

Draft Westmeath County **Development Plan** **2021 - 2027**

Appropriate Assessment
Screening Report

SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

FOR PROPOSED MATERIAL ALTERATIONS

TO THE DRAFT WESTMEATH COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2021-2027

for: Westmeath County Council

Áras an Chontae
Mount Street
Mullingar
County Westmeath



by: CAAS Ltd.

1st Floor
24-26 Ormond Quay
Dublin 7



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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

This Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report for Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Westmeath County Development Plan has been prepared in order to inform Westmeath County Council's determination required under Section 12 (7) (aa) of the Planning and Development Act as amended.

This report is part of the ongoing AA process that is being undertaken alongside the preparation of the Plan. It will be considered, alongside other documentation prepared as part of this process, when Westmeath County Council finalises the AA at adoption of the Plan.

Reports relevant to the AA process being undertaken alongside the preparation of the Plan, in addition to this report, include the following:

- Draft Westmeath County Development Plan 2021-2027;
- Appropriate Assessment (AA) Natura Impact Report for the Draft Westmeath CDP 2021-2027; and
- Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Westmeath County Development Plan 2021-2027.

1.2 Legislative Context

The Habitats Directive provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the "favourable conservation status" of habitats and species of European Community Interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives (Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds) with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as European sites and Natura 2000.

AA and Screening for AA is required by the Habitats Directive, as transposed into Irish legislation by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act (as amended). AA is an assessment of the potential for adverse or negative effects of a plan or project, in combination with other plans or projects, on the conservation objectives of a European site. These sites consist of SACs and SPAs and provide for the protection and long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats.

1.3 Approach

The existing Draft Plan has already been informed by a Stage 2 AA and a Natura Impact Report has been prepared. Mitigation was integrated into the Draft Plan that allowed the Natura Impact Report to conclude that the Draft Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects¹. The Draft Plan and AA Natura Impact Report were placed on public display and submissions were invited. Some of these submissions resulted in Material Alterations being proposed to the Plan².

The Alterations have been considered in this Screening for AA report. The Screening exercise examines whether there is potential for any effects on the integrity of European sites to arise as a result of the Alterations, within the context of the existing Draft Plan provisions. If there is potential for effects and mitigation is required to be integrated into the Proposed Material Alterations by way of modification, then Stage 2 AA will be required.

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

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

² Comments made as part of the submissions is also resulting in the original AA Natura Impact Report being updated in advance of adoption of the Plan.

The Screening for AA is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological and hydrological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and 'grey' literature was conducted. This included a detailed review of 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.

The ecological desktop study completed for the Screening for AA comprises the following elements:

- Identification of European sites within 15km of the Plan boundary with identification of potential pathways links for specific sites (if relevant) greater than 1km from the Plan boundary;
- Review of the NPWS site synopsis and conservation objectives for European sites with identification of potential pathways from the Plan area; and
- Examination of available information on protected species.

There are four main stages in the AA process under the Habitats Directive as follow:

Stage One: Screening

The process that identifies the likely impacts upon a European site of a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant.

Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment

The consideration of the impact on the integrity of the European site of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's structure and function and its conservation objectives. Additionally, where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts. If adequate mitigation is proposed to ensure no significant adverse impacts on European sites, then the process may end at this stage. However, if the likelihood of significant impacts remains, then the process must proceed to Stage Three.

Stage Three: Assessment of Alternative Solutions

The process that examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoids adverse impacts on the integrity of the European site.

Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain

An assessment of compensatory measures where, in the light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), it is deemed that the project or plan should proceed.

The Habitats Directive promotes a hierarchy of avoidance, mitigation and compensatory measures. This approach aims to avoid any impacts on European sites by identifying possible impacts early in the plan-making process and avoiding such impacts. Second, the approach involves the application of mitigation measures, if necessary, during the AA process to the point where no adverse impacts on the site(s) remain. If potential impacts on European sites remain, the approach requires the consideration of alternative solutions. If no alternative solutions are identified and the plan/project is required for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, then compensation measures are required for any remaining adverse effect(s).

The assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted following a standard source-pathway-receptor³ model, where, in order for an 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 model is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

The Screening for AA exercise has been prepared taking into account legislation including the aforementioned legislation and guidance including the following:

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2009;
- "Commission Notice: Managing Natura 2000 sites - The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission 2018;
- "Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission Environment DG, 2002; and
- "Managing Natura 2000 sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission, 2000.

³ Source(s) – e.g. pollutant run-off from proposed works; Pathway(s) – e.g. groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and Receptor(s) – qualifying aquatic habitats and species of European sites.

2 Description of the Plan and associated Proposed Material Alterations

The Draft Westmeath County Development Plan 2021-2027 sets out the Council's proposed policies and objectives for the development of the County over the Plan period. The Development Plan seeks to develop and improve, in a sustainable manner, the social, economic, environmental and cultural assets of the County.

The Draft Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). This Plan, once adopted, replaces the Westmeath Development Plan 2014 – 2020 and consists of a Written Statement including specific policy objectives supported with Maps and Appendices.

The existing Draft Plan has already been informed by a Stage 2 AA and a Natura Impact Report has been prepared. Mitigation was integrated into the Draft Plan that allowed the Natura Impact Report to conclude that that the Draft Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects⁴.

The Written Statement is divided into 16 separate chapters setting out the vision, strategic context, aims, goals and the settlement and core strategies for the County. The format of the plan is as follows:

- Chapter 1 Introduction
- Chapter 2 Core Strategy
- Chapter 3 Housing Strategy
- Chapter 4 Sustainable Communities
- Chapter 5 Economy & Employment
- Chapter 6 Tourism
- Chapter 7 Urban Centres & Place-making
- Chapter 8 Settlement Plans
- Chapter 9 Rural Westmeath
- Chapter 10 Transport, Infrastructure & Energy
- Chapter 11 Climate Action
- Chapter 12 Natural Heritage & Green Infrastructure
- Chapter 13 Landscape & Lake Amenities
- Chapter 14 Cultural Heritage
- Chapter 15 Land Use Objectives
- Chapter 16 Development Management Standards

The Appendices include the Council's Housing Strategy, a statement detailing implementation of Ministerial Guidelines, County Westmeath Retail Strategy, List of Protected Views, List of Public Rights of Way, Trees & Woodland subject to Tree Preservation Orders, and Map Based Local Objectives (to be read in conjunction with the Development Plan Maps).

The Draft Plan's Strategic Vision is:

To create and facilitate sustainable competitive growth throughout the County that supports the health and wellbeing of the people of Westmeath, providing an attractive destination, as a place in which to live, work, invest, do business and visit, offering high quality employment and educational opportunities within sustainable communities whilst safeguarding the environmental, cultural, heritage and tourism assets of the County.

The Draft Plan's Strategic Aims are:

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.

- **Sustainable Communities:** To develop and support vibrant sustainable communities in Westmeath where people can live, work and enjoy access to a wide range of community, health and educational facilities and amenities, suitable for all ages and needs, in both urban and rural areas, thereby supporting a high quality of life for all to enjoy.
- **Economic Development and Employment:** To promote and assist in Westmeath's economic development and encourage increased resilience in the County's enterprise, underpinned by talent and innovation, thereby ensuring that Westmeath is best placed to excel in the long-term delivery of sustainable jobs and an enhanced standard of living for all.
- **Tourism:** To provide for the continued expansion of the tourism sector, with a focus on creating strong visitor destination towns and sufficient high-quality visitor services and the continued development and enhancement of visitor attractions and activities to provide memorable, immersive visitor experiences, capitalising on our natural and cultural heritage assets, whilst safeguarding these resources for future generations.
- **Urban Centres & Placemaking:** To protect and enhance the unique identity and character of Westmeath's towns and villages and improve quality of life and wellbeing through the application of Healthy Placemaking, underpinned by good urban design, with the creation of attractive public spaces that are vibrant, distinctive, safe and accessible and which promote and facilitate positive social interaction.
- **Settlements:** To create a network of attractive, liveable towns and villages in the County with increased levels of population, employment activity and enhanced levels of amenity which support a high quality of life and well-being.
- **Rural:** To support the role of rural areas and the countryside in sustaining the rural economy and improved connectivity, broadband and rural economic development opportunities through the development of the agricultural and agri-food sector, agricultural related developments and enterprises, including diversification of the rural economy, forestry, energy production, tourism, recreation, mineral extraction and/other new and emerging rural based enterprises, all within the context of the sustainable management of land and resources, thereby increasing the competitiveness of the rural economy, which will sustain and strengthen rural communities.
- **Transport, Infrastructure and Energy:** To achieve a sustainable, integrated and low carbon transport system with excellent connectivity within and to Westmeath by enhancing existing strategic transportation infrastructure in the County. To provide, improve and extend water, wastewater, surface water and flood alleviation services throughout the County and to prioritise the provision of water services infrastructure, to achieve improved environmental protection and to protect public health. To provide for the development of indigenous energy resources, with an emphasis on renewable energy supplies.
- **Climate Action:** To transition to a low carbon and climate resilient County, with an emphasis on reduction in energy demand and greenhouse gas emissions, through a combination of effective mitigation and adaptation responses to climate change.
- **Natural Heritage and Green Infrastructure:** Continue to protect and enhance the County's natural heritage and biodiversity and ensure that networks of green infrastructure are identified, created, protected and enhanced to provide a wide range of environmental, social and economic benefits to communities.
- **Landscape and Lake Amenities:** To improve the knowledge and understanding of the County's landscape and lakelands, and enhance the overall characteristics, qualities and diversity of landscape character, its sense of place and local distinctiveness in recognition of the amenity potential of the County.
- **Cultural Heritage:** Westmeath County Council recognises the importance of identifying, valuing and safeguarding our archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage for future generations and aims to do so by means of proper management, sensitive enhancement and/or appropriate development of this resource.

The Proposed Material Alterations are outlined in detail in the accompanying Proposed Material Alteration document. The "Alteration References" provided in Section 3 of this report can be used to locate this detail in the accompanying Proposed Material Alteration document. Alterations proposed include those relating to:

- Flood Risk Management provisions;
- Land Use Zoning;
- Alignment with Ministerial Guidelines;
- Development Management Standards;
- Preparation of lower-tier plans, including an Area Based Transport Plan;
- Housing provisions;
- Wind energy provisions;
- Terminology;
- Amenity Areas; and
- Context setting text for Plan provisions.

3 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

3.1 Introduction to Screening

This stage of the process identifies any potential significant affects to European sites from a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans.

An important element of the this process is the identification of the “conservation objectives”, “Qualifying Interests” (QIs) and/ or “Special Conservation Interests” (SCIs) of European sites requiring assessment. QIs are the habitat features and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive for which each European site has been designated and afforded protection. SCIs are wetland habitats and bird species listed within Annexes I and II of the Birds Directive. It is also vital that the threats to the ecological / environmental conditions that are required to support QIs and SCIs are considered as part of the assessment.

The following NPWS Generic Conservation Objectives have been considered in the screening:

- For SACs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected; and
- For SPAs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

Where available, Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) designed to define favourable conservation status for a particular habitat⁵ or species⁶ at that site have been considered.

3.2 Identification of Relevant European Sites

The Department of the Environment (2009) Guidance on AA recommends a 15 km buffer zone to be considered. A review of all sites within this zone has allowed a determination to be made that in the absence of significant hydrological links the characteristics of the Proposed Material Alterations will not impose effects beyond the 15 km buffer.

Details of European sites that occur within 15 km of the Plan area and sites with hydrological connectivity beyond 15km are provided on

⁵ Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when: its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing; the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future; and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.

⁶ The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when: population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats; the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future; and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

