics. The area was subject to glaciation and features fine examples of glacial lakes, deep valleys and moraines. Most of the site is over 300 m with much ground over 600 m and the highest peak of Lugnaquilla at 925 m. The substrate over much of site is peat with poor mineral soil occurring on the slopes and lower ground. Exposed rock and scree are features of the site. The dominant habitats present are blanket bog heaths and upland grassland. Fine examples of native Oak woodlands are found in the Glendalough area. The site which is within the Wicklow Mountains National Park is fragmented into about 20 separate parcels of land.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004172	Dalkey Islands SPA	<p>The site is of importance for both breeding and staging Sterna terns. There is a well-established colony of Sterna hirundo and smaller numbers of Sterna paradisaea. Sterna dougallii bred in 2003 and 2004 one of only three known sites in the country - this came about after several years of conservation management aimed at attracting the species. The site along with other parts of south Dublin Bay is used by the three Sterna tern species as a major post-breeding/pre-migration autumn roost area. The origin of the birds is likely to be the Co. Dublin breeding sites though numbers also suggest birds from other sites perhaps outside the state. The site also has breeding Larus marinus Tadorna tadorna and Haematopus ostralegus. The site is known to be frequented in winter by significant numbers of Arenaria interpres and Calidris maritima, but recent count data is unavailable.</p>	<p>Site comprises Dalkey Island Lamb Island Maiden Rock the intervening rocks and reefs between Dalkey Island Lamb Island and Clare Rock and the sea area around Maiden Rock to a distance of 100 m. Dalkey Island which is the largest in the group lies ca.400m off Sorrento Point and is separated by a deep channel. The island is low-lying the highest point at c.15m is marked by a Martello Tower. Soil cover consists mainly of thin peaty layers though in a few places there are boulder clay deposits. Vegetation cover is low consisting mainly of grasses. Lamb Island lies to the north of Dalkey Island attached at low-tided by a rocky reef. It has thin soil cover and a sparse vegetation cover. Further north lies Maidens Rock, a bare angular granite rock up to 5m high. There is no vegetation cover. Dalkey Island is grazed by a herd of feral goats.</p>
004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	<p>The site possesses extensive intertidal flats which support wintering waterfowl which are part of the overall Dublin Bay population. It regularly has an internationally important population of Branta bernicla hrota which feeds on Zostera noltii in the autumn. It has nationally important numbers of a further 6 species: Haematopus ostralegus Charadrius hiaticula Calidris canutus Calidris alba Calidris alpina and Limosa lapponica. It is an important site for wintering gulls, especially Larus ridibundus and Larus canus. South Dublin Bay is the premier site in Ireland for Larus melanocephalus with up to 20 birds present at times. Is a regular autumn roosting ground for significant numbers of terns including Sterna dougallii S. hirundo and S. paradisaea.</p>	<p>This site comprises a substantial part of Dublin Bay. It includes virtually all of the intertidal area in the south bay as well as much of the Tolka Estuary to the north of the River Liffey. A portion of the shallow bay waters is also included. In the south bay the intertidal flats extend for almost 3 km at their widest. The sediments are predominantly well-aerated sands. The sands support the largest stand of Zostera noltii on the East Coast. Several permanent channels exist, the largest being Cockle Lake. A small sandy beach occurs at Merrion Gates while some bedrock shore occurs near Dun Laoghaire. The landward boundary is now almost entirely artificially embanked. Sediments in the Tolka Estuary vary from soft thixotropic muds with a high organic content in the inner estuary to exposed well aerated sands off the Bull Wall.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004186	The Murrough SPA	<p>The site is of high importance for the good numbers and wide variety of waterfowl species that it holds in winter and on passage. The improved grassland provides feeding for Greylag Geese (<i>Anser anser</i>). This is one of a handful of sites around the south and east coasts at which Reed Warbler (<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>) has in recent years proved to be a regular breeding species. For some years in the 1980s Bearded Tit (<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>) bred here at its only site in Ireland emphasizing the potential of this site to hold the community of reedswamp species present in Great Britain but largely absent in Ireland. The shingle beach is a breeding site for the country's largest colony of Little Tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) and supports 19% of the all-Ireland population.</p>	<p>The proximity of the site to Dublin City results in it being a very popular recreational area. It is also important for educational and research purposes.</p> <p>The Murrough SPA comprises a coastal wetland complex that stretches for 13 km from Kilcoole Station east of Kilcoole village in the north to Wicklow town in the south and extends inland for up to 1 km. The site includes area of marine water to a distance of 200 m from low water mark. There is a railway on top of the beach and much agricultural reclamation of the marshes/saltmarshes.</p>
