# Dundrum Bus Layover Scheme, Co. Dublin

## Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening

Woodrow Ref: P00018882
Date: 02 October 2025

woodrow
APEM Group

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**Project reference:** P00018882

**Date of issue:** 02 October 2025

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 18/09/2025 | All | All | D01 for review | EV |
| 2 | 23/09/2025 | All | All | D02 | RN |
| 3 | 02/10/2025 | All | All | Final | MM |

**STATEMENT OF AUTHORITY**

This Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening was prepared by Darragh Lee and reviewed by Emmi Virkki.

**Darragh Lee – Ecologist**

This report was prepared by Darragh Lee. Darragh is an Ecologist with a specialism in botany and holds a BSc in Environmental Science with Ecology from Atlantic Technological University (ATU) in Sligo. He has previously worked in the agri-environment sector with the ACRES Cooperation Project in Donegal as an assistant project officer and is experienced in assessing habitat condition of peatland and farmland habitat. Darragh has good experience with botanical identification and habitat/ classification surveys. Since joining Woodrow, he has been involved in a variety of surveys, including agricultural habitat surveys, monitoring of rare plants involving mapping and relevés for habitat monitoring assessments.

**Qualifications:**

BSc Environmental Science, Atlantic Technological University, Sligo, 2023.

**Emmi Virkki – Principal Ecologist**

Emmi has a BSc (Hons) in Environmental Biology and an MSc in Environmental Science from University College Dublin, and she is a full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM). She has over nine years' experience in consultancy in Ireland and her survey experience comprises multidisciplinary surveys specialising in habitat (using Fossitt habitat classification, Irish Vegetation Classification (IVC), National Vegetation Classification (NVC), Annex I habitat classification and National Survey of Upland Habitats (NSUH) habitat categories), botanical (rare, protected and non-native invasive species) and ornithological surveys, in addition to protected species surveys for mammals (including bats), amphibians and reptiles, on small- to medium scale projects and national habitat surveys. She is competent in the compilation of Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) reports and Biodiversity chapters of Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIARs), and reports to inform the Appropriate Assessment process (Appropriate Assessment Screening and Natura Impact Statements). She is a member of the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland (BSBI) and Irish Bryophyte Group.

**Qualifications:**

BSc (Hons) Environmental Biology, University College Dublin, 2015.

MSc Environmental Science, University College Dublin, 2016.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. Background

APEM Group Woodrow was commissioned by AECOM Ireland Limited (Client) on behalf of the National Transport Authority (NTA) to undertake an Appropriate Assessment Screening for a proposed bus layover scheme in Dundrum, Co. Dublin, wherein the existing bus layover spaces at the Dundrum Main Street bus terminal will be relocated to unlock this area for future development and accommodate the increase in bus services planned under the NTA's BusConnects programme.

This screening report aims to determine, based on the best scientific knowledge and the precautionary principle, whether the proposed works, individually or in conjunction with other plans or projects, may negatively impact any internationally designated Natura 2000 sites, considering the conservation objectives of these sites. Also known as European Sites, Natura 2000 sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). The legal basis on which SACs are selected and designated is the EU Habitats Directive, transposed into Irish law by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011), as amended.

SACs are designated to assist the protection of certain habitats and species under the Habitats Directive. Ireland is required under the terms of the EU Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) to designate Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for the protection of endangered species of wild birds. These include certain listed rare and vulnerable species; regularly occurring migratory species, such as ducks, geese and waders; and, wetlands, especially those of international importance, which attract large numbers of migratory birds each year. these comprise Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

Where a site lies in proximity to the border with Northern Ireland, SACs and SPAs within the UK National Sites Network, as well as Ramsar Sites, must also be taken into consideration in the assessment of any plan or project.

This report provides supporting information to assist the Competent Authority in applying Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive[1] (92/43/EEC) as necessary, under their roles, functions and responsibilities in relation to the Appropriate Assessment of plans or projects. The Competent Authority may use such information to carry out an Appropriate Assessment of the proposal in order to ascertain whether or not the project may adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000 sites.

# 2. LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

## 2.1. Requirement for Appropriate Assessment Screening

An Appropriate Assessment Screening provides the information necessary to fulfil the requirements of Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive[1] 1992 and Regulation 42 of the (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 in determining the potential impacts on European Sites of the plan. The European

1 Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, as amended by Council Directive 97/62/EC. See http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm (Accessed: September 2025).

Directive 92/43/EEC (The Habitats Directive) was transposed into Irish law by the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 and European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (Habitats Regulations).

Regulation 42(1) of the 2011 Regulations requires that:

*"A screening for Appropriate Assessment of a development or project for which an application for consent is received, or which a public authority wishes to undertake or adopt, and which is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site as a Natura 2000 site, shall be carried out by the public authority to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of the conservation objectives of the site, if that development or project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on the Natura 2000 site."*

The Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' states that:

*"Any uncertainty over the precise nature and/or magnitude of the adverse effects should be thoroughly tested. Where appropriate, a precautionary approach should be adopted, and the assessment of adverse effect based on a worse-case scenario."*[2]

Case law[3] has demonstrated that measures which are '*intended to avoid or reduce'* the harmful effects of the development on any relevant European Site, i.e., mitigation (such as pollution control measures), cannot be considered at the screening stage of the Appropriate Assessment process.

## 2.2. Requirement for a Natura Impact Statement

The Appropriate Assessment test assesses whether, in view of best scientific knowledge and applying the precautionary principle, and in light of the conservation objectives of the relevant European Sites, the plan, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, may adversely affect the integrity of any European Sites.

If, following the screening process, a potential significant effect is predicted or cannot be ruled out, under Regulation 42(6) of the 2011 Habitats Regulations an Appropriate Assessment is required in order to determine the potential for impact on the integrity of a European Site.

In the case of a screening for Appropriate Assessment having determined that potential significant effects on European Sites could not be ruled out, a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) is required under Regulation 42(6) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011. This Natura Impact Report provides an assessment of the development considering potential impacts on Qualifying Interests within European Sites and provides mitigation proposals to avoid impacts on the integrity of European Sites. This allows for an audit trail through Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive to facilitate an Appropriate Assessment by a Competent Authority. As described above, case law[4] has illustrated that mitigation which is *'intended to avoid or reduce'* any impacts upon European Sites

2 European Commission (2007) Available at: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/art6/guidance_art6_4_en.pdf (Accessed: September 2025).

3 People Over Wind and Peter Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta (C-323/17); and, Heather Hill Management Company clg v An Bord Pleanála [2019] IEHC 450.

4 Case C-323/17, People Over Wind and Peter Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta Judgement 12 April 2018; Kelly v An Bord Pleanála and Anor (Aldi Stores) [2019] IEHC 84; and, Heather Hill Management Company Clg v An Bord Pleanála [2019] IEHC 450.

cannot be considered at the screening stage. Where such mitigation is required, the development or project will 'Screen in' and there is a requirement to provide a NIS to come to a final determination. The final determination in the Appropriate Assessment process is the responsibility of the relevant Competent Authority.

Planning and Development Act Requirement

The development comes under Section 179A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as inserted by the Planning and Development and Foreshore (Amendment) Act 2022. Section 179A was commenced on 8 March 2023 and allows an exemption to the Part 8 planning process for local authorities once certain conditions are met:

*(6) (a) Where a local authority proposes to undertake a housing development under*

*Section 179A of the Act, it shall carry out in respect of the housing development a screening for appropriate assessment, to determine, using the best scientific knowledge, if the housing development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have a significant effect on a European site or sites in view of the site's conservation objectives*

*(b) If on the basis of a screening under sub-article (6)(a) it can be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the proposed housing development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have a significant effect on a European site or sites, the local authority shall determine that an appropriate assessment*

*of the housing development is not required and that the housing development complies with the requirements of section 179A(1) of the Act*

*c) If on the basis of a screening under sub-article (6)(a) it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the proposed housing development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have a significant effect on a European site or sites, the local authority shall determine that an appropriate assessment of the housing development is required and that the housing development does not comply with the requirements of section 179A(1) of the Act.*

Screening for Appropriate Assessment is required under Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the Habitats Directive). Where it cannot be excluded that a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, would have a significant effect on a European Site, then same shall be subject to an appropriate assessment of its implications for the site, in view of the site's conservation objectives. The current project is not directly connected with, or necessary for, the management of any European Site consequently the project has been subject to the Appropriate Assessment Screening process.