No.	Amendment Reference No:	SEA Screening Consideration, alone and in combination with other plans and programmes and in combination provisions already contained within the Draft Plan Screening for Appropriate Assessment for Proposed Material Alterations
1	CH 11.1	This alteration would further contribute towards climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
2	CH 11.2	This alteration – to set a target – would further contribute towards climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
3	CH 16.2	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking and sustainable mobility related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. As identified in the Plan, there is a balance to be achieved between facilitating necessary parking in the short term, and the overall objective, of having improved public transport as a viable alternative and as that becomes available of discouraging use of private cars. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
4	CH 3.2	This alteration would further contribute towards housing related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
5	CH 3.4	This alteration would further contribute towards housing and Statutory obligation related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
6	CH 3.1	This alteration would further contribute towards housing, building height and Statutory obligation related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
7	CH 7.5	This alteration would further contribute towards building height and Statutory obligation related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. LAPs will be subject to SEA and AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
8	CH 2.5	This alteration would further contribute towards urban development and sustainable transport related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Plans prepared by the Council will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
10	CH 7.4	This alteration would further contribute towards brownfield / infill and back land development related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
12	CH 11.3	A future assessment of how the implementation of the Plan will contribute to realising overall national targets on renewable energy and climate change would not result in different outcomes or effects for European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Was such an assessment to be followed by recommendations, such as varying the Plan, such recommendations would have to be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
13	CH 10.39	The update to terminology would change the potential effects arising from the Plan. "To strictly direct" development to one location does not prohibit such development to be directed, encouraged, permitted or refused to the same locations or elsewhere. As such, this alteration would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
14	CH 2.10	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for, summarises and provides clarification to Plan provisions. It does not interact with existing Plan provisions to an extent that it would have effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
15	CH 9.3	This amendment adds more detail to an existing CPO but would not have additional effects. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
16	CH 9.1, CH 9.5 & CH 9.6	This is not considered to be an alteration as there is no change to the Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
17	CH 9.1, CH 9.5 & CH 9.6	This alteration would further contribute towards rural housing policy provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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18	CH 9.2	This alteration would further contribute towards rural housing policy provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
19	BOM 34 & BOM 35	Lough Derravaragh - this is not considered to be an alteration as there is no change to the Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. As identified in the SEA Environmental Report, reducing the High Amenity Area to the north and east of Lough Derravaragh would reduce the protection of the overall landscape and undermine the long-term integrity of this important asset. This is already provided for by the Draft Plan. The inclusion of additional lands as part of Lough Lene High Amenity Area would increase the protection of the overall landscape and help to secure the long-term integrity of this important assets. This Alteration would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
20	CH 7.5	This alteration would further contribute towards building height related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Plans prepared by the Council will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
21	BOM 30	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
22	BOM 17	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
23	BOM 31	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
24	CH 8.18	This alteration does not affect other requirements to undertake site-specific FRA. This alteration would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
25	CH 10.18	This alteration would further contribute towards transport related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Plans prepared by the Council will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
26	CH 8.10	As identified in the SEA Environmental Report that accompanies the Plan, "There is no planning justification to make provision for a new link road in the absence of development on the associated lands..." and "... such a road would present unnecessary potential for likely significant adverse effects on various environmental components...". The omission of this CPO would remove the potential for these effects to occur; however, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
27	CH 8.10	As identified in the SEA Environmental Report that accompanies the Plan, "There is no planning justification to make provision for a new link road in the absence of development on the associated lands..." and "... such a road would present unnecessary potential for likely significant adverse effects on various environmental components...". The omission of this CPO would remove the potential for these effects to occur; however, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
28	CH 8.21	This alteration would further contribute towards provisions for the protection of ecology already included within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards the protection of ecology, it is determined that this Proposed Alteration would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
29	BOM 21	This alteration would further contribute towards provisions for the protection of ecology already included within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards the protection of ecology, it is determined that this Proposed Alteration would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
30	CH 10.43	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency for the Plan text in question with other Plan text and the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
31		This improves communication of flood risk but does not affect Plan provisions and would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
32	CH 2.3	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
33	CH 2.3	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
34	CH 2.6	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
35	CH 2.7	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
36	CH 2.8	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
37	CH 2.11	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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38	CH 3.2	This alteration would further contribute towards housing related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
39	CH 5.2	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
40	CH 5.4	This alteration would further contribute towards enterprise and employment related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Council Plans will be subject to SEA and AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
41	CH 5.3	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
42	APDX 4.1	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
43	CH 8.1	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
44	CH 9.2	This is not considered to be an alteration as there is no change to the Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
46	CH 11.4	This alteration would further contribute towards – and could potentially improve implementation of – climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
47	CH 11.5	This alteration would further contribute towards – and could potentially improve implementation of – climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
48	BOM 34 & 35	See commentary under CE OPR 1.18 Superseded by WH-DCDP-MA-01 & WH-DCDP-MA-02
49	OPW	See commentary elsewhere.
50	CH 1.1	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
51	CH 2.1	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
52	CH 2.2	This alteration would further contribute towards transport infrastructure related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
53	CH 2.9	This alteration would further contribute towards water services related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
54	CH 3.3	This alteration would further contribute towards housing related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
55	CH 4.1	This Proposed Alteration adds a reference to an existing publication and does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
56	CH 4.3	This alteration would further contribute towards community and schools related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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178	CH 16.2	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
179	CH 16.3	This alteration would further contribute towards walking and cycling related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
180	CH 16.5	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
181	CH 16.9	This alteration would further contribute towards tourism related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
182	CH 16.10	This alteration would further contribute towards tourism related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
183	CH 10.23	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
184	CH 10.19 & CH 16.8	This alteration would further contribute towards road safety and traffic calming related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
185	BOM 5	This is a minor amendment to align with the development boundary identified in grant of planning and to correct a digitising error. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
186	BOM 5 & CH 8.5	This alteration relates to a relatively small area of lands at which the Chief Executive's Report noted the merits of having childcare facilities at this location. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
187	BOM 6	These lands are located adjacent to an existing sporting and recreational club. This alteration was suggested in the Chief Executive's Report in order to provide greater certainty to any proposal for the expansion of that club or any other sporting organisation. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
188	BOM 17	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
189	BOM 25	As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "Mixed-use" zoning in or near village centres affords a diverse range of day and evening uses where there are high levels of accessibility, including pedestrian, cyclists and public transport. Having regard to the history of this site, and to allow usage flexibility and enhance the potential vitality and viability of the village settlement, a change to "Mixed Use" is considered acceptable." Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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190	BOM 26	<p>As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "Mixed Use' zoning reflects the mixture of uses which have always co-existed in town/village centres and which offers the variety required to make them attractive and important places for community interaction. The zoning provides for a range of uses to sustain and enhance the vitality and viability of settlement centres, making provision where appropriate, for primary and secondary uses. It is considered that the expansion of the existing "Mixed Use" to include the subject lands represents a logical and natural extension and will not deter from the residential amenities of neighbouring properties."</p> <p>Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
191	BOM 31	<p>This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
192	BOM 32	<p>This alteration relates to a relatively small area of lands. Only zoning of lands that have been built upon is proposed to change. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
193	BOM 30	<p>This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
195	BOM 33	<p>As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "it is noted that there is a cartographic discrepancy between the extent of the Node as illustrated on the Consultation Portal and the published Book of Maps. Accordingly, in the interest of transparency, the extent of the Node as previously agreed under the current Plan and as set out under the published Book of Maps should be updated as part of the final Plan". Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
196	BOM 19	<p>As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "sewer arrangement will not provide for the viable development of the adjacent lands, it is considered rational that a reduction in zoning associated with the existing residentially zoned site can facilitate the zoning of the remainder of the site in question thereby providing for a development proposal having regard to the natural boundaries of these lands." Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
197	BOM 11	<p>As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "the subject lands consist of a relatively small plot which has convenient proximity to the town centre and local services and provide the potential for self-build plots in accordance with RPO 4.78 of the EMRA RSES, which provides for the development of serviced sites to create 'build your own home' opportunities and thus provide a viable alternative to housing in the open countryside". Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
198	BOM 1 & BOM 2	<p>This alteration is to zone for development greenfield sites in Castlepollard, removed from the established settlement boundary, and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
199	BOM 3	<p>It is considered that there is no justification for rezoning the subject lands in Castlepollard "Proposed Residential" as it would impact on the residential amenity of existing properties in the vicinity. The zoning as proposed would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
200	BOM 13	<p>This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site in Killucan-Rathwire, removed from the established settlement boundary, and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
201	BOM 14	<p>This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site between the settlements of Killucan and Rathwire, removed from the established built settlement boundary, on lands zoned "Open Space", as part of a larger area of tree planted open landscape providing an important visual break between Killucan and Rathwire, and is not in the interests of proper planning. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
202	BOM 16	<p>This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site, removed from the established built settlement boundary of Rochfortbridge, and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
203	BOM 23	<p>This alteration is to zone for development an additional greenfield site in Ballymore and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
204	BOM 29	<p>This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site removed from the established settlement boundary of Glasson and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
205	BOM 36	<p>The Wind Energy Capacity Map was generated using the landscape character assessment together with wind speed data provided by SEAI. In terms of the request for a change of the classification of Area 7 from "medium capacity" to "low capacity" for wind energy development, it is considered that such an amendment is not justified given the landscape character of the area in question. However, this Proposed Material Alteration would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>

Table 3.1. European sites and EPA Rivers and Catchments are also mapped in Figure 3.1 below.

Information on QIs, SCIs and site-specific vulnerabilities and sensitivities (see Appendix I) and 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. Conservation objectives that have been considered by the assessment are included in the following NPWS/ Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage documents:

- (2018) Conservation objectives for Lough Derravarragh SPA [004043]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Lough Ennell SPA [004044]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Glen Lough SPA [004045]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Lough Iron SPA [004046]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Lough Owel SPA [004047]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Lough Ree SPA [004064]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Middle Shannon Callows SPA [004096]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2015) Conservation Objectives: Garriskil Bog SAC [000679]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Middle Shannon Callows SPA [004096]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2016) Conservation Objectives: Lough Ree SAC [000440]. Version 1.
- (2015) Conservation Objectives: Raheenmore Bog SAC [000582]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation Objectives: Lough Ennell SAC [000685]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation Objectives: Lough Owel SAC [000688]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation Objectives: Scragh Bog SAC [000692]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for White Lough, Ben Loughs and Lough Doo SAC [001810]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation Objectives: Split Hills and Long Hill Esker SAC [001831]. Version 1.
- (2016) Conservation Objectives: Crosswood Bog SAC [002337]. Version 1.
- (2016) Conservation Objectives: Moneybeg and Clareisland Bogs SAC [002340]. Version 1.
- (2016) Conservation Objectives: Mount Hevey Bog SAC [002342]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Lough Lene SAC [002121]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation Objectives: Ballymore Fen SAC [002313]. Version 1.
- (2015) Conservation Objectives: Carn Park Bog SAC [002336]. Version 1.
- (2015) Conservation Objectives: Garriskil Bog SAC [000679]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Wooddown Bog SAC [002205]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Lough Bane and Lough Glass SAC [002120]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Lough Sheelin SPA [004065]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Mongan Bog SPA [004017]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2016) Conservation Objectives: Mongan Bog SAC [000580]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Girley (Drewstown) Bog SAC [002203]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Derragh Bog SAC [002201]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation Objectives: Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC [001776]. Version 1.
- (2015) Conservation Objectives: Ferbane Bog SAC [000575]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA [004061]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2015) Conservation Objectives: Moyclare Bog SAC [000581]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Charleville Wood SAC [000571]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Castlesampson Esker SAC [001625]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2016) Conservation Objectives: Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough SAC [002339]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation Objectives: Fortwilliam Turlough SAC [000448]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation Objectives: Lough Funshinagh SAC [000611]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for River Shannon Callows SAC [000216]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for River Suck Callows SPA [004097]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for River Shannon Callows SAC [000216]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA [004232]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC [002299]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2018) Conservation Objectives: Lough Croan Turlough SAC [000610]. Version 1.
- (2011) Conservation Objectives: River Barrow and River Nore SAC [002162]. Version 1.0.
- (2015) Conservation Objectives: Ardagullion Bog SAC [002341]. Version 1.
- (2018) Conservation objectives for Fin Lough (Offaly) SAC [000576]. Generic Version 6.0.
- (2016) Conservation Objectives: Clara Bog SAC [000572]. Version 1.
- (2020) Conservation Objectives: Lough Derg SPA [004058]. Version 7.
- (2019) Conservation Objectives: Lough Derg, North-east Shore SAC [002241]. Version 1.
- (2012) Conservation Objectives: Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC [001957]. Version 1.
- (2013) Conservation Objectives: Boyne Estuary SPA [004080]. Version 1.
- (2012) Conservation Objectives: Lower River Shannon SAC [002165]. Version 1.
- (2012) Conservation Objectives: River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA [004077]. 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 effects of the Proposed Material Alterations against the QIs/SCIs of each site. The conservation objectives for each site were consulted throughout the assessment process.

Screening for Appropriate Assessment for Proposed Material Alterations

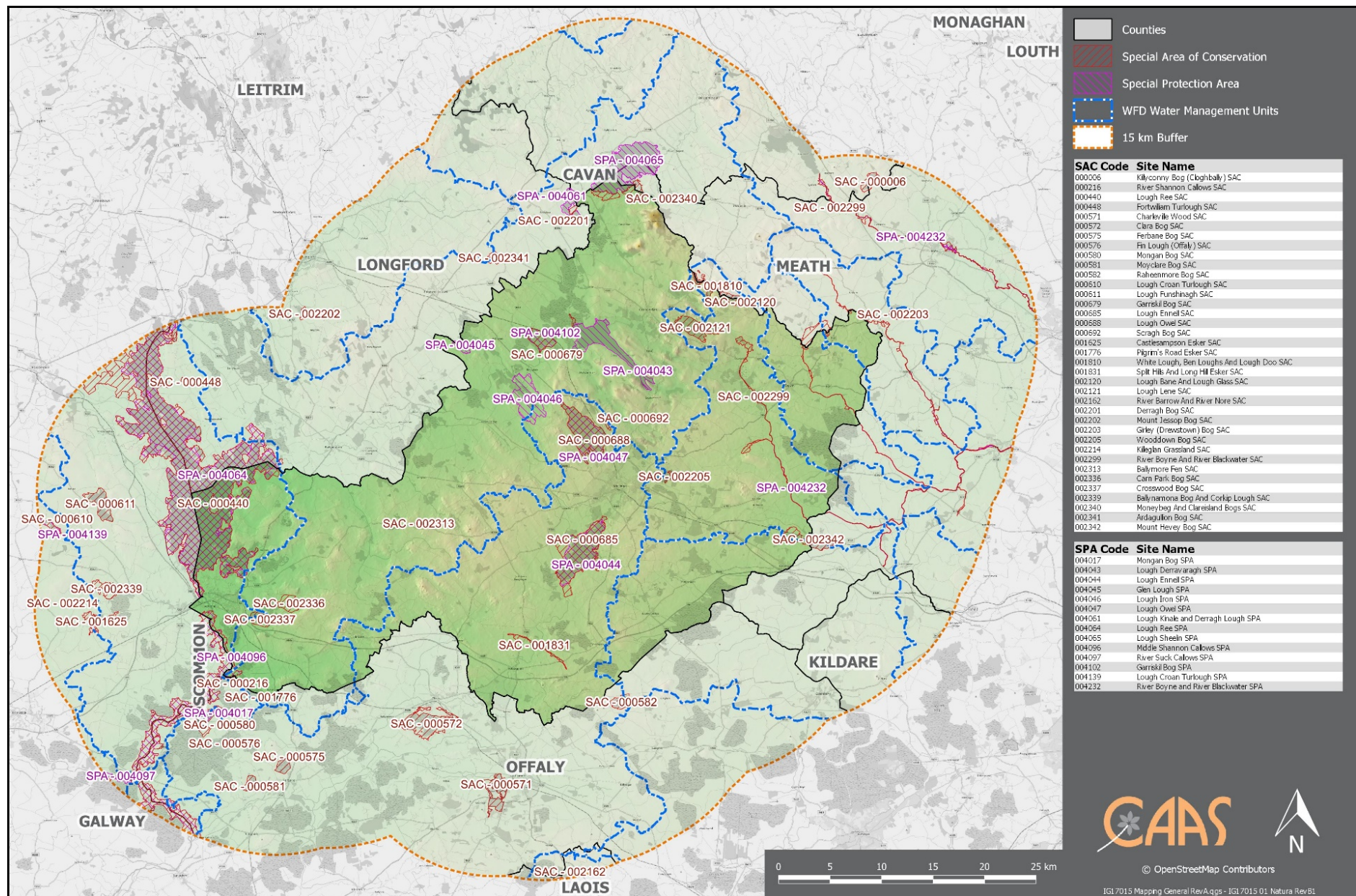


Figure 3.1 European sites within 15 km of the Draft Plan boundary⁷

⁷ Source: NPWS (datasets downloaded November 2019)
CAAS for Westmeath County Council

3.3 Assessment Criteria and Screening

3.3.1 Is the Plan Necessary to the Management of European Sites?

The overarching objective of the Plan, to which the Proposed Material Alterations relate, is not the nature conservation management of the sites, but to coordinate and plan the future development of County Westmeath. Therefore, the Plan, to which the Proposed Material Alterations relate, is not considered to be directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites.