004006	North Bull Island SPA	<p>The site is among the top ten sites for wintering waterfowl in the country. It supports internationally important populations of <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> and <i>Limosa lapponica</i> and is the top site in the country for both of these species. A further 14 species have populations of national importance with particular notable numbers of <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (8.5% of national total) <i>Anas acuta</i> (11.6% of national total) <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> (6.9% of national total) <i>Calidris canutus</i> (10.5% of national total). North Bull Island SPA is a regular site for passage waders such as <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> <i>Calidris ferruginea</i> and <i>Tringa erythropus</i>. The site supports <i>Asio flammeus</i> in winter. Formerly the site had an important colony of <i>Sterna albifrons</i> but breeding has not occurred in recent years. The site provides both feeding and roosting areas for the waterfowl species. Habitat quality for most of the estuarine habitats is very good.</p>	<p>The North Bull Island sand spit is a relatively recent depositional feature formed as a result of improvements to Dublin Port during the 18th and 19th centuries. It is almost 5km long and 1km wide and runs parallel to the coast between Clontarf and Sutton. The sediment which forms the island is predominantly glacial in origin and siliceous in nature. A well-developed dune system runs the length of the island with good examples of embryonic shifting marram and fixed dunes as well as excellent examples of humid dune slacks. Extensive salt marshes also occur. Between the island and the mainland occur two sheltered intertidal areas which are separated by a solid causeway constructed in 1964. The seaward side of the island has a fine sandy beach. A substantial area of shallow marine water is included in the site.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		<p>The site has a population of the rare <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i> which is the only known station away from the western seaboard as well as five Red Data Book vascular plant species and four bryophyte species. It is nationally important for three insect species. The site is among the top ten sites for wintering waterfowl in the country. It supports internationally important populations of <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> and <i>Limosa lapponica</i> and is the top site in the country for both of these species. A further 14 species have populations of national importance with particular notable numbers of <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (8.5% of national total) <i>Anas acuta</i> (11.6% of national total) <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> (6.9% of national total) <i>Calidris canutus</i> (10.5% of national total). North Bull Island SPA is a regular site for passage waders such as <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> <i>Calidris ferruginea</i> and <i>Tringa erythropus</i>. The site supports <i>Asio flammeus</i> in winter. Formerly the site had an important colony of <i>Sterna albifrons</i> but breeding has not occurred in recent years. The site provides both feeding and roosting areas for the waterfowl species. Habitat quality for most of the estuarine habitats is very good. The site has a population of the rare <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i> which is the only known station away from the western seaboard as well as five Red Data Book vascular plant species and four bryophyte species. It is nationally important for three insect species.</p> <p>Wintering bird populations have been monitored more or less continuously since the late 1960s and the other scientific interests of the site have also been well documented. Future prospects are good owing to various designations assigned to site.</p>	<p>Part of the interior of the island has been converted to golf courses. The proximity of the North Bull Island to Dublin City results in it being a very popular recreational area. It is also very important for educational and research purposes. Nature conservation is a main land use within the site.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004236	North-west Irish Sea SPA	<p>The North-west Irish Sea SPA constitutes an important resource for marine birds. The estuaries and bays that open into it along with connecting coastal stretches of intertidal and shallow subtidal habitats, provide safe feeding and roosting habitats for waterbirds throughout the winter and migration periods.</p> <p>These areas, along with more pelagic marine waters further offshore, provide additional supporting habitats (for foraging and other maintenance behaviours) for those seabirds that breed at colonies on the north-west Irish Sea's islands and coastal headlands. These marine areas are also important for seabirds outside the breeding period.</p>	<p>This SPA extends offshore along the coasts of counties Louth, Meath and Dublin, and is approximately 2,333km² in area. This SPA is ecologically connected to several existing SPAs in this area.</p> <p>The site is a Special Protection Area (SPA) under the E.U. Birds Directive, of special conservation interest for the following species:</p> <p>Common Scoter, Red-throated Diver, Great Northern Diver, Fulmar, Manx Shearwater, Shag, Cormorant, Little Gull, Kittiwake, Black-headed Gull, Common Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Herring Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Little Tern, Roseate Tern, Common Tern, Arctic Tern, Puffin, Razorbill and Guillemot.</p>
004063	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA	<p>The site is of national importance for its population of Anser anser which is one of the largest in the country. The site provides the main roost for the birds with feeding mostly on improved grassland outside of the site. A range of other waterfowl species occur in relatively low numbers including Cygnus cygnus, Anas penelope and Bucephala clangula. The reservoir attracts roosting gulls during winter most notably a large population of Larus fuscus which in Ireland is rare in winter away from the south coast.</p>	<p>Poulaphouca Reservoir located in the western foothills of the Wicklow Mountains was created in 1944 by damming of the River Liffey for the purpose of generating electricity from hydropower. The reservoir covers an area of approximately 20 square kilometres and is the largest inland water body in the mid-east and south-east regions. The reservoir receives water from two main sources the River Liffey at the northern end and the Kings River at the southern end. The exit is into the Liffey gorge at the western end. Underlying the reservoir are sands and gravels deposited during the last glaciation. The shores of the lake are mostly sandy. When water levels are low exposed lake muds are colonised by an ephemeral flora of annual plant species.</p>