This screening report provides an independent review of the site and available information about the site to assist the planning authority with a determination for the screening process for the Proposed Scheme.

# 3. MAIN SOURCES OF INFORMATION

## 3.1. AA Screening Review Methodology

The following sources of information were relied upon to inform the methodology for the screening review:

- Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DoEHLG, 2010 rev.). Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities
- Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive: Guidance for Planning Authorities. Circular NPWS 1/10 and PSSP 2/10
- European Community Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) – The Habitats Directive (European Commission 1992)
- European Commission (2021) Commission Notice - 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
- European Commission (2021) ANNEX to the Commission Notice - 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
- European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 (European Commission 1997)
- Managing Natura 2000 Sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitat's Directive 92/43/EEC (EC Environment Directorate-General, 2000)
- Managing Natura 2000 Sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitat's Directive 92/43/EEC (EC, 2018)
- Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR) (2021) OPR Practice Note PN01 Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management.

## 3.2. Desk Study

A desk study was conducted prior to the site visit to identify any European Sites and/or Qualifying Interest (QI) habitats and/or species in the vicinity of or hydrologically connected to the development. The following information sources were consulted:

- An Coimisiún Pleanála, Planning application map.
- National Parks and Wildlife Services online Designation Map Viewer.
- National Parks and Wildlife Service data (GIS datafiles).
- National Parks and Wildlife Service Conservation Objectives Information.
- National Biodiversity Data Centre Biodiversity Map Viewer
- Environmental Protection Agency online Map Viewer.

# 4. DESCRIPTION AND FEATURES OF THE PROJECT AREA

## 4.1. Location

The Proposed Scheme is located at Dundrum Main Street bus terminal, Co. Dublin. The approximate coordinates are (Lat: 53.292395186, Long: -6.2466966936). The site location, in the context of the wider landscape as well as an aerial overview of the Site, is presented in Figure 1**.**

## 4.2. Description of the Proposed Scheme

The existing bus layover spaces at the Dundrum Main Street bus terminal are being relocated to unlock this area for future development. Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council (DLRCC) is working in conjunction with the National Transport Authority (NTA) to replace the capacity of the existing bus terminal and to accommodate the increase in bus services planned under the NTA's BusConnects programme.

The Proposed Scheme will require works to the existing road layout at multiple locations in the vicinity of the existing terminal on Dundrum Main Street and will have to consider the requirements for safe and efficient traffic, pedestrian and cyclist movement through and within the surrounding area. A new bus-only link needs to be established to allow buses to travel directly from Dundrum Main Street to Sweetmount Avenue/Churchtown Road Upper, which will accommodate six proposed bus layover spaces on Churchtown Road Upper. The Proposed Scheme comprises:

- Provision of a bus gate between Dundrum Bypass/Main Street junction with Sweetmount Avenue/Churchtown Road Upper;
- Provision of two bus layover spaces on Churchtown Road Upper (Northbound) (opposite St. Nahi's Church;
- Provision of four bus layover spaces on Churchtown Road Upper (Eastbound) (before Taney Cross);
- Provision of one bus layover space on Main Street within an existing parallel parking bay. The adjacent existing bus stop will be retained;
- Provision of one additional bus layover space on Dundrum Bypass within an existing bus stop layby; and
- Provision of a new bus stop on Dundrum Bypass.

Drainage works are not required due to the size / scale of the Proposed Scheme. Surface water from the site will drain into pre-existing surface water networks of stormwater drains, which outfall into the River Slang that have silt trap gully pots, though no oil separators are present.

Current plans for the Proposed Scheme include moving the location of one existing gully on the Sweetmount Avenue side of the proposed bus gate. An additional gully is being considered along the bus gate, but final plans will not be confirmed until detailed design stage. Any relocated or new gullies will have silt traps (to match existing) and will connect to the existing stormwater network which outfalls into the River Slang at the location of the culvert.

The contractor will be required to prepare a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). The work is anticipated to be undertaken over a period of 3 months.