3.3.2 Elements of the Draft Plan with Potential to Give Rise to Effects

The Draft Plan, to which the Proposed Material Alterations relate, provides a framework for the sustainable development of the Westmeath area. There are a number of environmental sensitivities within the area and an assessment of effects indicates the potential effects under the Draft Plan relate to the following:

- Arising from 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; and
 - Disturbance (e.g. due to noise and lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species.
- Potential interactions if effects upon environmental vectors such as water and air.
- Adverse effects from tourism, 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 greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions.

The existing Draft Plan has already been informed by a Stage 2 AA and a Natura Impact Report has been prepared. Mitigation was integrated into the Draft Plan that allowed the Natura Impact Report to conclude that that the Draft Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects⁸.

The potential for Proposed Material Alterations to result in effects on designated European sites is examined on

⁸ 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.

No.	Amendment Reference No:	SEA Screening Consideration, alone and in combination with other plans and programmes and in combination provisions already contained within the Draft Plan Screening for Appropriate Assessment for Proposed Material Alterations
1	CH 11.1	This alteration would further contribute towards climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
2	CH 11.2	This alteration – to set a target – would further contribute towards climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
3	CH 16.2	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking and sustainable mobility related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. As identified in the Plan, there is a balance to be achieved between facilitating necessary parking in the short term, and the overall objective, of having improved public transport as a viable alternative and as that becomes available of discouraging use of private cars. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
4	CH 3.2	This alteration would further contribute towards housing related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
5	CH 3.4	This alteration would further contribute towards housing and Statutory obligation related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
6	CH 3.1	This alteration would further contribute towards housing, building height and Statutory obligation related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
7	CH 7.5	This alteration would further contribute towards building height and Statutory obligation related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. LAPs will be subject to SEA and AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
8	CH 2.5	This alteration would further contribute towards urban development and sustainable transport related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Plans prepared by the Council will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
10	CH 7.4	This alteration would further contribute towards brownfield / infill and back land development related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
12	CH 11.3	A future assessment of how the implementation of the Plan will contribute to realising overall national targets on renewable energy and climate change would not result in different outcomes or effects for European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Was such an assessment to be followed by recommendations, such as varying the Plan, such recommendations would have to be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
13	CH 10.39	The update to terminology would change the potential effects arising from the Plan. "To strictly direct" development to one location does not prohibit such development to be directed, encouraged, permitted or refused to the same locations or elsewhere. As such, this alteration would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
14	CH 2.10	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for, summarises and provides clarification to Plan provisions. It does not interact with existing Plan provisions to an extent that it would have effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
15	CH 9.3	This amendment adds more detail to an existing CPO but would not have additional effects. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
16	CH 9.1, CH 9.5 & CH 9.6	This is not considered to be an alteration as there is no change to the Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
17	CH 9.1, CH 9.5 & CH 9.6	This alteration would further contribute towards rural housing policy provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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18	CH 9.2	This alteration would further contribute towards rural housing policy provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
19	BOM 34 & BOM 35	Lough Derravaragh - this is not considered to be an alteration as there is no change to the Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. As identified in the SEA Environmental Report, reducing the High Amenity Area to the north and east of Lough Derravaragh would reduce the protection of the overall landscape and undermine the long-term integrity of this important asset. This is already provided for by the Draft Plan. The inclusion of additional lands as part of Lough Lene High Amenity Area would increase the protection of the overall landscape and help to secure the long-term integrity of this important assets. This Alteration would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
20	CH 7.5	This alteration would further contribute towards building height related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Plans prepared by the Council will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
21	BOM 30	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
22	BOM 17	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
23	BOM 31	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
24	CH 8.18	This alteration does not affect other requirements to undertake site-specific FRA. This alteration would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
25	CH 10.18	This alteration would further contribute towards transport related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Plans prepared by the Council will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
26	CH 8.10	As identified in the SEA Environmental Report that accompanies the Plan, "There is no planning justification to make provision for a new link road in the absence of development on the associated lands..." and "... such a road would present unnecessary potential for likely significant adverse effects on various environmental components...". The omission of this CPO would remove the potential for these effects to occur; however, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
27	CH 8.10	As identified in the SEA Environmental Report that accompanies the Plan, "There is no planning justification to make provision for a new link road in the absence of development on the associated lands..." and "... such a road would present unnecessary potential for likely significant adverse effects on various environmental components...". The omission of this CPO would remove the potential for these effects to occur; however, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
28	CH 8.21	This alteration would further contribute towards provisions for the protection of ecology already included within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards the protection of ecology, it is determined that this Proposed Alteration would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
29	BOM 21	This alteration would further contribute towards provisions for the protection of ecology already included within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards the protection of ecology, it is determined that this Proposed Alteration would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
30	CH 10.43	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency for the Plan text in question with other Plan text and the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
31		This improves communication of flood risk but does not affect Plan provisions and would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
32	CH 2.3	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
33	CH 2.3	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
34	CH 2.6	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
35	CH 2.7	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
36	CH 2.8	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
37	CH 2.11	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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38	CH 3.2	This alteration would further contribute towards housing related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
39	CH 5.2	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
40	CH 5.4	This alteration would further contribute towards enterprise and employment related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Council Plans will be subject to SEA and AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
41	CH 5.3	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
42	APDX 4.1	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
43	CH 8.1	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
44	CH 9.2	This is not considered to be an alteration as there is no change to the Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
46	CH 11.4	This alteration would further contribute towards – and could potentially improve implementation of – climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
47	CH 11.5	This alteration would further contribute towards – and could potentially improve implementation of – climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
48	BOM 34 & 35	See commentary under CE OPR 1.18 Superseded by WH-DCDP-MA-01 & WH-DCDP-MA-02
49	OPW	See commentary elsewhere.
50	CH 1.1	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
51	CH 2.1	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
52	CH 2.2	This alteration would further contribute towards transport infrastructure related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
53	CH 2.9	This alteration would further contribute towards water services related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
54	CH 3.3	This alteration would further contribute towards housing related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
55	CH 4.1	This Proposed Alteration adds a reference to an existing publication and does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
56	CH 4.3	This alteration would further contribute towards community and schools related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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178	CH 16.2	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
179	CH 16.3	This alteration would further contribute towards walking and cycling related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
180	CH 16.5	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
181	CH 16.9	This alteration would further contribute towards tourism related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
182	CH 16.10	This alteration would further contribute towards tourism related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
183	CH 10.23	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
184	CH 10.19 & CH 16.8	This alteration would further contribute towards road safety and traffic calming related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
185	BOM 5	This is a minor amendment to align with the development boundary identified in grant of planning and to correct a digitising error. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
186	BOM 5 & CH 8.5	This alteration relates to a relatively small area of lands at which the Chief Executive's Report noted the merits of having childcare facilities at this location. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
187	BOM 6	These lands are located adjacent to an existing sporting and recreational club. This alteration was suggested in the Chief Executive's Report in order to provide greater certainty to any proposal for the expansion of that club or any other sporting organisation. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
188	BOM 17	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
189	BOM 25	As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "Mixed-use' zoning in or near village centres affords a diverse range of day and evening uses where there are high levels of accessibility, including pedestrian, cyclists and public transport. Having regard to the history of this site, and to allow usage flexibility and enhance the potential vitality and viability of the village settlement, a change to "Mixed Use" is considered acceptable." Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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190	BOM 26	<p>As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "Mixed Use' zoning reflects the mixture of uses which have always co-existed in town/village centres and which offers the variety required to make them attractive and important places for community interaction. The zoning provides for a range of uses to sustain and enhance the vitality and viability of settlement centres, making provision where appropriate, for primary and secondary uses. It is considered that the expansion of the existing "Mixed Use" to include the subject lands represents a logical and natural extension and will not deter from the residential amenities of neighbouring properties."</p> <p>Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
191	BOM 31	<p>This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
192	BOM 32	<p>This alteration relates to a relatively small area of lands. Only zoning of lands that have been built upon is proposed to change. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
193	BOM 30	<p>This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
195	BOM 33	<p>As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "it is noted that there is a cartographic discrepancy between the extent of the Node as illustrated on the Consultation Portal and the published Book of Maps. Accordingly, in the interest of transparency, the extent of the Node as previously agreed under the current Plan and as set out under the published Book of Maps should be updated as part of the final Plan". Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
196	BOM 19	<p>As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "sewer arrangement will not provide for the viable development of the adjacent lands, it is considered rational that a reduction in zoning associated with the existing residentially zoned site can facilitate the zoning of the remainder of the site in question thereby providing for a development proposal having regard to the natural boundaries of these lands." Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
197	BOM 11	<p>As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "the subject lands consist of a relatively small plot which has convenient proximity to the town centre and local services and provide the potential for self-build plots in accordance with RPO 4.78 of the EMRA RSES, which provides for the development of serviced sites to create 'build your own home' opportunities and thus provide a viable alternative to housing in the open countryside". Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
198	BOM 1 & BOM 2	<p>This alteration is to zone for development greenfield sites in Castlepollard, removed from the established settlement boundary, and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
199	BOM 3	<p>It is considered that there is no justification for rezoning the subject lands in Castlepollard "Proposed Residential" as it would impact on the residential amenity of existing properties in the vicinity. The zoning as proposed would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
200	BOM 13	<p>This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site in Killucan-Rathwire, removed from the established settlement boundary, and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
201	BOM 14	<p>This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site between the settlements of Killucan and Rathwire, removed from the established built settlement boundary, on lands zoned "Open Space", as part of a larger area of tree planted open landscape providing an important visual break between Killucan and Rathwire, and is not in the interests of proper planning. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
202	BOM 16	<p>This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site, removed from the established built settlement boundary of Rochfortbridge, and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
203	BOM 23	<p>This alteration is to zone for development an additional greenfield site in Ballymore and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
204	BOM 29	<p>This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site removed from the established settlement boundary of Glasson and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
205	BOM 36	<p>The Wind Energy Capacity Map was generated using the landscape character assessment together with wind speed data provided by SEAI. In terms of the request for a change of the classification of Area 7 from "medium capacity" to "low capacity" for wind energy development, it is considered that such an amendment is not justified given the landscape character of the area in question. However, this Proposed Material Alteration would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>

Table 3.1.