Appendix 3 - Table 2 Background data for European Sites considered in the Natura Impact Report; including the Qualifying features (Qualifying Interests or Special Conservation Interests) and the known threats and pressures as recorded by the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000713	Ballyman Glen SAC	Alkaline fens [7230], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]	A01, A08, C01.01, H01.03, A04, E01.01, E01.02, D01.02, B01, E03.01, A10.01, H02.01	Cultivation, Fertilisation, Sand and gravel extraction, Other point source pollution to surface water, Grazing, Continuous urbanisation, Discontinuous urbanisation, Roads, motorways, Forest planting on open ground, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Groundwater pollution by leakages from contaminated sites
000725	Knocksink Wood SAC	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i>) [91E0]	B01, E01.02, E03.01, D01.02, A04, G05.07, G03, B01.02, G01.02, D05, G05.04, D01.01, I01, G05.06, G02.08, B02.03	Forest planting on open ground, Discontinuous urbanisation, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Roads, motorways, Grazing, Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, Interpretative centres, Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), Walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, Improved access to site, Vandalism, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Invasive non-native species, Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees, Camping and caravans, Removal of forest undergrowth
003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC	Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>) [1351], Reefs [1170]	H06.01, D02, F02.02, X, D03.02, E03, J02.02, J02.11	Noise nuisance, noise pollution, Utility and service lines, Professional active fishing, No threats or pressures, Shipping lanes, Discharges, Removal of sediments (mud...), Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits
004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) [A098] Peregrine (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) [A103]	G03, C01.03, G01.02, A04, D01.01, B	Interpretative centres, Peat extraction, Walking, horse riding and non-motorised vehicles, Grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Sylviculture, forestry