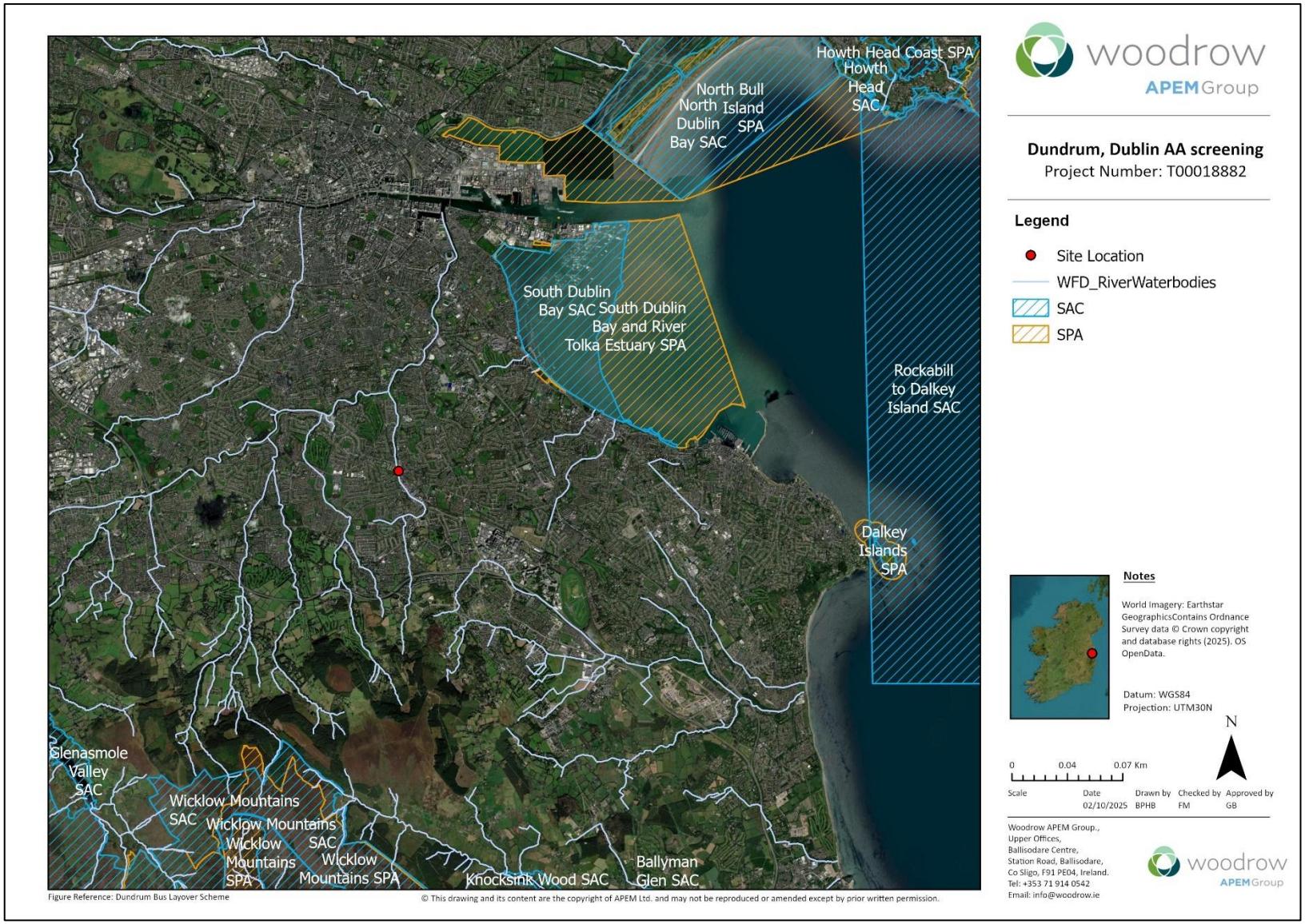


**Figure 1: Geographic context of Proposed Scheme**

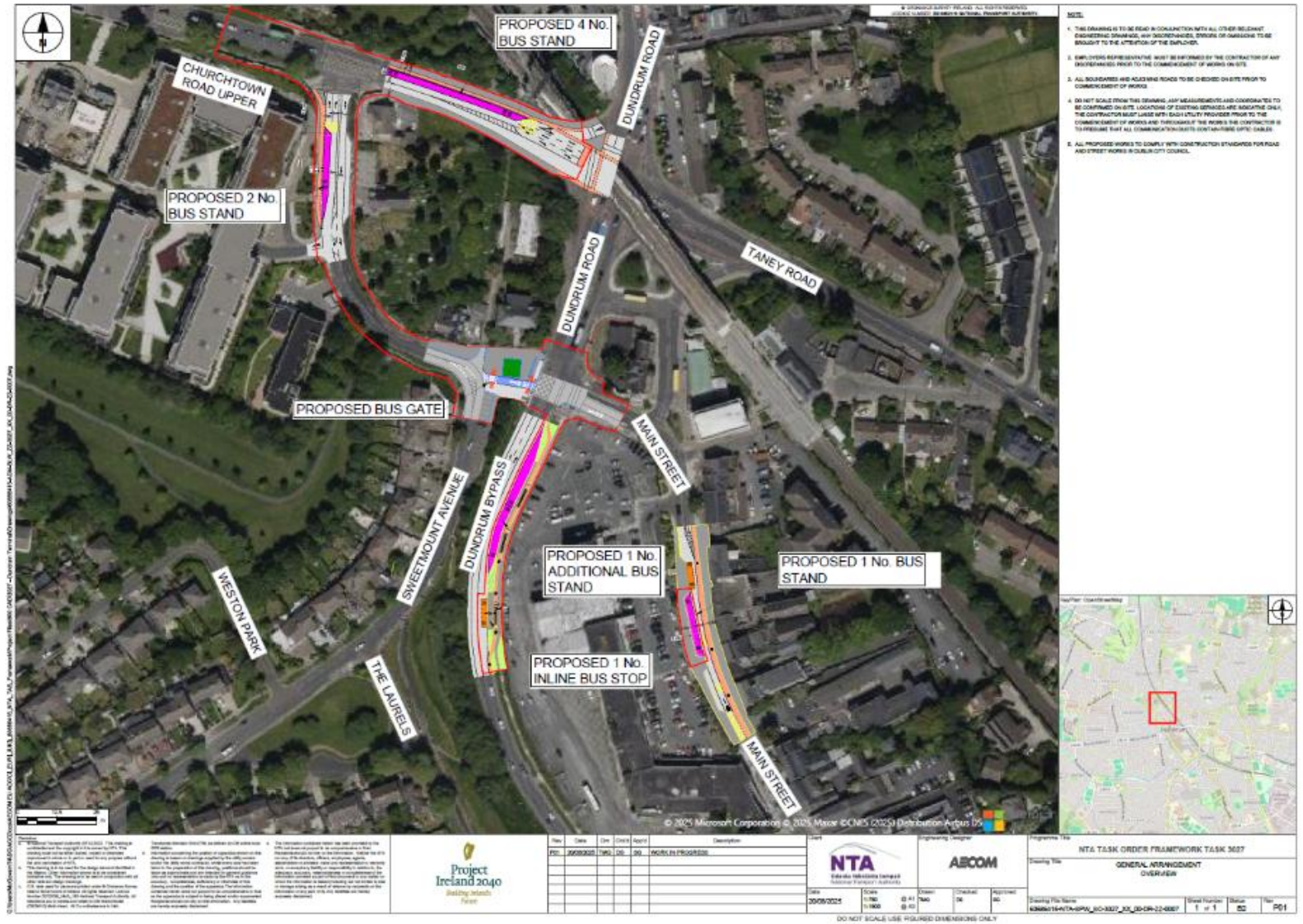


**Figure 2: Map of current site layout and Proposed Scheme (Source: AECOM / NTA)**

# 5. RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

This section presents the results of the desk study undertaken for the Proposed Scheme. Due to the relatively small size and the nature of the Proposed Scheme, field surveys were not deemed necessary.

## 5.1. Flora and Fauna

A search of the National Biodiversity Database Centre (NDBC) database for the 2 km grid square within which the Proposed Scheme is located (O12U) was carried out. Otter have been recorded in the vicinity of this site (09/07/2017). Other than this, there were no species recorded at the site which are considered to be of interest within the Appropriate Assessment process.

## 5.2. Habitats

The habitats within the Proposed Scheme site, based on the desk study, include:

- Buildings and artificial surfaces (BL3)
- Amenity grassland (GA2)

**BL3 - Buildings and artificial surfaces**

The majority of habitat within the Proposed Scheme site is buildings and artificial surfaces. This is a highly modified habitat with little ecological value which includes existing roadways and streets, footpaths, paved, tarmac and cement areas. The additional alteration of these areas due to work proposed for the Proposed Scheme will not result in any significant impacts on biodiversity.

**GA2 - Amenity grassland**

There are small areas of amenity grassland within the Proposed Scheme site. This habitat is species-poor and used for landscaping in urban areas. The patches of grassland within the site are found between roads and footpaths are regularly mown and have little to no connectivity to other habitats. The areas of grassland habitat within the Proposed Scheme site will be retained but may be damaged during construction, due to from trampling and compaction from heavy machinery. There are isolated trees in proximity to the Proposed Scheme site, but none are within the redline boundary; no trees are planned to be removed / felled during construction of the Proposed Scheme.

## 5.3. Birds

The Proposed Scheme site is a heavily urbanised area, consisting primarily of roads and footpaths with little to no terrestrial features or habitats of particular ecological value for bird species. The area would only be considered of local value to bird species that are common within urban areas and countryside, and does not provide important roosting, foraging or nesting habitat for any SCI bird species. Noise emissions expected to arise during the construction phase of the Proposed Scheme are unlikely to have a significant effect on bird species present in the area, as they would likely be accustomed to a certain level of disturbance in an urban environment such as traffic noise and ongoing construction projects.

## 5.4. Hydrology

Surface waters from the Proposed Scheme will drain into the local surface water drainage network and the River Slang which flows into the River Liffey and ultimately discharges to Dublin Bay.

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) (2016-2021) for transitional water bodies at Liffey Estuary Lower is assessed as 'Moderate' quality and at risk. The adjacent Tolka Estuary is 'Poor' and at risk, and the North Bull Island is 'Moderate' and at risk. These waterbodies are not meeting the Water Framework Objectives. The Water Framework Directive Status for Coastal water bodies at Dublin Bay is assessed as 'Good' and not at risk.

The EPA Water Quality Status (2018-2020) for transitional water bodies at Liffey Estuary Lower is assessed as 'Intermediate' quality. The adjacent Tolka Estuary is eutrophic. The EPA Water Quality Status for Dublin Bay is given the status 'unpolluted'. Increased pollution discharge into these areas is likely to have a detrimental effect on water quality and could compromise the conservation objectives of some of the QI features of the designated sites contained therein. Appendix 1 includes figures which display the hydrological connectivity and water quality status of the transitional and coastal waters connected to the Proposed Scheme.

Though the coastal and transitional water bodies at the mouth of the River Liffey where several designated sites are located are already currently not meeting WFD water quality standards. The distance of the Proposed Scheme and the tidal nature of these areas would be considered to have sufficient dilution capacity for the any minor pollution that may be produced form the Proposed Scheme.

# 6. POTENTIAL IMPACT ON EUROPEAN SITES

The following sections provide information on surrounding European sites. These can then be assessed based on factors such as proximity to Proposed Scheme, qualifying features, and their conservation status. A screening matrix is then provided regarding the potential effects and likely significant effects of the Proposed Scheme on these designated sites.

Within each section, the site's conservation objectives are laid out, the potential for the Proposed Scheme to affect them is considered and a conclusion on the potential for the Proposed Scheme to have a significant effect on its qualifying features (and therefore on the European site) is made.

## 6.1. Source-Pathway-Receptor Linkages

The following section provides information on European sites which have identified source-pathway-receptor links to the Proposed Scheme. For illustrative purposes, European Sites with potential source-pathway-receptor linkages to the Proposed Scheme are shown in Figure 3 and listed in Table 1.