3.3.3 Screening of Sites

No.	Amendment Reference No:	SEA Screening Consideration, alone and in combination with other plans and programmes and in combination provisions already contained within the Draft Plan Screening for Appropriate Assessment for Proposed Material Alterations
1	CH 11.1	This alteration would further contribute towards climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
2	CH 11.2	This alteration – to set a target – would further contribute towards climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
3	CH 16.2	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking and sustainable mobility related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. As identified in the Plan, there is a balance to be achieved between facilitating necessary parking in the short term, and the overall objective, of having improved public transport as a viable alternative and as that becomes available of discouraging use of private cars. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
4	CH 3.2	This alteration would further contribute towards housing related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
5	CH 3.4	This alteration would further contribute towards housing and Statutory obligation related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
6	CH 3.1	This alteration would further contribute towards housing, building height and Statutory obligation related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
7	CH 7.5	This alteration would further contribute towards building height and Statutory obligation related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. LAPs will be subject to SEA and AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
8	CH 2.5	This alteration would further contribute towards urban development and sustainable transport related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Plans prepared by the Council will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
10	CH 7.4	This alteration would further contribute towards brownfield / infill and back land development related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
12	CH 11.3	A future assessment of how the implementation of the Plan will contribute to realising overall national targets on renewable energy and climate change would not result in different outcomes or effects for European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Was such an assessment to be followed by recommendations, such as varying the Plan, such recommendations would have to be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
13	CH 10.39	The update to terminology would change the potential effects arising from the Plan. "To strictly direct" development to one location does not prohibit such development to be directed, encouraged, permitted or refused to the same locations or elsewhere. As such, this alteration would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
14	CH 2.10	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for, summarises and provides clarification to Plan provisions. It does not interact with existing Plan provisions to an extent that it would have effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
15	CH 9.3	This amendment adds more detail to an existing CPO but would not have additional effects. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
16	CH 9.1, CH 9.5 & CH 9.6	This is not considered to be an alteration as there is no change to the Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
17	CH 9.1, CH 9.5 & CH 9.6	This alteration would further contribute towards rural housing policy provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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18	CH 9.2	This alteration would further contribute towards rural housing policy provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
19	BOM 34 & BOM 35	Lough Derravaragh - this is not considered to be an alteration as there is no change to the Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. As identified in the SEA Environmental Report, reducing the High Amenity Area to the north and east of Lough Derravaragh would reduce the protection of the overall landscape and undermine the long-term integrity of this important asset. This is already provided for by the Draft Plan. The inclusion of additional lands as part of Lough Lene High Amenity Area would increase the protection of the overall landscape and help to secure the long-term integrity of this important assets. This Alteration would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
20	CH 7.5	This alteration would further contribute towards building height related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Plans prepared by the Council will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
21	BOM 30	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
22	BOM 17	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
23	BOM 31	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
24	CH 8.18	This alteration does not affect other requirements to undertake site-specific FRA. This alteration would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
25	CH 10.18	This alteration would further contribute towards transport related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Plans prepared by the Council will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
26	CH 8.10	As identified in the SEA Environmental Report that accompanies the Plan, "There is no planning justification to make provision for a new link road in the absence of development on the associated lands..." and "... such a road would present unnecessary potential for likely significant adverse effects on various environmental components...". The omission of this CPO would remove the potential for these effects to occur; however, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
27	CH 8.10	As identified in the SEA Environmental Report that accompanies the Plan, "There is no planning justification to make provision for a new link road in the absence of development on the associated lands..." and "... such a road would present unnecessary potential for likely significant adverse effects on various environmental components...". The omission of this CPO would remove the potential for these effects to occur; however, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
28	CH 8.21	This alteration would further contribute towards provisions for the protection of ecology already included within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards the protection of ecology, it is determined that this Proposed Alteration would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
29	BOM 21	This alteration would further contribute towards provisions for the protection of ecology already included within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards the protection of ecology, it is determined that this Proposed Alteration would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
30	CH 10.43	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency for the Plan text in question with other Plan text and the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
31		This improves communication of flood risk but does not affect Plan provisions and would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
32	CH 2.3	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
33	CH 2.3	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
34	CH 2.6	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
35	CH 2.7	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
36	CH 2.8	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
37	CH 2.11	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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38	CH 3.2	This alteration would further contribute towards housing related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
39	CH 5.2	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
40	CH 5.4	This alteration would further contribute towards enterprise and employment related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Council Plans will be subject to SEA and AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
41	CH 5.3	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
42	APDX 4.1	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
43	CH 8.1	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
44	CH 9.2	This is not considered to be an alteration as there is no change to the Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
46	CH 11.4	This alteration would further contribute towards – and could potentially improve implementation of – climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
47	CH 11.5	This alteration would further contribute towards – and could potentially improve implementation of – climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
48	BOM 34 & 35	See commentary under CE OPR 1.18 Superseded by WH-DCDP-MA-01 & WH-DCDP-MA-02
49	OPW	See commentary elsewhere.
50	CH 1.1	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
51	CH 2.1	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
52	CH 2.2	This alteration would further contribute towards transport infrastructure related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
53	CH 2.9	This alteration would further contribute towards water services related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
54	CH 3.3	This alteration would further contribute towards housing related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
55	CH 4.1	This Proposed Alteration adds a reference to an existing publication and does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
56	CH 4.3	This alteration would further contribute towards community and schools related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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178	CH 16.2	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
179	CH 16.3	This alteration would further contribute towards walking and cycling related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
180	CH 16.5	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
181	CH 16.9	This alteration would further contribute towards tourism related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
182	CH 16.10	This alteration would further contribute towards tourism related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
183	CH 10.23	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
184	CH 10.19 & CH 16.8	This alteration would further contribute towards road safety and traffic calming related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
185	BOM 5	This is a minor amendment to align with the development boundary identified in grant of planning and to correct a digitising error. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
186	BOM 5 & CH 8.5	This alteration relates to a relatively small area of lands at which the Chief Executive's Report noted the merits of having childcare facilities at this location. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
187	BOM 6	These lands are located adjacent to an existing sporting and recreational club. This alteration was suggested in the Chief Executive's Report in order to provide greater certainty to any proposal for the expansion of that club or any other sporting organisation. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
188	BOM 17	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
189	BOM 25	As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "Mixed-use' zoning in or near village centres affords a diverse range of day and evening uses where there are high levels of accessibility, including pedestrian, cyclists and public transport. Having regard to the history of this site, and to allow usage flexibility and enhance the potential vitality and viability of the village settlement, a change to "Mixed Use" is considered acceptable." Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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190	BOM 26	<p>As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "Mixed Use' zoning reflects the mixture of uses which have always co-existed in town/village centres and which offers the variety required to make them attractive and important places for community interaction. The zoning provides for a range of uses to sustain and enhance the vitality and viability of settlement centres, making provision where appropriate, for primary and secondary uses. It is considered that the expansion of the existing "Mixed Use" to include the subject lands represents a logical and natural extension and will not deter from the residential amenities of neighbouring properties."</p> <p>Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
191	BOM 31	<p>This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
192	BOM 32	<p>This alteration relates to a relatively small area of lands. Only zoning of lands that have been built upon is proposed to change. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
193	BOM 30	<p>This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
195	BOM 33	<p>As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "it is noted that there is a cartographic discrepancy between the extent of the Node as illustrated on the Consultation Portal and the published Book of Maps. Accordingly, in the interest of transparency, the extent of the Node as previously agreed under the current Plan and as set out under the published Book of Maps should be updated as part of the final Plan". Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
196	BOM 19	<p>As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "sewer arrangement will not provide for the viable development of the adjacent lands, it is considered rational that a reduction in zoning associated with the existing residentially zoned site can facilitate the zoning of the remainder of the site in question thereby providing for a development proposal having regard to the natural boundaries of these lands." Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
197	BOM 11	<p>As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "the subject lands consist of a relatively small plot which has convenient proximity to the town centre and local services and provide the potential for self-build plots in accordance with RPO 4.78 of the EMRA RSES, which provides for the development of serviced sites to create 'build your own home' opportunities and thus provide a viable alternative to housing in the open countryside". Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
198	BOM 1 & BOM 2	<p>This alteration is to zone for development greenfield sites in Castlepollard, removed from the established settlement boundary, and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
199	BOM 3	<p>It is considered that there is no justification for rezoning the subject lands in Castlepollard "Proposed Residential" as it would impact on the residential amenity of existing properties in the vicinity. The zoning as proposed would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
200	BOM 13	<p>This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site in Killucan-Rathwire, removed from the established settlement boundary, and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
201	BOM 14	<p>This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site between the settlements of Killucan and Rathwire, removed from the established built settlement boundary, on lands zoned "Open Space", as part of a larger area of tree planted open landscape providing an important visual break between Killucan and Rathwire, and is not in the interests of proper planning. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
202	BOM 16	<p>This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site, removed from the established built settlement boundary of Rochfortbridge, and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
203	BOM 23	<p>This alteration is to zone for development an additional greenfield site in Ballymore and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
204	BOM 29	<p>This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site removed from the established settlement boundary of Glasson and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>
205	BOM 36	<p>The Wind Energy Capacity Map was generated using the landscape character assessment together with wind speed data provided by SEAI. In terms of the request for a change of the classification of Area 7 from "medium capacity" to "low capacity" for wind energy development, it is considered that such an amendment is not justified given the landscape character of the area in question. However, this Proposed Material Alteration would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.</p>

Table 3.1 examines whether there is potential for effects on European sites considering information provided above. Detailed information on European sites is provided at Appendix I.

No.	Amendment Reference No:	SEA Screening Consideration, alone and in combination with other plans and programmes and in combination provisions already contained within the Draft Plan
<u>Screening for Appropriate Assessment for Proposed Material Alterations</u>		
1	CH 11.1	This alteration would further contribute towards climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
2	CH 11.2	This alteration – to set a target – would further contribute towards climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
3	CH 16.2	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking and sustainable mobility related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. As identified in the Plan, the is a balance to be achieved between facilitating necessary parking in the short term, and the overall objective, of having improved public transport as a viable alternative and as that becomes available of discouraging use of private cars. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
4	CH 3.2	This alteration would further contribute towards housing related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
5	CH 3.4	This alteration would further contribute towards housing and Statutory obligation related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
6	CH 3.1	This alteration would further contribute towards housing, building height and Statutory obligation related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
7	CH 7.5	This alteration would further contribute towards building height and Statutory obligation related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. LAPs will be subject to SEA and AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
8	CH 2.5	This alteration would further contribute towards urban development and sustainable transport related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Plans prepared by the Council will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
10	CH 7.4	This alteration would further contribute towards brownfield / infill and back land development related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
12	CH 11.3	A future assessment of how the implementation of the Plan will contribute to realising overall national targets on renewable energy and climate change would not result in different outcomes or effects for European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Was such an assessment to be followed by recommendations, such as varying the Plan, such recommendations would have to be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
13	CH 10.39	The update to terminology would change the potential effects arising from the Plan. "To strictly direct" development to one location does not prohibit such development to be directed, encouraged, permitted or refused to the same locations or elsewhere. As such, this alteration would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
14	CH 2.10	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for, summarises and provides clarification to Plan provisions. It does not interact with existing Plan provisions to an extent that it would have effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
15	CH 9.3	This amendment adds more detail to an existing CPO but would not have additional effects. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
16	CH 9.1, CH 9.5 & CH 9.6	This is not considered to be an alteration as there is no change to the Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
17	CH 9.1, CH 9.5 & CH 9.6	This alteration would further contribute towards rural housing policy provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
18	CH 9.2	This alteration would further contribute towards rural housing policy provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.

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19	BOM 34 & BOM 35	Lough Derravaragh - this is not considered to be an alteration as there is no change to the Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. As identified in the SEA Environmental Report, reducing the High Amenity Area to the north and east of Lough Derravaragh would reduce the protection of the overall landscape and undermine the long-term integrity of this important asset. This is already provided for by the Draft Plan. The inclusion of additional lands as part of Lough Lene High Amenity Area would increase the protection of the overall landscape and help to secure the long-term integrity of this important assets. This Alteration would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
20	CH 7.5	This alteration would further contribute towards building height related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Plans prepared by the Council will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
21	BOM 30	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
22	BOM 17	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
23	BOM 31	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
24	CH 8.18	This alteration does not affect other requirements to undertake site-specific FRA. This alteration would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
25	CH 10.18	This alteration would further contribute towards transport related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Plans prepared by the Council will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
26	CH 8.10	As identified in the SEA Environmental Report that accompanies the Plan, "There is no planning justification to make provision for a new link road in the absence of development on the associated lands..." and "... such a road would present unnecessary potential for likely significant adverse effects on various environmental components...". The omission of this CPO would remove the potential for these effects to occur; however, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
27	CH 8.10	As identified in the SEA Environmental Report that accompanies the Plan, "There is no planning justification to make provision for a new link road in the absence of development on the associated lands..." and "... such a road would present unnecessary potential for likely significant adverse effects on various environmental components...". The omission of this CPO would remove the potential for these effects to occur; however, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
28	CH 8.21	This alteration would further contribute towards provisions for the protection of ecology already included within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards the protection of ecology, it is determined that this Proposed Alteration would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
29	BOM 21	This alteration would further contribute towards provisions for the protection of ecology already included within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards the protection of ecology, it is determined that this Proposed Alteration would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
30	CH 10.43	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency for the Plan text in question with other Plan text and the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
31		This improves communication of flood risk but does not affect Plan provisions and would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
32	CH 2.3	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
33	CH 2.3	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
34	CH 2.6	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
35	CH 2.7	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
36	CH 2.8	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
37	CH 2.11	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
38	CH 3.2	This alteration would further contribute towards housing related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Any future variations to the Plan resulting from this alteration will be subject to AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
39	CH 5.2	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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40	CH 5.4	This alteration would further contribute towards enterprise and employment related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required. Future Council Plans will be subject to SEA and AA screening and other requirements as appropriate.
41	CH 5.3	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
42	APDX 4.1	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
43	CH 8.1	This Proposed Alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Plan and with the higher-level planning framework. It would not interact with Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
44	CH 9.2	This is not considered to be an alteration as there is no change to the Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
46	CH 11.4	This alteration would further contribute towards – and could potentially improve implementation of – climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
47	CH 11.5	This alteration would further contribute towards – and could potentially improve implementation of – climate action related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
48	BOM 34 & 35	See commentary under CE OPR 1.18 Superseded by WH-DCCP-MA-01 & WH-DCCP-MA-02
49	OPW	See commentary elsewhere.
50	CH 1.1	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
51	CH 2.1	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
52	CH 2.2	This alteration would further contribute towards transport infrastructure related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
53	CH 2.9	This alteration would further contribute towards water services related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
54	CH 3.3	This alteration would further contribute towards housing related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
55	CH 4.1	This Proposed Alteration adds a reference to an existing publication and does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
56	CH 4.3	This alteration would further contribute towards community and schools related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
57	CH 4.4	This alteration would further contribute towards education facilities related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
58	CH 4.2	This alteration would further contribute towards community related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
59	CH 5.5	This Proposed Alteration relates to Plan text that sets the context for Plan provisions; this Proposed Alteration does not interact with existing Draft Plan provisions to the extent that it would result in potential for effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