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004172	Dalkey Islands SPA	Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194], Roseate tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192], Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193]	G01.02, E01, A04, G01.01	Walking, horse riding and non-motorised vehicles, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Grazing, Nautical sports
004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192] Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	E01, F02.03.01, F02.03, K02.03, E03, G01.01, J02.01.02, D01.02, G01.02, E02	Urbanised areas, human habitation, Bait digging or collection, Leisure fishing, Eutrophication (natural), Discharges, Nautical sports, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Roads, motorways, Walking, horse riding and non-motorised vehicles, Industrial or commercial areas
004186	The Murrrough SPA	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Little Tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) [A195], Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184], Red-throated Diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>) [A001], Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046]	G01.02, A08, D01.04	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Fertilisation, Railway lines, TGV

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004006	North Bull Island SPA	<p>Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046]</p> <p>Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048]</p> <p>Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052]</p> <p>Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054]</p> <p>Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056]</p> <p>Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130]</p> <p>Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140]</p> <p>Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141]</p> <p>Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143]</p> <p>Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144]</p> <p>Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149]</p> <p>Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156]</p> <p>Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157]</p> <p>Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160]</p> <p>Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162]</p> <p>Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169]</p> <p>Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179]</p> <p>Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]</p>	D03.02, E01.04, D01.02, G01.01, G01.02, D01.05, G03, G02.01, E01.01, E03, F02.03.01, E02	shipping lanes, Other patterns of habitation, Roads, motorways, Nautical sports, Walking, horse riding and non-motorised vehicles, Bridge, viaduct, Interpretative centres, Golf course, Continuous urbanisation, Discharges, Bait digging or collection, Industrial or commercial areas
004236	North-west Irish Sea SPA	<p>Red-throated Diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>) [A001]</p> <p>Great Northern Diver (<i>Gavia immer</i>) [A003]</p> <p>Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>) [A009]</p> <p>Manx Shearwater (<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>) [A013]</p> <p>Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017]</p> <p>Shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>) [A018]</p>	A09, C05, F07, F22, F23, G01, G06, A09, A11, B01, D01, E02, G10, G12, I02, I04, I05, J02, L06, M08, N03, N05, N06, N07	Agriculture, forestry, peat extraction, renewable energy, shipping, fishing, invasive species, problematic native species, pests and pathogens, sport, tourism and leisure, marine particulate pollution, aquaculture, interspecific relations.

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004063	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA	Common Scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>) [A065] Little Gull (<i>Larus minutus</i>) [A177] Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182] Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183] Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184] Great Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus marinus</i>) [A187] Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188] Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192] Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194] Little Tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) [A195] Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) [A199] Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>) [A200] Puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>) [A204] Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183], Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043]	F03.01, G01.01, B01, F02.03, D01.05	Hunting, Nautical sports, Forest planting on open ground, Leisure fishing, Bridge, viaduct

Appendix 3 - Table 3 Known threats and pressures related to the qualifying interests from each Special Area of Conservation as per article 17 reporting from the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Alkaline fens	[7230]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	[91E0]	Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern); Problematic native species; Clear-cutting, removal of all trees; Plant and animal diseases, pathogens and pests	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Changes in management.
Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	[1351]	Pressures acting on the species in Irish waters mainly involve commercial vessel-based activities such as impacts arising from geophysical seismic exploration or from local/regional prey removal from fisheries.	Sensitive to disturbance, prey availability and pollution.
Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles	[91A0]	The introduction of alien species; sub-optimal grazing patterns; general forestry management; increases in urbanisation and human habitation adjacent to oak woodlands; and the construction of communication networks through the woodland.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.
Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	[7220]	Ground water interactions, on site management activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Reefs	[1170]	Professional fishing; taking for fauna; taking for flora; water pollution; climate change; and change in species composition.	Sensitive to disturbance and pollution.

Appendix 1 - Table 4 Known threats and pressures related to the qualifying interests from each Special Area of Conservation as per article 17 reporting from the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
[A001]	Red-throated Diver	(<i>Gavia stellata</i>)	A04, C01, C03, F02, G01, H03, I01, J02, J02.06, K03, M02	Grazing, Mining and quarrying, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Invasive non-native species, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Water abstractions from surface waters, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
[A003]	Great Northern Diver	(<i>Gavia immer</i>)	F02, H03, G01, C03	Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Renewable abiotic energy use.
[A009]	Fulmar	(<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>)	C03, F02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources
[A013]	Manx Shearwater	(<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>)	C03, H03, I01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine water pollution, invasive non-native species
[A017]	Cormorant	(<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>)	C03, F02, F03, G01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
[A018]	Shag	(<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>)		
[A043]	Greylag Goose	(<i>Anser anser</i>)	A02, A11, C03, D02, F03, G01, H07	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, other forms of pollution
[A046]	Light-bellied Brent Goose	(<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>)	A02, A11, C03, D02, F01, G01, G05, H03, H07, I01, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Other Human intrusions and disturbances, Marine water pollution, other forms of pollution, Invasive non-native species, Other Ecosystem Modifications