A source-pathway-receptor linkage is defined as the presence of a connection, which may result in biophysical changes as a result of the proposed project and associated activities which have an effect on the ecological features of the site. Whether or not a source-pathway-receptor linkage is present may vary according to a feature's sensitivities to environmental change, as well as the scope of works associated with a development (CIEEM, 2018).

The potential effects on designated sites are dependent on the location, topography and environment at the development site, the nature of effects arising, the sensitivity of receptors and the causal links and conduits, rather than simply the distance from source. The steps to follow when identifying which

European site (Natura 2000) may be affected by a plan or project are available from the European Commission Guidance (2021). In particular, the assessment should identify:

- any Natura 2000 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 Natura 2000 sites with likely source-pathway-receptor linkages with the plan or project. Natura 2000 sites located in the surroundings of the plan or project (or at some distance) that could still be indirectly affected by aspects of the project, including as regards the use of natural resources (e.g., water) and various types of waste, discharge or emissions of substances or energy;
- Natura 2000 sites in the surroundings of the plan or project (or at some distance) which host fauna that can move to the project area and then suffer mortality or other impacts (e.g., loss of feeding areas, reduction of home range); and
- Natura 2000 sites whose connectivity or ecological continuity can be affected by the plan or project.

European sites with potential source-pathway-receptor linkage with the Proposed Scheme can then be assessed based on factors such as proximity to the proposed works, the QIs/SCIs of the European sites, the species or habitats upon which these rely, and their conservation status. Further information on this is also available within the Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR, 2021).

On consideration of the relatively minor nature of the works involved, the small scale, and the design of the Proposed Scheme, the source-pathway-receptor scope of this Proposed Scheme is small. Though the site of the Proposed Scheme is in proximity of a watercourse with connection via surface drainage systems, there are silt traps but no other pre-existing pollution control measures.

European sites in proximity to the Proposed Scheme, and those with a potential source-pathway-receptor linkage, are shown in Table 1. Figure 3 illustrates the proximity of these European sites and river network to the Proposed Scheme.

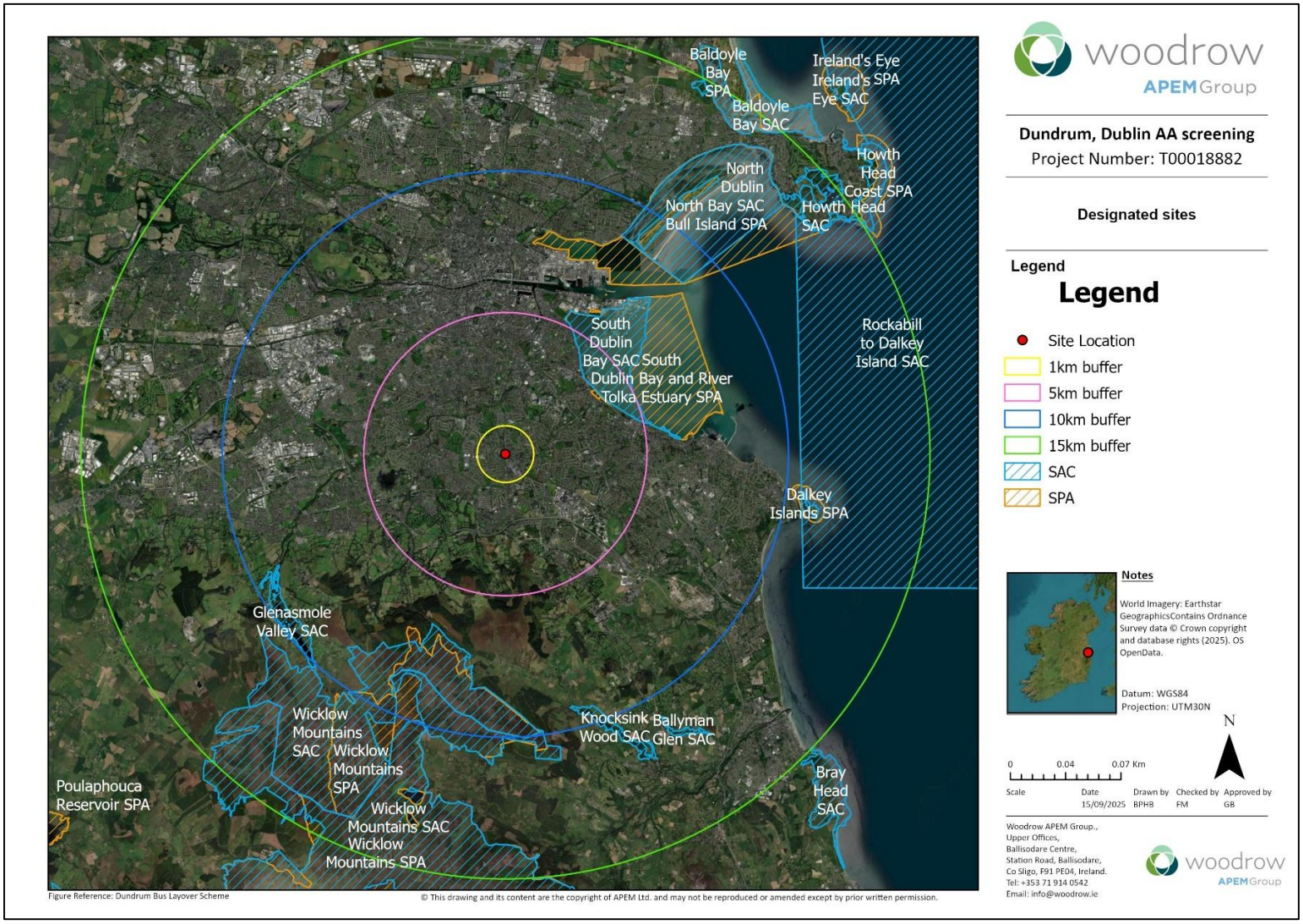


**Figure 3: European sites in the vicinity of the Proposed Scheme**

**Table 1: European Sites with potential Source-Pathway-Receptor linkages to the Proposed Scheme (in descending order of distance to the Scheme)**

| European site [site code] | Qualifying Interests (* denotes priority habitat)/Special Conservation Interests | Distance to the Proposed Scheme | Potential Site-Pathway-Receptor Linkage via proximity of site, and/or surface water connectivity?[5] |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Special Area of Conservation (SACs)** | | | |
| South Dublin Bay SAC [000210] | Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]<br>Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]<br>*Salicornia* and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]<br>Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] | *c.* 3.77 km | There is a pathway between the Proposed Scheme and the SAC due to connectivity via the surface water drainage network and the River Slang which flows into the River Liffey and ultimately discharges to the SAC c. 7.1 km downstream of the Proposed Scheme.<br>There is no potential for water quality impacts arising from surface water run-off or a pollution event during construction of the Proposed Scheme to reach the SAC for reasons outlined below.<br>The small scale, short duration and minor nature of the works will not give rise to water quality impacts of any significant magnitude.<br>The downstream distance of c. 7.1 km between the Proposed Scheme and SAC. This distance and the dilution capacity of the receiving waterbodies would be considered sufficient for any potential silt/oil to dissipate before it reaches the SAC. |

5 EPA Maps https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/ provides online mapping for rivers, streams, flow direction arrows, ground water vulnerability layers and designated sites for Ireland and parts of Northern Ireland etc. – This website was used to assess the potential for connectivity of watercourses and ground water from the development to Natura 2000 sites.