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183	CH 10.23	This alteration would further contribute towards car parking related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
184	CH 10.19 & CH 16.8	This alteration would further contribute towards road safety and traffic calming related provisions already contained within the Draft Plan. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
185	BOM 5	This is a minor amendment to align with the development boundary identified in grant of planning and to correct a digitising error. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
186	BOM 5 & CH 8.5	This alteration relates to a relatively small area of lands at which the Chief Executive's Report noted the merits of having childcare facilities at this location. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
187	BOM 6	These lands are located adjacent to an existing sporting and recreational club. This alteration was suggested in the Chief Executive's Report in order to provide greater certainty to any proposal for the expansion of that club or any other sporting organisation. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
188	BOM 17	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
189	BOM 25	As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "Mixed-use' zoning in or near village centres affords a diverse range of day and evening uses where there are high levels of accessibility, including pedestrian, cyclists and public transport. Having regard to the history of this site, and to allow usage flexibility and enhance the potential vitality and viability of the village settlement, a change to "Mixed Use" is considered acceptable." Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
190	BOM 26	As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "'Mixed Use' zoning reflects the mixture of uses which have always co-existed in town/village centres and which offers the variety required to make them attractive and important places for community interaction. The zoning provides for a range of uses to sustain and enhance the vitality and viability of settlement centres, making provision where appropriate, for primary and secondary uses. It is considered that the expansion of the existing "Mixed Use" to include the subject lands represents a logical and natural extension and will not deter from the residential amenities of neighbouring properties." Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
191	BOM 31	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
192	BOM 32	This alteration relates to a relatively small area of lands. Only zoning of lands that have been built upon is proposed to change. Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
193	BOM 30	This alteration would improve flood risk management but would not result in potential effects on the integrity of any European site. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
195	BOM 33	As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "it is noted that there is a cartographic discrepancy between the extent of the Node as illustrated on the Consultation Portal and the published Book of Maps. Accordingly, in the interest of transparency, the extent of the Node as previously agreed under the current Plan and as set out under the published Book of Maps should be updated as part of the final Plan". Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
196	BOM 19	As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "sewer arrangement will not provide for the viable development of the adjacent lands, it is considered rational that a reduction in zoning associated with the existing residentially zoned site can facilitate the zoning of the remainder of the site in question thereby providing for a development proposal having regard to the natural boundaries of these lands." Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
197	BOM 11	As identified in the Chief Executive's Report: "the subject lands consist of a relatively small plot which has convenient proximity to the town centre and local services and provide the potential for self-build plots in accordance with RPO 4.78 of the EMRA RSES, which provides for the development of serviced sites to create 'build your own home' opportunities and thus provide a viable alternative to housing in the open countryside". Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development (including those measures to contribute towards the protection of European sites detailed as Section 4 of this report), it is determined that there is no potential for effects on the integrity of any European site to arise from this Proposed Material Alteration. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

Screening for Appropriate Assessment for Proposed Material Alterations

198	BOM 1 & BOM 2	This alteration is to zone for development greenfield sites in Castlepollard, removed from the established settlement boundary, and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
199	BOM 3	It is considered that there is no justification for rezoning the subject lands in Castlepollard "Proposed Residential" as it would impact on the residential amenity of existing properties in the vicinity. The zoning as proposed would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
200	BOM 13	This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site in Killucan-Rathwire, removed from the established settlement boundary, and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
201	BOM 14	This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site between the settlements of Killucan and Rathwire, removed from the established built settlement boundary, on lands zoned "Open Space", as part of a larger area of tree planted open landscape providing an important visual break between Killucan and Rathwire, and is not in the interests of proper planning. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
202	BOM 16	This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site, removed from the established built settlement boundary of Rochfortbridge, and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
203	BOM 23	This alteration is to zone for development an additional greenfield site in Ballymore and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
204	BOM 29	This alteration is to zone for development a greenfield site removed from the established settlement boundary of Glasson and is not in the interests of proper planning. The zoning as proposed would be premature and would not align with objectives relating to sustainable development. However, it would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.
205	BOM 36	The Wind Energy Capacity Map was generated using the landscape character assessment together with wind speed data provided by SEAI. In terms of the request for a change of the classification of Area 7 from "medium capacity" to "low capacity" for wind energy development, it is considered that such an amendment is not justified given the landscape character of the area in question. However, this Proposed Material Alteration would not result in potential for effects on the integrity of European sites. Consequently, Stage 2 AA for this Proposed Material Alteration is not required.

Table 3.1 Screening of Proposed Material Alterations European sites⁹

⁹ Detailed information on European sites is provided at Appendix I.
CAAS for Westmeath County Council

3.4 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 affect European sites. Appendix II outlines a selection of plans or projects that were considered by the Screening for AA exercise.

Additional information on the relationship with other plans and programmes is provided at Appendix II.

The potential for in-combination effects from interactions with other plans and projects was considered in the screening assessment.

4 Mitigation Measures already integrated into the Draft Plan

Table 4.1 outlines the mitigation measures most relevant to the protection of European sites that have already been incorporated into the Draft Plan, to which the Proposed Material Alterations relate.

Table 4.1 Measures most relevant to the protection of European sites

Provisions already in the Draft Plan	
CPO 10.47 and subsection 10.5.3	
Corridor and Route Selection Process	
The Council will preserve a corridor to enable design options for road improvements and upgrades to be advanced. In this regard, the following Corridor and Route Selection Process will be undertaken for relevant new infrastructure:	
Stage 1 – Route Corridor Identification, Evaluation and Selection	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental constraints (<i>including those identified in Section 4 of the SEA Environmental Report</i>) and opportunities (<i>such as existing linear infrastructure</i>) will assist in the identification of possible route corridor options; • Potentially feasible corridors within which infrastructure could be accommodated will be identified and these corridors assessed. The selection of the preferred route corridor will avoid constraints and meet opportunities to the optimum extent, as advised by the relevant specialists; and • In addition to the constraints identified above, site-specific field data may be required to identify the most appropriate corridors. 	
Stage 2 – Route Identification, Evaluation and Selection	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potentially feasible routes within the preferred corridor will be identified and assessed. The selection of preferred routes will avoid constraints and meet opportunities to the optimum extent, as advised by the relevant specialists, taking into account project level information and potential mitigation measures that are readily achievable; • In addition to the constraints identified above, site specific field data may be required to identify the most appropriate routes; and 	
In addition to environmental considerations, the identification of route corridors and the refinement of route lines is likely to be informed by other considerations.	
Core Strategy Objectives CPO 2.13 In the assessment of development proposals, to take account of transport corridors, environmental carrying capacity, availability and/or capacity to provide waste water and water supply services, potential to conflict with Water Framework Directive objectives, potential to impact on the integrity of European sites and Annexed Habitats and species, features of biodiversity value including ecological networks, impact on landscape and visual characteristics, education and other socioeconomic objectives.	
Natural Heritage Policy Objectives	
CPO 12.1	Contribute as appropriate towards the protection of designated sites in compliance with relevant EU Directives and applicable national legislation.
CPO 12.2	Support the implementation of any relevant recommendations contained in the National Biodiversity Plan, the All Ireland Pollinator Plan and the National Peatlands Strategy.
CPO 12.3	Support the implementation of the Westmeath Biodiversity Action Plan 2014-2020 and any revisions made thereto.
Natura 2000 Sites Policy Objectives	
CPO 12.4	Protect and conserve Special Areas of Conservation, candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and candidate Special Protection Areas, designated under the EU Birds and Habitats Directives respectively.
CPO 12.5	Ensure that no plans, programmes, etc. or projects giving rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on European Sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (<i>disposal to land, water or air</i>), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan (<i>either individually or in combination with other plans, programmes, etc. or projects</i>).
CPO 12.6	Ensure that any plan or project that could have a significant adverse impact (<i>either by themselves or in combination with other plans and projects</i>) upon the conservation objectives of any Natura 2000 Site or would result in the deterioration of any habitat or any species reliant on that habitat will not be permitted.
CPO 12.7	Assess any plan or project in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive to determine whether the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on the site either individually or cumulatively upon the integrity, conservation objectives and qualifying interest of any Natura 2000 Site.
CPO 12.8	Require an ecological appraisal for development not directly connected with or necessary to the management of Natura Sites, or a proposed Natura Site and which are likely to have significant effects on that site either individually or cumulatively.
CPO 12.9	Identify and provide appropriate buffer zones between Designated Sites and local biodiversity features and areas zoned for development.
CPO 12.10	Prepare Strategic Habitat Management Plans for Natura 2000 Sites in Council ownership in consultation with the National Parks and Wildlife Service and relevant stakeholders.
CPO 12.11	Promote the maintenance and as appropriate, achievement of favourable conservation status of habitats and species and to improve the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network, by maintaining and where appropriate, developing features in the landscape which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora.
CPO 12.12	Require that new development proposals affecting designated sites have regard to the sensitivities identified in the SEA Environmental Report prepared in respect of this plan.
Rare and Protected Sites Policy Objectives	
CPO 12.13	Protect, manage and enhance the natural heritage, biodiversity, landscape and environment of County Westmeath, in recognition of its importance as both a non-renewable resource and a natural asset.
CPO 12.14	Require all new developments in the early pre-planning stage of the planning process to identify, protect and enhance ecological features by making provision for local biodiversity (<i>e.g. through provision of swift boxes, bat roost sites, green roofs, etc.</i>) and provide links to the wider Green Infrastructure network as an essential part of the design process.
CPO 12.15	Support the protection of all native woodlands listed in the National Survey of Native Woodlands 2003 to 2008.

Provisions already in the Draft Plan

CPO 12.16 Apply the precautionary principle in relation to development proposals in areas identified as being of national nature conservation interest, by requiring a Scientific/ Ecological Risk Assessment to ensure that the development will not impact on the integrity and habitat value of the site.

CPO 12.17 Support and cooperate with Statutory Authorities and other relevant bodies in support of measures taken to manage designated nature conservation sites, in order to achieve their conservation objectives. Specific regard shall be had to Conservation Management Plans and their conservation objectives/ management practices, where they exist.

CPO 12.18 Consult with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (*NPWS*) in regard to any developments (*those requiring permission and those not requiring planning permission*) which the Council proposes to carry out within pNHAs, NHAs, SACs, SPAs, and other important ecological sites.

CPO 12.19 Maintain the conservation value of Council owned land within NHAs and pNHAs and promote the conservation value of Council owned lands adjoining NHAs.

CPO 12.20 Protect and conserve NHAs and pNHAs including NHAs that become designated and notified to the Local Authority during the lifetime of the Plan.

CPO 12.21 Lighting fixtures should provide only the amount of light necessary for personal safety and should be designed so as to avoid creating glare or emitting light above a horizontal plane. Lighting fixtures should have minimum environmental impact, thereby contributing towards the protection of amenity and the protection of light sensitive species such as bats.

Sites of Biodiversity Value and Non-designated Sites Policy Objectives

CPO 12.22 Seek to create and enhance ecological linkages and buffer zones from development.

CPO 12.23 Protect and where possible enhance biodiversity and ecological connectivity, including woodlands, trees, hedgerows, semi-natural grasslands, rivers, streams, natural springs, wetlands, geological and geo-morphological systems, other landscape features, natural lighting conditions, and associated wildlife where these form part of the ecological network and/or may be considered as ecological corridors or stepping stones in the context of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive. Appropriate mitigation and/or compensation to conserve biodiversity, landscape character and green infrastructure networks will be required where habitats are at risk or lost as part of a development.

CPO 12.24 Recognise that nature conservation is not just confined to designated sites and acknowledge the need to protect non-designated habitats and landscapes and to conserve the biological diversity.

Invasive Species Policy Objectives

CPO 12.25 Prevent the spread of invasive species within the plan area, including requiring landowners and developers to adhere to best practice guidance in relation to the control of invasive species.

CPO 12.26 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 applicant 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*).

CPO 12.27 Support, as appropriate, the National Parks and Wildlife Service's efforts to seek to control and manage the spread of non-native invasive species on land and water. Where the presence of non-native invasive species is identified at the site of any proposed development or where the proposed activity has an elevated risk of resulting in the presence of these species, details of how these species will be managed and controlled will be required.

Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows Policy Objectives

CPO 12.35 Preserve and enhance the amenity and biodiversity value of the County, by promoting the protection of trees, groups of trees and ancient woodlands, of significant amenity value, especially native and broadleaf species.

CPO 12.36 Protect trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders and seek to designate additional Tree Preservation Orders, where appropriate.

CPO 12.37 Discourage the felling of mature trees and hedgerow, particularly species rich roadside and townland boundary hedgerows to facilitate development and seek Tree Management Plans to ensure that trees are adequately protected during development and incorporated into the design of new developments.

CPO 12.38 Protect and preserve existing hedgerows in new developments, particularly species rich roadside and townland boundary hedgerows, and where their removal is necessary during the course of road works or other works seek their replacement with new hedgerows of native species indigenous to the area.

CPO 12.39 Encourage the development of proposals for new woodlands and community woodlands in urban/urban fringe areas utilising funding available through schemes such as the NeighbourWood and Native Woodland Schemes.

CPO 12.40 Encourage the protection of the trees which are considered an important component of demesne landscapes.

Wetlands Policy Objectives

CPO 12.41 Resist development that would destroy, fragment or degrade any wetland in the County.

CPO 12.42 Support the implementation of recommendations made in the County Westmeath Wetlands Survey 2019 and subsequent versions thereof.

CPO 12.43 Require an Ecological Impact Assessment where it is proposed to fill or reclaim a wetland area.

CPO 12.44 Protect floodplains, wetlands and watercourses, for their biodiversity and flood protection value.

CPO 12.45 Ensure that all proposed land zonings take cognisance of appropriate riparian setback distances that support the attainment of high ecological status for water bodies, the conservation of biodiversity and good ecosystem health, and buffer zones from flood plains.