		Known Threats and Pressures		
Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	
[A048]	Common Shelduck	(<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>)	F01, F02, G01, H03, M01	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Changes in abiotic conditions
[A050]	Eurasian Wigeon	(<i>Anas penelope</i>)	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, I01, J02, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, other forms of pollution, Invasive non-native species, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
[A052]	Eurasian Teal	(<i>Anas crecca</i>)	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
[A054]	Northern Pintail	(<i>Anas acuta</i>)	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
[A056]	Northern Shoveler	(<i>Anas clypeata</i>)	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, other forms of pollution
[A065]	Common Scoter	(<i>Melanitta nigra</i>)	A04, C03, F02, G01, H01, H03, I01, K03, M02	Grazing, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Invasive non-native species, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
[A098]	Merlin	(<i>Falco columbarius</i>)	A02, B01, B02, C03, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Forest planting on open ground, Forest and Plantation management & use, Renewable abiotic energy use, Changes in biotic conditions

		Known Threats and Pressures		
Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	
[A103]	Peregrine falcon	(Falco peregrinus)	C03, F03, J03, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in biotic conditions
[A130]	Eurasian Oystercatcher	(Haematopus ostralegus)	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
[A137]	Common Ringed Plover	(Charadrius hiaticula)	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in biotic conditions
[A140]	European Golden Plover	(Pluvialis apricaria)	A02, A04, B01, C01, C03, F01, G01, H03, J01, K03, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Forest planting on open ground, Mining and quarrying, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Fire and Fire suppression, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
[A141]	Grey Plover	(Pluvialis squatarola)	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in biotic conditions
[A143]	Knot	(Calidris canutus)	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in biotic conditions
[A144]	Sanderling	(Calidris alba)	C03, F01, G01, H03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Changes in abiotic conditions

		Known Threats and Pressures		
Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	
[A149]	Dunlin	(<i>Calidris alpina</i>)	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
[A156]	Black-tailed Godwit	(<i>Limosa limosa</i>)	A02, C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
[A157]	Bar-tailed Godwit	(<i>Limosa lapponica</i>)	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
[A160]	Curlew	(<i>Numenius arquata</i>)	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
[A162]	Common Redshank	(<i>Tringa totanus</i>)	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
[A169]	Ruddy Turnstone	(<i>Arenaria interpres</i>)	C03, F01, G01, H03, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
[A179]	Black-headed Gull	(<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>)	A04, C03, F02, H03, J03, M01	Grazing, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
[A183]	Lesser Black-backed Gull	(<i>Larus fuscus</i>)	C03, F02, H03, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
[A184]	European Herring Gull	(Larus argentatus)	C03, F02, H03, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications
[A187]	Great Black-backed Gull	(Larus marinus)	N/A	No threats and pressures identified by the NPWS
[A188]	Kittiwake	(Rissa tridactyla)	C03, F02, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution
[A192]	Roseate tern	(Sterna dougallii)	C03, D01, G01, I01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species
[A193]	Common tern	(Sterna hirundo)	C03, D01, D03, G01, I01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Shipping lanes, ports, marine constructions, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species
[A194]	Arctic tern	(Sterna paradisaea)	C03, D01, G01, I01, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species, Changes in abiotic conditions
[A195]	Little Tern	(Sterna albifrons)	C03, D01, I01, I02, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Invasive non-native species, Problematic native species, Changes in abiotic conditions
[A199]	Common Guillemot	(Uria aalge)	C03, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine water pollution
[A200]	Razorbill	(Alca torda)	C03, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine water pollution
[A204]	Puffin	(Fratercula arctica)	C03, H03, I01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine water pollution, Invasive non-native species
[A999]	Wetland and Waterbirds	N/A	N/A	N/A



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