| European site [site code] | Qualifying Interests (* denotes priority habitat)/Special Conservation Interests | Distance to the Proposed Scheme | Potential Site-Pathway-Receptor Linkage via proximity of site, and/or surface water connectivity?[5] |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Surface water from the site will drain into pre-existing surface water networks of stormwater drains, which outfall into the River Slang that have silt trap gully pots.<br><br>Standard best practice will be adhered to on-site during construction phase.<br><br>Overall, given the small scale and nature of the work and the sufficient separation distance, there is no likelihood of significant effects on the European site. |
| Wicklow Mountains SAC [002122] | Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (*Littorelletalia uniflorae*) [3110]<br><br>Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160]<br><br>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix* [4010]<br><br>European dry heaths [4030]<br><br>Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]<br><br>Calaminarian grasslands of the *Violetalia calaminariae* [6130]<br><br>Species-rich *Nardus* grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe) [6230]<br><br>Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]<br><br>Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (*Androsacetalia alpinae* and *Galeopsietalia ladani*) [8110] | *c.* 6.5 km | There is no direct hydrological linkage to this SAC as the Proposed Scheme is approximately 13 km downstream of the SAC. Any potential pollution resulting from the scheme and its impacts on water quality will not affect the QI habitats for the designated site as they are upstream of the proposed works.<br><br>Otter (*lutra lutra*) are a QI species of the SAC. Due to the large home range of otter (female range can typically extend up to 7.5 km ± 1.5 km and males can range up to 19.3 km) there is potential for otter associated with the SAC to occur within the vicinity of the proposed works and connected watercourses. There are confirmed records from the NBDC of otter on the River Slang from 2017. |

| European site [site code] | Qualifying Interests (* denotes priority habitat)/Special Conservation Interests | Distance to the Proposed Scheme | Potential Site-Pathway-Receptor Linkage via proximity of site, and/or surface water connectivity?[5] |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210]<br>Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220]<br>Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles [91A0]<br>*Lutra lutra* (Otter) [1355] | | There is no potential for water quality impacts arising from surface water run-off or a pollution event during construction of the Proposed Scheme to impact the SAC otter population for reasons outlined below.<br>The small scale, short duration and minor nature of the works will not give rise to water quality impacts of any significant magnitude.<br>The dilution capacity of the receiving waterbodies would be considered sufficient for any potential silt/oil to dissipate.<br>Surface water from the site will drain into pre-existing surface water networks of stormwater drains, which outfall into the River Slang that have silt trap gully pots.<br>Standard best practice will be adhered to on-site during construction phase.<br>Overall, given the small scale and nature of the work, the dilution factor of the receiving watercourses and standard best practice measures, there is no likelihood of significant effects on the European site. |
| North Dublin Bay SAC [000206] | Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]<br>Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210] | *c.* 8.61 km | There is a weak hydrological pathway between the Proposed Scheme and the SAC due to connectivity via the surface water drainage network and the River Slang which |

| European site [site code] | Qualifying Interests (* denotes priority habitat)/Special Conservation Interests | Distance to the Proposed Scheme | Potential Site-Pathway-Receptor Linkage via proximity of site, and/or surface water connectivity?[5] |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]<br><br>Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*) [1330]<br><br>Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*) [1410]<br><br>Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]<br><br>Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes) [2120]<br><br>Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]<br><br>Humid dune slacks [2190]<br><br>*Petalophyllum ralfsii* (Petalwort) [1395] | | flows into the River Liffey and ultimately discharges to Dublin Bay.<br><br>There is no potential for water quality impacts arising from surface water run-off or a pollution event during construction of the Proposed Scheme to reach the SAC for reasons outlined below.<br><br>The small scale, short duration and minor nature of the works will not give rise to water quality impacts of any significant magnitude.<br><br>The downstream distance of c. 12 km between the Proposed Scheme and SAC. This distance and the dilution capacity of the receiving waterbodies would be considered sufficient for any potential silt/oil to dissipate before it reaches the SAC.<br><br>Surface water from the site will drain into pre-existing surface water networks of stormwater drains, which outfall into the River Slang that have silt trap gully pots.<br><br>Standard best practice will be adhered to on-site during construction phase.<br><br>Overall, given the small scale and nature of the work and the sufficient separation distance, there is no likelihood of significant effects on the European site. |

| European site [site code] | Qualifying Interests (* denotes priority habitat)/Special Conservation Interests | Distance to the Proposed Scheme | Potential Site-Pathway-Receptor Linkage via proximity of site, and/or surface water connectivity?[5] |
|---|---|---|---|
| Glenasmole Valley SAC [001209] | Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) (* important orchid sites) [6210]<br>*Molinia* meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*) [6410]<br>Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220] | *c.* 8.88 km | There is no hydrological or ecological linkage to this SAC and therefore the SAC will not be impacted in any way by the Proposed Scheme. |
| Knocksink Wood SAC [000725] | Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]<br>Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles [91A0]<br>Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0] | *c*. 9.17 km | There is no hydrological or ecological linkage to this SAC and therefore the SAC will not be impacted in any way by the Proposed Scheme. |
| Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC [003000] | Reefs [1170]<br>*Phocoena phocoena* (Harbour Porpoise) [1351] | *c*. 10.37 km | There is no hydrological or ecological linkage to this SAC and therefore the SAC will not be impacted in any way by the Proposed Scheme. |
| Ballyman Glen SAC [000713] | Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]<br>Alkaline fens [7230] | *c*. 10.78 km | There is no hydrological or ecological linkage to this SAC and therefore the SAC will not be impacted in any way by the Proposed Scheme. |
| Howth Head SAC [000202] | Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]<br>European dry heaths [4030] | *c*. 13.33 km | There is no hydrological or ecological linkage to this SAC and therefore the SAC |

| European site [site code] | Qualifying Interests (* denotes priority habitat)/Special Conservation Interests | Distance to the Proposed Scheme | Potential Site-Pathway-Receptor Linkage via proximity of site, and/or surface water connectivity?[5] |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | will not be impacted in any way by the Proposed Scheme. |
| Baldoyle Bay SAC [000199] | Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]<br>*Salicornia* and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]<br>Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*) [1330]<br>Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*) [1410] | *c*. 14.04 km | There is no hydrological or ecological linkage to this SAC and therefore the SAC will not be impacted in any way by the Proposed Scheme. |
| Ballyman Glen SAC [000713] | Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]<br>Alkaline fens [7230] | *c*. 10.78 km | There is no hydrological or ecological linkage to this SAC and therefore the SAC will not be impacted in any way by the Proposed Scheme. |
| Bray Head SAC [000714] | Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]<br>European dry heaths [4030] | *c*. 14.97 km | There is no hydrological or ecological linkage to this SAC and therefore the SAC will not be impacted in any way by the Proposed Scheme. |
| **Special Protection Area (SPA)** | | | |
| South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA [004024] | Light-bellied Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla hrota*) [A046]<br>Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*) [A130]<br>Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*) [A137]<br>Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) [A141] | *c*. 3.94 km | There is a pathway between the Proposed Scheme and the SPA due to connectivity via the surface water drainage network and the River Slang which flows into the River Liffey and ultimately discharges to the SPA c. |

| European site [site code] | Qualifying Interests (* denotes priority habitat)/Special Conservation Interests | Distance to the Proposed Scheme | Potential Site-Pathway-Receptor Linkage via proximity of site, and/or surface water connectivity?[5] |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Knot (*Calidris canutus*) [A143]<br>Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) [A144]<br>Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) [A149]<br>Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) [A157]<br>Redshank (*Tringa totanus*) [A162]<br>Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*) [A179]<br>Roseate Tern (*Sterna dougallii*) [A192]<br>Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) [A193]<br>Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*) [A194]<br>Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] | | 10.4 km downstream of the Proposed Scheme.<br>There is no potential for water quality impacts arising from surface water run-off or a pollution event during construction of the Proposed Scheme to reach the SPA for reasons outlined below.<br>The small scale, short duration and minor nature of the works will not give rise to water quality impacts of any significant magnitude.<br>The downstream distance of c. 10.4 km between the Proposed Scheme and SPA. This distance and the dilution capacity of the receiving waterbodies would be considered sufficient for any potential silt/oil to dissipate before it reaches the SPA.<br>Surface water from the site will drain into pre-existing surface water networks of stormwater drains, which outfall into the River Slang that have silt trap gully pots.<br>Standard best practice will be adhered to on-site during construction phase.<br>Overall, given the small scale and nature of the work and the sufficient separation distance, there is no likelihood of significant effects on the European site. |