CPO 12.46 Implement the relevant parts of the Planning and Development (*Amendment*) (*No. 2*) Regulations 2011 and the European Communities (*Amendment to Planning and Development*) Regulations 2011, which require planning permission to be applied for where the area impacted by works relating to the drainage or reclamation of a wetland exceeds 0.1 hectares or where such works may have a significant effect on the environment. Such applications for permission would need to be supported by an Appropriate Assessment where necessary.

Provisions already in the Draft Plan

Lighting

CPO 10.124 Control lighting in urban and rural areas and in particular in sensitive locations, in order to minimise impacts on residential amenity, habitats and species of importance.

Habitat and Visitor Management

CPO 6.2 Promote the development and strengthening of the overall value of Westmeath as a tourist destination by encouraging the enhancement and development of sustainable and high-quality visitor attractions, activities and infrastructure, enabling an increase in the overall capacity and long-term development of the county's tourism industry, subject to appropriate siting and design criteria and the protection of environmentally sensitive areas.

CPO 6.15 Monitor and manage any increase in visitor numbers and/or any change in visitor behaviour in order to avoid significant effects, including loss of habitat and disturbance. Visitor/Habitat Management Plans will be required for proposed projects as relevant and appropriate.

CPO 6.24 Promote tourism-related developments in existing settlements within the Settlement Hierarchy, subject to existing carrying capacity.

CPO 6.29 Ensure that the development of visitor infrastructure linked to natural and heritage environments, does not detract from the quality and value of these environments

CPO 6.54 Prepare Habitat Management Plans for Westmeath's lakes and Visitor Management Plans for particular areas most used by visitors and where particular sensitivities occur, to support the protection and conservation of our natural resources into the long term.

Lakes

CPO 6.45 Support the provision of infrastructure to enable increased tourism activity associated with Westmeath's lakes, including boating, canoeing and angling while ensuring that such provision does not negatively impact on sensitive environments and subject to the requirements of the Habitats Directive.

Forestry Policy Objective

CPO 9.47 Encourage the development of a well-managed sustainable forestry sector, which is compatible with the protection of the environment including the avoidance of likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites (*SACs and SPAs*) and is planted, managed and harvested in accordance with the Forest Service Guidelines for Landscape, Forest Harvesting and Environmental, Archaeology, Biodiversity and Water Quality.

CPO 9.53 Promote in co-operation with the Forest service, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine the preparation and adoption of an Indicative Forest Strategy for the County, as an important means of contributing to the protection and enhancement of the county's biodiversity, natural resources and landscape, as resources permit.

Extractive Industry Policy Objective

CPO 9.58 Ensure that development for aggregate extraction, processing and associated concrete production does not significantly impact the following: • Areas of Geological interest as identified in the County Esker Survey • Existing and Candidate Special Areas of Conservation (*SACs*) • Special Protection Areas (*SPAs*)

• Existing and proposed Natural Heritage Areas (*pNHAs*) • Other areas of importance for the conservation of flora and fauna • High Amenity Areas • Zones of archaeological potential • Important aquifers and sensitive groundwater resources • The vicinity of a recorded monument • Sensitive landscape areas • Established rights of way and walking routes.

Extractive Industry Policy Objective

CPO 9.63 Ensure that all extractions shall be subjected to landscaping requirements and that worked out quarries should be rehabilitated to a use agreed with the Planning Authority which could include recreational, biodiversity, amenity or other end-of-life uses. The use of these rehabilitated sites shall be limited to inert waste and sites shall be authorised under the appropriate waste regulations.

CPO 9.62 Ensure that extractive developments do not adversely impact on environmental quality, including water quality, tourism value, existing infrastructure, residential amenity or the amenity value of neighboring lands.

5 Conclusion

The existing Draft Plan has already been informed by a Stage 2 AA and a Natura Impact Report has been prepared. Mitigation was integrated into the Draft Plan that allowed the Natura Impact Report to conclude that that the Draft Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects¹⁰. The Draft Plan and AA Natura Impact Report were placed on public display and submissions were invited. Some of these submissions resulted in Material Alterations being proposed to the Plan¹¹.

The Alterations have been considered in this Screening for AA report. The Screening exercise examines whether there is potential for any effects on the integrity of European sites to arise as a result of the Alterations, within the context of the existing Draft Plan provisions. If there was potential for effects and mitigation was required to be integrated into the Proposed Material Alterations by way of modification, then Stage 2 AA would have been required.

Taking into account all of the factors described in this report, it is concluded that the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Westmeath County Development Plan are not foreseen to give rise to any significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

Therefore, Stage 2 AA is not required for the Proposed Material Alterations. An AA Screening Determination undertaken by the planning authority accompanies this report and the Proposed Material Alterations.

The Stage 2 AA Natura Impact Report prepared for the Draft Plan will be finalised in advance of adoption of the Plan and a final AA Determination will be undertaken by the planning authority at adoption. An AA Conclusion Statement will be prepared following adoption, which will detail the AA process undertaken for the Plan.

¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ Comments made as part of the submissions is also resulting in the original AA Natura Impact Report being updated in advance of adoption of the Plan.

Appendix I Background information on European sites

List of European sites within 15 km of the Plan boundary; including the Qualifying features (*Qualifying Interests or Special Conservation Interests*) and Site Vulnerability/Sensitivity

Site Name	Site Code	Distance (km)	Qualifying Features (<i>Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests</i>)	Site Description/Vulnerability
004043	Lough Derravaragh SPA	Within	Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038] Pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059] Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061] Coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	Lough Derravaragh is located approximately 12 km north of Mullingar town in Co. Westmeath. It is a medium- to large-sized lake of relatively shallow water (<i>maximum depth 23 m</i>). The lake extends along a south-east/north-west axis for approximately 8 km. The Inny River, a tributary of the River Shannon, is the main inflowing and outflowing river. It is a typical limestone lake with water of high hardness and alkaline pH, and is classified as a mesotrophic system. Agriculture, forestry, hunting and leisure fishing are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
004044	Lough Ennell SPA	Within	Pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059] Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061] Coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	Lough Ennell is a large, limestone lake located south of Mullingar in Co. Westmeath. It has a length of approximately 6.5 km along its long axis and is mostly about 2 km wide. The River Brosna is the principal inflowing and outflowing river. It is a relatively shallow lake, with a maximum depth of c. 30 m. The water is hard, with low colour and markedly alkaline pH. The lake is classified as a mesotrophic system though it has been eutrophic in the past. The lake bottom is of limestone with a marl deposit. Agriculture, forestry, urbanisation, fishing and recreational activities are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
004045	Glen Lough SPA	Within	Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038]	Glen Lough is situated about 5 km north-west of Lough Iron on the border of Co. Westmeath and Co. Longford. Extensive drainage in the 1960s has resulted in a dramatic drop in the watertable here, with the result that there is now little open water, except during flooding in the winter months. Sedge-dominated freshwater marsh now occupies the majority of what was once open water. Plant species present include Bottle Sedge (<i>Carex rostrata</i>), Water Horsetail (<i>Equisetium fluviatile</i>) and Canary Reed-grass (<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>). Other habitats present include reedswamp, wet and dry grassland, cutaway bog colonised by heath vegetation, scrub and wet willow (<i>Salix spp.</i>) woodland. Agriculture and forestry are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
004046	Lough Iron SPA	Within	Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038] Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050] Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056] Coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125] Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] Greenland White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	Lough Iron is a small- to moderately-sized midland lake, located some 12 km northwest of Mullingar. It is situated on the Inny River, which flows from Lough Derravaragh approximately 5 km to the north-east. Lough Owel occurs a few kilometres to the south-east and is connected to Lough Iron by a small stream. The underlying geology is limestone and the lake is mesotrophic in character. Agriculture and forestry are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
004047	Lough Owel SPA	Within	Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056] Coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	Lough Owel is a medium- to large-sized lake in Co. Westmeath, with a length of c. 6 km along its long axis and a maximum width of 3 km. It is fed by a number of small streams and the main outflow is to the Royal Canal. Water is relatively shallow, with a maximum depth of 22 m. Overlying carboniferous limestone, Lough Owel is one of the most important examples of a limestone lake in the Midlands. The water is moderately hard, alkaline and virtually colourless. The lake appears to be relatively unproductive with low levels of orthophosphate and moderate chlorophyll concentrations. The lake is classified as a mesotrophic system and its status has been stable in recent years. Agriculture, forestry and human induced changes in hydraulic conditions are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
004064	Lough Ree SPA	Within	Little Grebe (<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>) [A004] Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038] Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050] Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053] Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056]	Situated on the River Shannon between Lanesborough and Athlone, Lough Ree is the third largest lake in the Republic of Ireland. It lies in an ice-deepened depression in carboniferous Limestone. Some of its features (<i>including the islands</i>) are based on glacial drift. The main inflowing rivers are the Shannon, Inny and Hind, and the main outflowing river is the Shannon. The greater part of Lough Ree is less than 10 m in depth, but there are six deep troughs running from north to south, reaching a maximum depth of about 36 m just west of Inchmore. The lake has a very long, indented shoreline and hence has many sheltered bays. It also has a good scattering of islands, most of which are included in the site.

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			<p>Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061] Common Scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>) [A065] Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067] Coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125] Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142] Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]</p>	<p>Agriculture, forestry. Fishing activities, recreation and invasive species are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	Within	<p>Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038] Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050] Corncrake (<i>Crex crex</i>) [A122] Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142] Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]</p>	<p>The Middle Shannon Callows SPA is a long and diverse site that extends for approximately 50 km from the town of Athlone to the town of Portumna; it lies within Counties Galway, Roscommon, Westmeath, Offaly and Tipperary. The site averages about 0.75 km in width though in places is up to 1.5 km wide. Water levels on the site are greatly influenced by the very small fall between Athlone and Portumna and by the weir at Meelick. The site has extensive areas of callow, or seasonally flooded, semi-natural, lowland wet grassland, along both sides of the river. The callows are mainly too soft for intensive farming but are used for hay or silage or for summer grazing. Other habitats of smaller area that occur alongside the river include lowland dry grassland, freshwater marshes, reedbeds and wet woodland. The diversity of semi-natural habitats present and the sheer size of the site attract an excellent diversity of bird species, including significant populations of several.</p> <p>Agriculture, forestry, Fishing activities, transportation services and urbanisation are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
004102	Garriskil Bog SPA	Within	<p>Greenland White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395]</p>	<p>Garriskil Bog SPA, a raised bog, is located 3 km west of Lough Derravaragh and 3 km east of Rathowen in Co. Westmeath. It is bounded to the south-east and southwest by the rivers Inny and Riffey. The bog is underlain by calcareous shales with a low permeability. A substantial area of uncut high bog remains though much of this is classified as degraded raised bog. Old cutaway bog surrounds the high bog and parts of this are dominated by Downy Birch (<i>Betula pubescens</i>) scrub.</p> <p>Agriculture, forestry. Fishing activities, transportation services and fire management are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
000440	Lough Ree SAC	Within	<p>Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150] Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210] Active raised bogs [7110] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] Alkaline fens [7230] Limestone pavements [8240] Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0] Bog woodland [91D0] Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]</p>	<p>Lough Ree is the third largest lake in Ireland and is situated in an ice-deepened depression in carboniferous limestone on the River Shannon system between Lanesborough and Athlone. The site spans Counties Longford, Roscommon and Westmeath. Some of its features (<i>including the islands</i>) are based on glacial drift. It has a very long, indented shoreline and hence has many sheltered bays. Although the main habitat, by area, is the lake itself, interesting shoreline, terrestrial and semiaquatic habitats also occur.</p> <p>Land uses within the site include recreation in the form of cruiser hire, angling, camping, picnicking and shooting. Chalet accommodation occurs at a few locations around the lake. Low-intensity grazing occurs on dry and wet grassland around the shore, and some hay is made within the site. Some of these activities are damaging, but in a very localised way, and require careful planning. The main threat to the aquatic life in the lake comes from artificial enrichment of the waters by agricultural and domestic waste, and also by peat silt in suspension that is increasingly limiting the light penetration, and thus restricting aquatic flora to shallower waters. At present Lough Ree is less affected by eutrophication than Lough Derg.</p> <p>Agriculture, forestry, recreational activities, pollution through surface water or groundwater, dumping, drainage, transportation services, inappropriate species introduction and urbanisation are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
000582	Raheenmore Bog SAC	Within	<p>Active raised bogs [7110] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]</p>	<p>This raised bog developed in a small basin in the catchment of two major river systems i.e. the Brosna and the Boyne. It is situated about 5 km from Daingean in Co. Offaly. The peat is very deep, up to 15 m in places. The bog has a well-developed hummock and hollow system.</p> <p>The structure of the bog habitat has been affected by drainage. This has resulted from peat-cutting along the margins of the bog that has led to the lowering of the water table within the adjoining, intact high bog areas. However, the prospects for the future functioning of the habitat are generally good, as the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) own much of the site and an extensive programme of drain blocking has taken place. Although the north-eastern section of the bog suffered from burning in the past, the majority of the site is relatively unaffected by this practice at present. Also, peat extraction has largely discontinued.</p> <p>Agriculture and drainage are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>