| European site [site code] | Qualifying Interests (* denotes priority habitat)/Special Conservation Interests | Distance to the Proposed Scheme | Potential Site-Pathway-Receptor Linkage via proximity of site, and/or surface water connectivity?[5] |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wicklow Mountains SPA [004040] | Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) [A098]<br>Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus*) [A103] | *c*. 6.78 km | There is no hydrological or ecological linkage to this SPA and therefore the SPA will not be impacted in any way by the Proposed Scheme. |
| North Bull Island SPA [004006] | Light-bellied Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla hrota*) [A046]<br>Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*) [A048]<br>Teal (*Anas crecca*) [A052]<br>Pintail (*Anas acuta*) [A054]<br>Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*) [A130]<br>Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*) [A140]<br>Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) [A141]<br>Knot (*Calidris canutus*) [A143]<br>Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) [A144]<br>Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) [A149]<br>Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*) [A156]<br>Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) [A157]<br>Curlew (*Numenius arquata*) [A160]<br>Redshank (*Tringa totanus*) [A162]<br>Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) [A169]<br>Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*) [A179]<br>Shoveler (*Spatula clypeata*) [A857]<br>Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] | *c*. 8.67 km | There is a pathway between the Proposed Scheme and the SPA due to connectivity via the surface water drainage network and the River Slang which flows into the River Liffey and ultimately discharges to the SPA c. 12.5 km downstream of the Proposed Scheme.<br>There is no potential for water quality impacts arising from surface water run-off or a pollution event during construction of the Proposed Scheme to reach the SPA for reasons outlined below.<br>The small scale, short duration and minor nature of the works will not give rise to water quality impacts of any significant magnitude.<br>The downstream distance of c. 12.5 km between the Proposed Scheme and SPA. This distance and the dilution capacity of the receiving waterbodies would be considered sufficient for any potential silt/oil to dissipate before it reaches the SPA.<br>Surface water from the site will drain into pre-existing surface water networks of |

| European site [site code] | Qualifying Interests (* denotes priority habitat)/Special Conservation Interests | Distance to the Proposed Scheme | Potential Site-Pathway-Receptor Linkage via proximity of site, and/or surface water connectivity?[5] |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | stormwater drains, which outfall into the River Slang that have silt trap gully pots.<br>Standard best practice will be adhered to on-site during construction phase.<br>Overall, given the small scale and nature of the work and the sufficient separation distance, there is no likelihood of significant effects on the European site. |
| Dalkey Island SPA [004172] | Roseate Tern (*Sterna dougallii*) [A192]<br>Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) [A193]<br>Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*) [A194] | *c*. 10.22 km | There is no hydrological or ecological linkage to this SPA and therefore the SPA will not be impacted in any way by the Proposed Scheme. |
| Baldoyle Bay SPA [004016] | Light-bellied Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla hrota*) [A046]<br>Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*) [A048]<br>Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*) [A137]<br>Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*) [A140]<br>Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) [A141]<br>Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) [A157]<br>Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] | *c*. 14.08 km | There is no hydrological or ecological linkage to this SPA and therefore the SPA will not be impacted in any way by the Proposed Scheme. |

# 7. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS

Following a source-pathway-receptor model of analysis, it is necessary to identify the potential impacts associated with the Proposed Scheme, and to ascertain both the likelihood of the effect occurring and the significance of that effect.

The Proposed Scheme could result in water quality impacts arising from surface water run-off or a pollution event during construction. The construction works associated with the Proposed Scheme will include excavation of street surfacing and breaking-up and removal of existing footpaths and kerbs. Small volumes of sediment and silt from these works have the potential to enter the existing surface water drainage network and flow into the River Slang which, as mentioned previously, has connectivity to designated sites.

However, as set out in Section 5 and in Section 7.1 below, there is no potential for water quality impacts arising from surface water run-off or a pollution event during construction of the Proposed Scheme to impact any European site for reasons outlined below:

- The small scale, short duration and minor nature of the works will not give rise to water quality impacts of any significant magnitude.
- The downstream distances of any European site where hydrological connectivity has been identified, and the dilution capacity of the receiving waterbodies would be considered sufficient for any potential silt/oil to dissipate.
- Surface water from the site will drain into pre-existing surface water networks of stormwater drains, which outfall into the River Slang that have silt trap gully pots.
- Standard best practice will be adhered to on-site during construction phase.

## 7.1. Assessment of significance -Screening matrix

An analysis of the potential for the Proposed Scheme to result in a likely significant adverse effect on each European site and its QI/SCI is provided in Table 2.

**Table 2: Qualifying interests of designated sites with potential source-pathway-receptor connection with the Proposed Scheme**

| Qualifying Interests (QIs) [QI code] | Potential Impacts and Effects | Assessment of Impacts and Effects |
|---|---|---|
| **South Dublin Bay SAC [000210]** | | |
| Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] | Construction-related pollution events can negatively impact water quality. Pollution (sediment and chemical/fuel and nutrients) can lead to the decline or extinction of the floral and faunal species supported by the QI, whose preservation is a conservation objective for the QI. | No – There is a potential pathway via the River Slang/ River Liffey connection. However, there is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site.<br>The distance from the site and the significant dilution factor would render any effect from the Proposed Scheme immeasurably small at the designated site. |
| Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210] | Construction-related pollution events can negatively impact water quality. Pollution (sediment and chemical/fuel and nutrients) can lead to the decline or extinction of the floral and faunal species supported by the QI, whose preservation is a conservation objective for the QI. | No – There is a potential pathway via the River Slang/ River Liffey connection. However, there is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site.<br>The distance from the site and the significant dilution factor would render any effect from the Proposed Scheme immeasurably small at the designated site. |

| Qualifying Interests (QIs) [QI code] | Potential Impacts and Effects | Assessment of Impacts and Effects |
|---|---|---|
| Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] | Construction-related pollution events can negatively impact water quality. Pollution (sediment and chemical/fuel and nutrients) can lead to the decline or extinction of the floral and faunal species supported by the QI, whose preservation is a conservation objective for the QI. | No – There is a potential pathway via the River Slang/ River Liffey connection. However, there is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site.<br>The distance from the site and the significant dilution factor would render any effect from the Proposed Scheme immeasurably small at the designated site. |
| Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] | No direct or indirect effects | No – There is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site. |
| **North Dublin Bay SAC [000206]** | | |
| Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] | Construction-related pollution events can negatively impact water quality. Pollution (sediment and chemical/fuel and nutrients) can lead to the decline or extinction of the floral and faunal species supported by the QI, whose preservation is a conservation objective for the QI. | No – There is a potential pathway via the River Slang/ River Liffey connection. However, there is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site.<br>The distance from the site and the significant dilution factor would render any effect from the Proposed Scheme |

| Qualifying Interests (QIs) [QI code] | Potential Impacts and Effects | Assessment of Impacts and Effects |
|---|---|---|
| | | immeasurably small at the designated site. |
| Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210] | Construction-related pollution events can negatively impact water quality. Pollution (sediment and chemical/fuel and nutrients) can lead to the decline or extinction of the floral and faunal species supported by the QI, whose preservation is a conservation objective for the QI. | No – There is a potential pathway via the River Slang/ River Liffey connection. However, there is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site.<br>The distance from the site and the significant dilution factor would render any effect from the Proposed Scheme immeasurably small at the designated site. |
| Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] | Construction-related pollution events can negatively impact water quality. Pollution (sediment and chemical/fuel and nutrients) can lead to the decline or extinction of the floral and faunal species supported by the QI, whose preservation is a conservation objective for the QI. | No – There is a potential pathway via the River Slang/ River Liffey connection. However, there is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site.<br>The distance from the site and the significant dilution factor would render any effect from the Proposed Scheme immeasurably small at the designated site. |

| Qualifying Interests (QIs) [QI code] | Potential Impacts and Effects | Assessment of Impacts and Effects |
|---|---|---|
| Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*) [1330] | No direct or indirect effects | No –There is no potential for the development to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site, |
| Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*) [1410 | No direct or indirect effects | No – There is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site. |
| Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] | No direct or indirect effects | No – There is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site. |
| Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes) [2120] | No direct or indirect effects | No – There is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site. |
| Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130] | No direct or indirect effects | No – There is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site. |
| Humid dune slacks [2190] | No direct or indirect effects | No – There is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site. |
| *Petalophyllum ralfsii* (Petalwort) [1395] | No direct or indirect effects | No – There is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely |

| Qualifying Interests (QIs) [QI code] | Potential Impacts and Effects | Assessment of Impacts and Effects |
|---|---|---|
| | | significant effects on the conservation status of this QI species. |
| **South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA [004024]** | | |
| • Light-bellied Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla hrota*) [A046]<br>• Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*) [A130]<br>• Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*) [A137]<br>• Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) [A141]<br>• Knot (*Calidris canutus*) [A143]<br>• Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) [A144]<br>• Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) [A149]<br>• Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) [A157]<br>• Redshank (*Tringa totanus*) [A162]<br>• Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*) [A179]<br>• Roseate Tern (*Sterna dougallii*) [A192]<br>• Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) [A193] | Pollution (sediment and chemical/fuel and nutrients) can lead to a decline in prey species (i.e., aquatic fauna). Construction-related pollution incidents could negatively impact water quality and habitats used by QI species for roosting and foraging. | No – There is a potential pathway via the River Slang/ River Liffey connection. However, there is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site.<br>The distance from the site and the significant dilution factor would render any effect from the Proposed Scheme immeasurably small at the designated site. |

| Qualifying Interests (QIs) [QI code] | Potential Impacts and Effects | Assessment of Impacts and Effects |
|---|---|---|
| • Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*) [A194]<br>• Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] | | |
| **North Bull Island SPA [004006]** | | |
| • Light-bellied Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla hrota*) [A046]<br>• Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*) [A048]<br>• Teal (*Anas crecca*) [A052]<br>• Pintail (*Anas acuta*) [A054]<br>• Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*) [A130]<br>• Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*) [A140]<br>• Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) [A141]<br>• Knot (*Calidris canutus*) [A143]<br>• Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) [A144]<br>• Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) [A149]<br>• Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*) [A156] | Pollution (sediment and chemical/fuel and nutrients) can lead to a decline in prey species (i.e., aquatic fauna). Construction-related pollution incidents could negatively impact water quality and habitats used by QI species for roosting and foraging. | No – There is a potential pathway via the River Slang/ River Liffey connection. However, there is no potential for the Proposed Scheme to cause likely significant effects on the conservation status of the QI of this site.<br>The distance from the site and the significant dilution factor would render any effect from the Proposed Scheme immeasurably small at the designated site. |

| Qualifying Interests (QIs) [QI code] | Potential Impacts and Effects | Assessment of Impacts and Effects |
|---|---|---|
| • Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) [A157]<br>• Curlew (*Numenius arquata*) [A160]<br>• Redshank (*Tringa totanus*) [A162]<br>• Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) [A169]<br>• Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*) [A179]<br>• Shoveler (*Spatula clypeata*) [A857]<br>• Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] | | |

# 8. CONSIDERATION OF IN-COMBINATION EFFECTS

Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive and Regulation 15 of the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations state that any development or project that may, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, significantly affect a Natura 2000 site should be the subject of an Appropriate Assessment. The assessment of in-combination impacts is therefore an important part of the screening process.

In-combination impacts can be an issue when developments have a small impact on European Sites as a result of factors such as disturbance or pollution. If other developments also have a further small impact, the combined result can have a significant impact on the European Site. Table 3 shows planning applications in the vicinity of and or hydrologically connected to the Proposed Scheme based on a search of An Coimisiún Pleanála's online planning application database since 2019.

**Table 3: Assessment of planned developments within the vicinity of the Proposed Scheme to be considered in-combination**

| Planning Reference | Description of works | Distance from development | Grant date | In-combination effects? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **308405** | Demolition of single storey house, construction of 2-storey extension for counselling and psychotherapy rooms. | c. 57 m from the development site, on the Dundrum Road /main lower street | Granted 04/02/2021 | No – There is no association between the effects of this development and the Proposed Scheme. |
| **317253** | Construction 21 no. apartments and all associated site works. | c. 212 m from the development site | Granted 18/06/2024 | No – There is no association between the effects of this development and the Proposed Scheme. |
| **307640** | 13 no. new dwellings and all associated site development works together with new access road and entrance off Sydenham Road, and a new house fronting onto Kilmacud Road upper. | 358 m East of the development site | Granted 22/04/2021 | No – There is no association between the effects of this development and the Proposed Scheme. |
| **311287** | 115 no. apartments, creche and associated site works. | 555 m North of the development site downstream along the River Slang | Granted 20/12/2021 | No – There is no association between the effects of this development and the Proposed Scheme. |

A search of an Coimisiún Pleanála's online planning application database highlighted a number of building developments near the Proposed Scheme at Dundrum which have been granted planning permission. These developments are primarily construction of apartment buildings and associated construction works involved. Given the nature and scale of the Proposed Scheme, other proposed developments in the locality and the potential for connectivity with European Sites, such projects are not expected to result in in-combination effects with the Proposed Scheme.

# 9. CONCLUSIONS OF SCREENING

This Appropriate Assessment Screening Report has been prepared to assess whether the Proposed Scheme, individually and in combination with other projects using the best available scientific knowledge, will have a likely significant effect on any European designated sites.

The potential impacts of the Proposed Scheme have been considered in the context of the European sites, their Qualifying Interests or Special Conservation Interests, and their conservation objectives. Through an assessment of the source-pathway-receptor model and the potential in-combination effects with other plans or projects. The Appropriate Assessment Screening Report has concluded that the Proposed Scheme, Dundrum Bus Layover, either alone or in-combination with other plans and/or projects, does not have the potential to significantly affect any European Site, in light of their conservation objectives. Therefore, a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is deemed not to be required.