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000685	Lough Ennell SAC	Within	Alkaline fens [7230]	<p>Lough Ennell is a large, open, steep-sided lake, located 3 km south of Mullingar in Co. Westmeath. The lake bottom is of limestone with a marl deposit. The water is markedly alkaline and mesotrophic, possibly owing to effluents received from Mullingar town and to fertilizer inputs from farmland surrounding the lake. The River Brosna flows into the lake from the north at Butler's Bridge, and out from the south.</p> <p>Levels of planktonic algal growth in the lake water continue to fluctuate, in response to the variable efficiency of the phosphate removal facility at the sewage treatment plant and the re-mobilization of phosphate from the lake sediments.</p> <p>Agriculture, forestry, noise, recreational activities, pollution through surface water or groundwater, dumping, drainage and transport infrastructure are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
000688	Lough Owel SAC	Within	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140] Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140] Alkaline fens [7230] White-clawed Crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) [1092]	<p>Lough Owel is a large hard water lake located approximately 4 km north-west of Mullingar in Co. Westmeath. It is a relatively shallow lake with a rocky, marl-covered bottom.</p> <p>Potential threats to the conservation interest of Lough Owel include the increasing level of water supply to Mullingar, overfishing, eutrophication caused by local farming practices and pressure from amenity uses such as boating and fishing.</p> <p>Agriculture, noise, recreational activities, pollution through surface water or groundwater, dumping, drainage and transport infrastructure are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
000692	Scragh Bog SAC	Within	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140] Alkaline fens [7230] Slender Green Feather-moss (<i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i>) [1393]	<p>Scragh Bog lies approximately 10 km north-west of Mullingar, Co. Westmeath. This site comprises a wet transition fen with a floating root mat that has developed in a small oval-shaped depression. The fen is fed by weak surface springs and drains by an artificially defined outlet. The fen becomes open carr in the central area and in places grades into ombrotrophic bog.</p> <p>Agriculture, pollution through surface water or groundwater, and transport infrastructure (<i>paths and tracks</i>) are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
001810	White Lough, Ben Loughs And Lough Doo SAC	Within	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140] White-clawed Crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) [1092]	<p>White Lough, Ben Loughs and Lough Doo SAC is comprised of four hard water lakes in a small, poorly-drained valley, 4 km east of Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath.</p> <p>Agriculture, recreational activities, trapping/poisoning/poaching, infilling of drainage ditches, and urbanisation are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
001831	Split Hills And Long Hill Esker SAC	Within	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210]	<p>Split Hills and Long Hill Esker is a 5 km long site that crosses the main Galway-Dublin road mid-way between Kilbeggan and Tyrrellspass in Co. Westmeath. It is a prominent feature on the local landscape.</p> <p>The main threat to the esker is quarrying for sand and gravel. This activity already occurs on the site at several locations. Grazing is a critical factor affecting esker habitats, and getting a balance right is important. The presence of too many grazers causes damage to the ground vegetation in both woodlands and grasslands and prevents regeneration of woody species. However, if the grazing level is too low, grasslands are vulnerable to the encroachment of scrub at the expense of species that require open conditions. Fertiliser application, associated with agricultural improvement, also leads to a reduction in species-richness of grasslands.</p> <p>Recreational activities, agriculture, floral competition and compositional dynamics are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
002337	Crosswood Bog SAC	Within	Active raised bogs [7110] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	<p>Crosswood Bog is situated approximately 5 km east of Athlone, Co. Westmeath, mainly in the townlands of Crosswood, Glenaghavoneen, and Creggan Lower. The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. The northern margin of the bog lies along the southern side of the Dublin-Galway railway line.</p> <p>Current land use on the site consists of peat-cutting around the edge of the high bog; it is more intensively cut on the western and southern margins. While the northern margin has drains that extend into the intact bog, it is relatively protected from development due to the proximity to the railway. Forestry is found to the south of the site on areas of cutover bog. Some fields on old cutover are used for pasture and are presently undergoing further reclamation. Damaging activities associated with these land uses include drainage throughout the site (<i>both old and recent</i>) and extensive burning of the high bog. These are activities that have resulted in loss of habitat and damage to the hydrological status of the site, and pose a continuing threat to its</p>

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				<p>viability.</p> <p>Agriculture, invasive species, road infrastructure, urbanisation, fire and drainage issues are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
002340	Moneybeg And Clareisland Bogs SAC	Within	<p>Active raised bogs [7110] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]</p>	<p>This site is located on the border of Counties Meath and Westmeath, 9 km east of the town of Granard. It is situated mainly in the townlands of Clareisland or Derrymacegan, Williamstown and Moneybeg in Co. Westmeath, and Ross in Co. Meath.</p> <p>Land use at Moneybeg Bog includes active peat-cutting to the east and west and forestry along the western margin. Current land use at Clareisland Bog includes peat-cutting to the west and north-west of the high bog and forestry along the southern margin. Damaging activities associated with these land uses include drainage and burning. Drainage has occurred on these high bogs in the past and at Moneybeg Bog there is evidence of recent and frequent burning of the high bog. These activities have resulted in habitat loss and damage to the hydrological status, and pose a continuing threat to the viability of these high bogs.</p> <p>Agriculture, invasive species, extraction, road infrastructure, urbanisation, fire and drainage issues are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
002342	Mount Hevey Bog SAC	Within	<p>Active raised bogs [7110] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]</p>	<p>Mount Hevey Bog is situated approximately 4 km north-east of Kinnegad, in the townlands of Cloncrave, White Island, Aghamore, Kilwarden and Kilnagalliagh. The Meath-Westmeath County boundary runs through the centre of the bog. The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. The Dublin-Sligo railway runs through the northern part of the bog isolating two northern lobes. The northern lobes are adjacent to the Royal Canal.</p> <p>Current land use on the site consists of limited mechanised peat-cutting, mostly on the eastern end of the high bog. There are areas of old peat cuttings all around the site with some very old abandoned regenerating cutover along the edge of the railway. The area to the east of the site has been afforested. Areas of cutover have been reclaimed for agricultural purposes. Damaging activities associated with these land uses include drainage throughout the site (<i>both old and recent</i>) and burning of the high bog. These are all activities that have resulted in loss of habitat and damage to the hydrological status of the site, and pose a continuing threat to its viability.</p> <p>Agriculture, invasive species, extraction, road infrastructure, urbanisation, fire and drainage issues are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
002121	Lough Lene SAC	Within	<p>Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140] White-clawed Crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) [1092]</p>	<p>This lake is situated 4 km north-east of Castlepollard in Co. Westmeath. It is a deep (<i>20 m maximum depth</i>), clear, hard-water lake with marl deposition (<i>especially noticeable on the margins</i>).</p> <p>Agriculture, surface water pollution and transport infrastructure are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
002313	Ballymore Fen SAC	Within	<p>Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]</p>	<p>Ballymore Fen lies approximately 17 km west of Mullingar adjacent to the Mullingar to Ballymore road (<i>R390</i>) in Co. Westmeath. The geology of the area is carboniferous Limestone. The site occupies a relatively wide and deep depression in the surrounding drift that is fed on both the east and west by springs. The area may at one stage have been a lake of some size but at present is occupied by a transition mire complex with a characteristic lagg fen at the edges.</p> <p>Agriculture, surface water pollution and invasive species are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
002336	Carn Park Bog SAC	Within	<p>Active raised bogs [7110] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]</p>	<p>Carn Park Bog is situated 8 km east of Athlone, in the townlands of Tullywood, Carn Park, Cappaghbrack, Warren High and Moydrum, Co. Westmeath. The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. The margins of the site are bounded by roads on the north, west and southern margins and forestry on the east.</p> <p>Current land use on the site consists of mechanised peat-cutting, forestry and agricultural reclamation around the edge of the high bog. Peat-cutting is carried out along the track and road, which form the northern and north-western site boundaries. Afforestation occurs on the bog margins and extends onto intact or high bog. Some agricultural grassland has been reclaimed from cutover bog to the south and north-west of the site. Damaging activities associated with these land uses include drainage throughout the site (<i>both old and recent</i>) and extensive burning of the bog. These are all activities that have resulted in loss of habitat and damage to the hydrological status of the site, and that pose a continuing threat to its viability.</p> <p>Surface water pollution, transport infrastructure, turf cutting and invasive species are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>

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000679	Garriskil Bog SAC	Within	Active raised bogs [7110] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	Garriskil Bog SAC consists of two areas of raised bog: Garriskil Bog, which covers 324.81 ha and lies 3 km east of Rathowen in Co. Westmeath; and a small outlier, within the townland of Derrya, which covers 22.9 ha and lies 2.2 km to the east on the northern shore of Lough Derravaragh. Both bogs are remnants of the large river floodplain bogs that developed where the River Inny enters and leaves Lough Derravaragh. Garriskil Bog is bounded to the south-east and south-west by the rivers Inny and Riffey and by the Dublin-Sligo railway line to the north. It is considered an exceptional example of a midland raised bog and includes 170.26 ha of uncut raised bog and 154.55 ha of surrounding areas that includes 109 ha of cutover bog. The Section at Derrya (<i>that comprises part of Lough Derravaragh Bog NHA (site code 000684)</i>) has been restored as part of an EU LIFE project. The site consists of 2.5 ha of high bog and 20.4 ha of cutover, all of which, except for a broadleaf woodland fringe along the River Inny, was afforested in the 1970s. All the conifer plantations were recently clear-felled and restored by drain-blocking. It is bordered by open high bog to the north-east, by the River Inny to the west and by cutover bog grading into Lough Derravaragh to the south-east. The bedrock geology of both sites is carboniferous limestone. Turf cutting, invasive species, agriculture, as well as interactions with ground and surface water are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
002205	Wooddown Bog SAC	Within	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	Wooddown Bog SAC occurs within the larger raised bog system that is designated as Wooddown Bog NHA (<i>000694</i>). It is situated 5.0 km north-east of Mullingar in the townland of Wooddown, Co. Westmeath. The underlying geology is carboniferous limestone. Current landuse on the site consists of conservation management with the removal of conifer plantations and the blocking of drainage associated with these plantations, both on the high bog and on the cutover. This work was undertaken as part of the Coillte E.U. Life Project Demonstrating Best Practice in Raised Bog Restoration in Ireland. Active peat-cutting and drainage is occurring outside the south-western boundary and to the north-east of the SAC and there is a major drain running through the centre of the adjacent high bog. There is also some dumping around the site. These are all activities that have resulted in loss of habitat and damage to the hydrological status of the site, and pose a continuing threat to its viability. The site is being actively managed for conservation as part of the Coillte E.U. LIFE Project and most of the required restoration measures have already been carried out. However, some significant threats remain and an After-LIFE management plan is being developed for the future conservation management of the SAC. Turf cutting, invasive species, as well as interactions with ground and surface water are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
002120	Lough Bane And Lough Glass SAC	0.8	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140] White-clawed Crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) [1092]	This site is located on the Meath/Westmeath border, about 10 km south of Oldcastle. It comprises three lakes situated in a shallow valley. Lough Bane is by far the largest of the group, with the much smaller Lough Glass occurring immediately to the east and Lough Glass North to the north-west. The lakes occur at the headwaters of the River Deel, with the main outflow at the south-east end of Lough Bane. The outflow is not very substantial and partly overgrown with vegetation. The connection between Lough Glass and Lough Bane has now been severed and the flow from Lough Glass is diverted to the south-west. The water level has dropped over the years and has exposed soft marl along parts of the shore. Agriculture is the main threat or pressure identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
004065	Lough Sheelin SPA	1.8	Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005] Pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059] Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061] Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	Lough Sheelin is a medium to large-sized lake, located on the border of Counties Cavan, Westmeath and Meath. It is a relatively shallow alkaline lake with a maximum depth of 14 m. The Inny River, a main tributary of the River Shannon, is the main outflow from the lake. Agriculture, forestry and leisure fishing are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
004017	Mongan Bog SPA	1.9	Greenland White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395]	Mongan Bog is a midland raised bog of medium size situated immediately east of the monastic site of Clonmacnoise, Co. Offaly, and 12 km south of Athlone. It is situated in a basin, surrounded on part of its perimeter by high ground on mineral soil. Agriculture, transport infrastructure, peat extraction and sand/gravel extraction are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
000580	Mongan Bog SAC	2.5	Active raised bogs [7110] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	Mongan Bog is a midland raised bog of medium size situated immediately east of the monastic site of Clonmacnoise, Co. Offaly, and 12 km south of Athlone. It is situated in a basin, surrounded on 95% of its perimeter by high ground on mineral soil. At two points in the north it shares a common boundary with Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC. Most of the bog is a Statutory Nature Reserve,