# 10. REFERENCES


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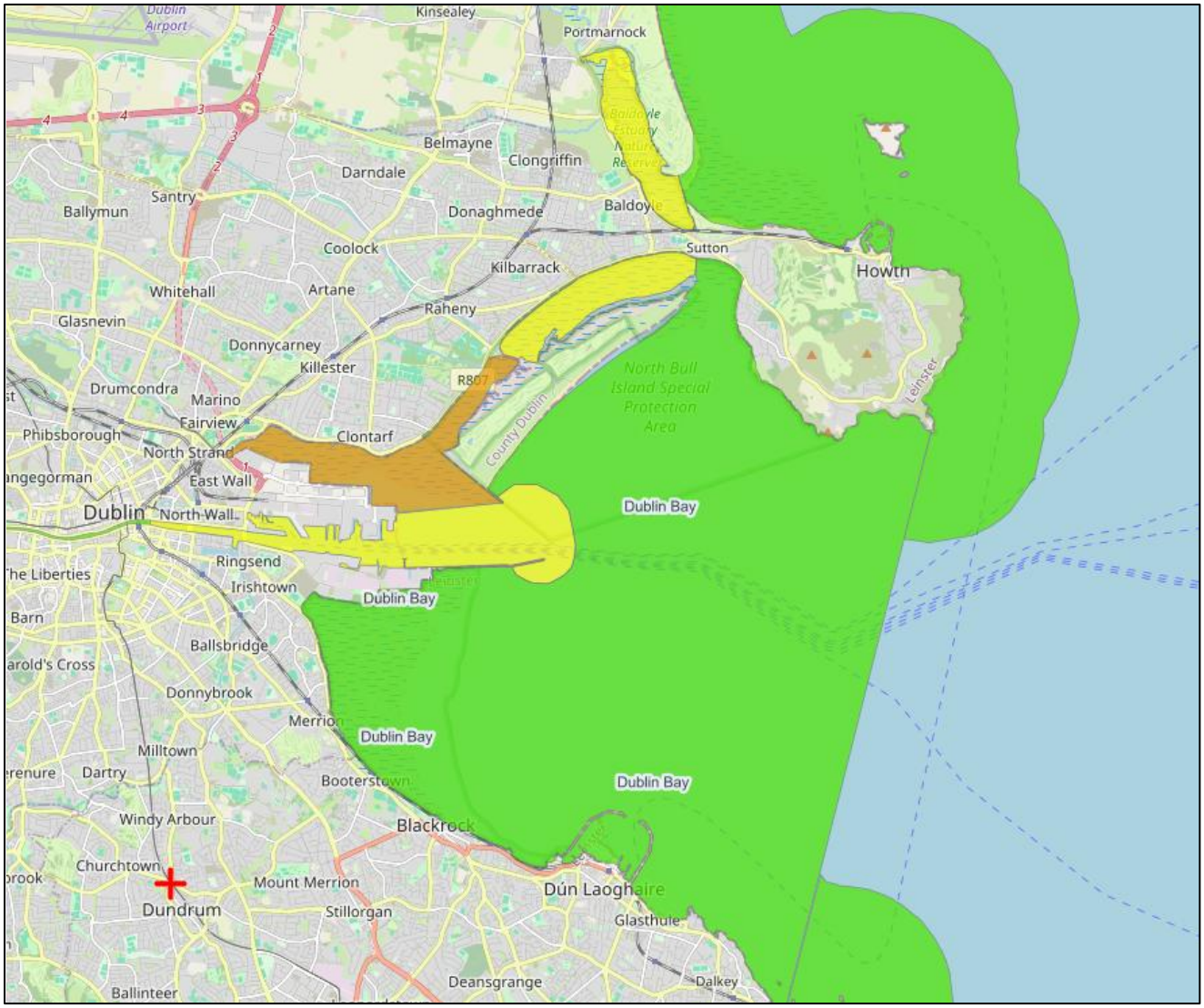
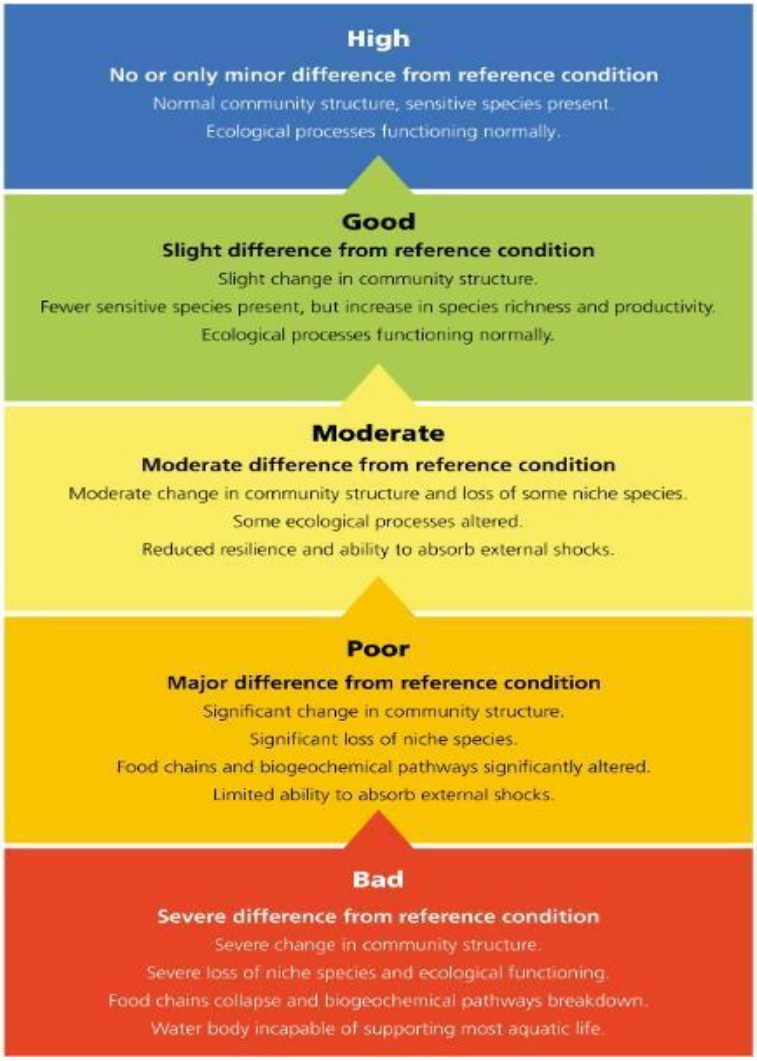
## APPENDIX 1 – HYDROLOGICAL CONNECTIONS AND WATER QUALITY


**Flow direction of watercourses in proximity to the Proposed Scheme**
*(Red cross indicates location of Proposed Scheme)*

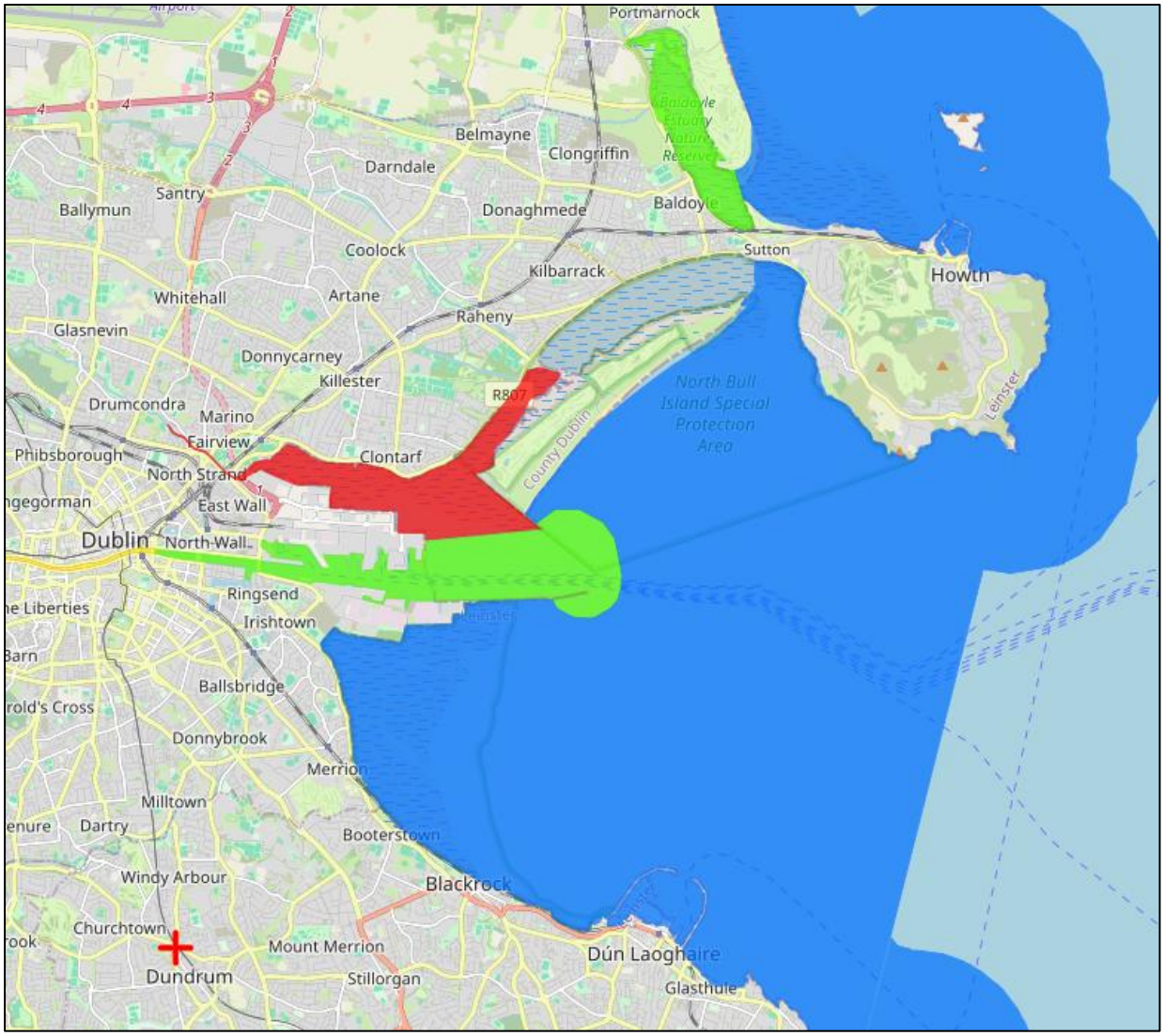



**WFD Water Quality status of transitional and coastal water bodies**

*Includes, Dublin Bay, Liffey Estuary Lower, Tolka Estuary, Mayne Estuary and North Bull Island.*
*(Red cross indicates location of Proposed Scheme)*




**WFD Water Quality status classes**




**EPA Water Quality status of transitional and coastal water bodies**
*Includes, Dublin Bay, Liffey Estuary Lower, Tolka Estuary and Mayne Estuary.*
*(Red cross indicates location of Proposed Scheme).*