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			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	<p>established in 1987. The bog has been the subject of ongoing intensive research since 1972.</p> <p>Although there have been only low levels of disturbance in the recent past, the hydrology of the bog has been adversely affected by drainage, due mainly to the effects of domestic peat-cutting. The presence of algal mats in many of the pools indicates a serious lowering of water levels due to drainage. Burning is a further threat though there have been no serious fires in recent years. As most of the high bog lies within a Nature Reserve the future prospects for the site are good.</p> <p>Extraction, drainage, agriculture and on-site land use activities are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
002203	Girley (Drewstown) Bog SAC	2.9	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	<p>Girley (Drewstown) Bog SAC occurs within the larger raised bog system that is designated as Girley Bog NHA (001580). It is situated 5.5 km north of Athboy in the townland of Drewstown, Co. Meath. The site is part of a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. It is bordered by open high bog on its northern and eastern margins, by agricultural land on its western margin and by a conifer plantation on cutover bog on its southern side. The underlying geology is carboniferous limestone.</p> <p>Current landuse on the site consists of conservation management with the removal of conifer plantations and the blocking of the drainage associated with these plantations, both on the high bog and on the cutover. However, active drains are still present on the northern and eastern boundaries of the SAC that are adversely impacting on its restoration and need to be blocked in consultation with other stakeholders. In addition, there have been fires on the adjacent bog and within the SAC causing some damage to the recovering vegetation. These are all activities that have resulted in loss of habitat and damage to the hydrological status of the site, and pose a continuing threat to its viability. There is also some dumping around the site.</p> <p>Invasive species, fire regime and human induced changes in hydraulic conditions are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
002201	Derragh Bog SAC	3.4	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] Bog woodland [91D0]	<p>Derragh Bog SAC includes most of the raised bog system known as Derragh Bog that occurs within Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough NHA (000985). The boundary in the west and south of the site is contiguous with the boundary of Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA (site code 004061). It is a small raised bog situated 2.5 km east of Abbylara in County Longford in the townland of Derragh. This bog is an example of a floodplain raised bog that borders two lakes, Lough Kinale to the west and Derragh Lough to the south, the River Inny to the east and wet agricultural grassland to the north. To the west and south there is a full transition from high bog to cutover bog to semi-natural birch woodland, fen and swamp to Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough. The underlying geology of both lakes and bog is carboniferous limestone.</p> <p>Invasive species, fire regime and human induced changes in hydraulic conditions are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
001776	Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC	3.7	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210]	<p>Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC is a narrow esker ridge extending 2 km east from Clonmacnoise in Co. Offaly. The site is adjacent to the River Shannon Callows, to the north, and Mongan raised bog, to the south. The western area includes Bunthulla Hill (north of the road) and Hanging Hill (south of the road); the central area runs along both sides of the summit ridge before widening out eastwards to include a substantial area of esker grassland centred on the site of an old ring-fort.</p> <p>Agriculture, urbanisation, transport infrastructure and succession processes are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
000575	Ferbane Bog SAC	3.7	Active raised bogs [7110] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	<p>Ferbane Bog is a relatively large, domed, raised bog located about 10 km east of Shannonbridge in Co. Offaly. It is underlain by low permeability Waulsortian limestone and clay-rich tills.</p> <p>Drainage is extensive at this site and has caused significant drying out. Past peat cutting and some active peat-cutting have also speeded up water loss. However, although the high bog has suffered some water loss, it is still in restorable condition.</p> <p>Agriculture, turf cutting, forestry, drainage, hydrological interactions, urbanisation, transport infrastructure and succession processes are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
004061	Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA	3.8	Pochar'd (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059] Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	<p>Lough Kinale is a relatively small lake that is situated immediately downstream of Lough Sheelin, both lakes being near the top of the catchment of the Inny River, a main tributary of the River Shannon. Derragh Lough, a much smaller system, is connected to Lough Kinale and the Inny River. The site is located on the border of Cos Cavan, Longford and Westmeath. This is a typical limestone system and is very shallow (maximum depth of Lough Kinale is c. 4 m). As with Lough Sheelin, the trophic status of the lake has varied greatly since the 1970s due to pollution. It was recently (1998-2000) classified as a highly eutrophic system.</p>

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				<p>The lake was formerly an important Trout fishery.</p> <p>Agriculture, fisheries activities (<i>bottom culture</i>) and forestry are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
002341	Ardaguillion Bog SAC	3.8	<p>Active raised bogs [7110] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]</p>	<p>Ardaguillion Bog is located 5 km north-east of Edgeworthstown, mainly in the townlands of Cloonshannagh (<i>Coolamber Manor Demesne</i>) and Ardaguillion in Co. Longford. The site comprises a raised bog that includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog. The site is bounded in the north-east by the local road running to Coolagherty.</p> <p>Current land uses on the site include forestry, peat-cutting and agriculture. The forestry is found on a small section of high bog and adjoining cutover in the southwest of the site. Areas of cutover in the south and west of the site that were previously forested have only recently been clear-felled. Active peat-cutting is taking place in the north-west, east and south-east of the site. Two fields in the north of the site have been reclaimed for agriculture. Damaging activities associated with these land uses include drainage throughout the site and burning of the high bog. There is also evidence of old burning in the northern part of the high bog. All these activities have resulted in the loss of habitat and damage to the hydrological status of the site, and pose a continuing threat to its viability.</p> <p>There are no site-specific threats identified in the standard data form by the NPWS.</p>
000576	Fin Lough (<i>Offaly</i>) SAC	4.4	<p>Alkaline fens [7230] Geyer's Whorl Snail (<i>Vertigo geyeri</i>) [1013]</p>	<p>Fin Lough is a shallow limestone lake surrounded by a complex of wetland habitats; 7 km north-east of Shannonbridge in Co. Offaly. The name Fionn Loch, "White Lake", probably derives from the white colour of the lake bottom caused by marl deposits. It is a shallow lake, about 16 ha in extent (<i>in winter</i>) and bounded to the north and east by the Clonfinlough esker ridge, and to the south and west by Blackwater Bog, which is now largely cut-over. The lake and its surrounding wetland communities are arranged in distinct zones reflecting wetness and substrate. They include open water, reedswamp, tall sedge, alkaline fen, fen-bog transition, swamp woodland and bog. The transition from calcium-rich lake to reedbed, to fen, to bog is relatively intact in some areas, which is exceptional for this part of the country.</p> <p>Agriculture, modification to natural processes, hydrological interactions such as drainage, and urbanisation are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
000572	Clara Bog SAC	5.5	<p>Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* <i>important orchid sites</i>) [6210] Active raised bogs [7110] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] Bog woodland [91D0]</p>	<p>Clara Bog is situated some 2 km south of Clara village in Co. Offaly. Much of it is State-owned and designated a statutory Nature Reserve.</p> <p>Paths, tracks and walkways, agriculture, hydrological interactions, urbanisation, and fisheries activities are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form.</p>
000581	Moyclare Bog SAC	6.1	<p>Active raised bogs [7110] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]</p>	<p>Moyclare Bog is a small raised bog situated 4 km west of Ferbane in Co. Offaly. Its mean height above sea level is 54 m. On the western edge of the bog, a low peat face with no perimeter drain lies adjacent to wet peaty pasture, which has a spring-line at its junction with mineral soil. The water from this spring disappears under the peat dome of the bog. The site occurs in close proximity to a number of important raised bogs close to the floodplain of the River Shannon.</p> <p>Agriculture, turf cutting, forestry, drainage, hydrological interactions, and urbanisation are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
000571	Charleville Wood SAC	6.4	<p>Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0] Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>) [1016]</p>	<p>Charleville Wood is a large Oak woodland surrounded by estate parkland and agricultural grassland located about 3 km south-west of Tullamore in Co. Offaly. The site, which is underlain by deep glacial deposits, includes a small lake with a wooded island, and a stream runs along the western perimeter. The woodland is considered to be one of very few ancient woodlands remaining in Ireland, with some parts undisturbed for at least 200 years.</p> <p>Recreational activities, fishing, poaching and the removal of vegetation are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
001625	Castlesampson Esker SAC	8.8	<p>Turloughs [3180] Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* <i>important orchid sites</i>) [6210]</p>	<p>Castlesampson Esker is a complex site with esker, turlough and raised bog all found. The esker is the most westerly of an important group of eskers centred on Adrnacloon Hill in south-east Co. Roscommon, 9 km west of Athlone. It forms a steep-sided, crescent-shaped hill composed of glacial gravels, situated on the south side of a metalled road. Although gravel is being quarried all around the esker and gravel pits occur within the site, the esker ridge itself is largely intact and fairly undisturbed. Lying to the east of the esker is a raised bog, whilst to its west is a turlough.</p>

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				Removal of material such as gravel/clay is the only threat/pressure identified in the standard data form for the site. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
002339	Ballynamona Bog And Corkip Lough SAC	9.0	Turloughs [3180] Active raised bogs [7110] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] Bog woodland [91D0]	Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough is situated approximately 9 km west of Athlone, mainly in the townlands of Skeanamuck, Carrowkeeran and Pollalaher, in Co. Roscommon. The site comprises a relatively small portion of what was once a large bog complex, and includes areas of high bog and cutover bog, and also the turlough, Corkip Lough. Current land use on the site consists of limited peat-cutting at the north-east and south-west of the site. There is a small area of commercial forestry at the east of the site. Some areas of cutover bog at the south have been reclaimed for agriculture. Damaging activities associated with these land uses include frequent burning. This recurrent burning is having a serious drying effect on the bog. Drainage, for the most part, is restricted to the cutover areas of the bog. These are all activities that have resulted in loss of habitat and damage to the hydrological status of the site, and pose a continuing threat to its viability. Urbanisation, invasive species, landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general and modification of hydrographic functioning, general are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
000448	Fortwilliam Turlough SAC	11.4	Turloughs [3180]	Fortwilliam Turlough is situated close to the eastern shore of Lough Ree, 6 km south of Lanesborough, in Co. Longford. The surrounding countryside is flat, with a thin cover of drift. The floor of the basin is at two levels, a lower central area with several lakes and ponds, and a higher surrounding area of till with scattered rocks, extending north-westwards into flat fields and woodland. There is a little surface flow into the basin and floodwater appears to be strongly calcareous. Threats to turloughs stem mainly from drainage and agricultural improvement. Fortwilliam seems largely unaffected by drainage, and standing water may persist throughout the summer. It is an oligotrophic site, which indicates that it has escaped significant nutrient input but renders it sensitive to damage should this occur. The turlough is grazed by cattle and sheep, but is undivided. Agriculture, ground water pollution, landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general and modification of hydrographic functioning, general are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
000611	Lough Funshinagh SAC	12.2	Turloughs [3180] Rivers with muddy banks with <i>Chenopodium rubri p.p.</i> and <i>Bidention p.p.</i> vegetation [3270]	Lough Funshinagh is located approximately 12 km north-west of Athlone, in Co. Roscommon. The lake, which is underlain by carboniferous limestone, is classified as a turlough because it fluctuates to a significant extent every year and occasionally dries out entirely (<i>approximately two to three times every ten years</i>). In most years, however, an extensive area of water persists. This is filled with vegetation, providing excellent breeding habitat for wildfowl, and the site is designated a Wildfowl Sanctuary. The lake is fed by springs and a small catchment to the west. It is mesotrophic in quality, with some marl (<i>calcium carbonate</i>) deposition, and is surrounded by pastures. Some of the major threats to lakes in Ireland arise from drainage and agricultural intensification. In the case of the latter, the application of fertiliser can lead to eutrophication and a general loss of species diversity. Lough Funshinagh is currently mesotrophic, but it has been described in the past as being full of vegetation. Thus, it may be that it has not been enriched significantly by agricultural run-off in recent times. There are localised eutrophic patches around the shores where grazing animals congregate, but the lake water is strikingly clear. There have been attempts at drainage in the past, most recently in 1990. As yet, this has resulted in little structural damage to the site. Agriculture and transport infrastructure are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	12.6	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinia caeruleae</i>) [6410] Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>) [6510] Limestone pavements [8240] 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] Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]	The River Shannon Callows is a long and diverse site that consists of seasonally flooded, semi-natural, lowland wet grassland, along and beside the river between the towns of Athlone and Portumna. It is approximately 50 km long and averages about 0.75 km wide (<i>reaching 1.5 km wide in places</i>). Along much of its length the site is bordered by raised bogs (<i>many, but not all, of which are subject to large-scale harvesting</i>), esker ridges and limestone-bedrock hills. The soils grade from siltyalluvial to peat. This site has a common boundary, and is closely associated, with two other sites with similar habitats, River Suck Callows and Little Brosna Callows. The Shannon Callows are used for summer dry-stock grazing (<i>mostly cattle, with some sheep and a few horses</i>), and permanent hay meadow. About 30 ha is a nature reserve owned by voluntary conservation bodies. The River Shannon is used increasingly for recreational purposes with coarse angling and boating accounting for much of the visitor numbers. Intermittent and scattered damage to the habitats has occurred due to over-deepening of drains and peat silt deposition, water-skiing, ploughing and neglect of hay meadow (<i>or reversion to pasture</i>). However, none of these damaging activities can yet be said to be having a serious impact. Threats to the quality of the site may come from the siting of boating marinas in areas away from centres of

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				<p>population, fertilising of botanically-rich fields, the use of herbicides, reversion of hay meadow to pasture, neglect of pasture and hay meadow, disturbance of birds by boaters, anglers, birdwatchers and the general tourist. The maintenance of generally high-water levels in winter and spring benefits all aspects of the flora and fauna, but in this regard, summer flooding is a threat to breeding birds, and may cause neglect of farming.</p> <p>Forestry, agriculture, tourism, recreation and amenity, hydrological interactions and paths, tracks and trails are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
004097	River Suck Callows SPA	13.0	<p>Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038] Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050] Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142] Greenland White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]</p>	<p>The River Suck Callows SPA is a linear, sinuous site comprising a section of the River Suck from Castlecoote, Co. Roscommon to its confluence with the River Shannon close to Shannonbridge, a distance of approximately 70 km along the course of the river. The river forms part of the boundary between Counties Galway and Roscommon. The site includes the River Suck itself and the adjacent areas of seasonally-flooded semi-natural lowland wet callow grassland. The River Suck is the largest tributary of the River Shannon.</p> <p>Agriculture, forestry, urbanisation, recreational activities and fisheries activities are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
004232	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA	14.0	<p>Kingfisher (<i>Alcedo atthis</i>) [A229]</p>	<p>The River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA is a long, linear site that comprises stretches of the River Boyne and several of its tributaries; most of the site is in Co. Meath, but it extends also into Cos Cavan, Louth and Westmeath. It includes the following river sections: the River Boyne from the M1 motorway bridge, west of Drogheda, to the junction with the Royal Canal, west of Longwood, Co Meath; the River Blackwater from its junction with the River Boyne in Navan to the junction with Lough Ramor in Co. Cavan; the Tremblestown River/Athboy River from the junction with the River Boyne at Kilnagross Bridge west of Trim to the bridge in Athboy, Co. Meath; the Stoneyford River from its junction with the River Boyne to Stonestown Bridge in Co. Westmeath; the River Deel from its junction with the River Boyne to Cummer Bridge, Co. Westmeath. The site includes the river channel and marginal vegetation.</p> <p>Urbanisation, transport infrastructure and human induced changes in hydraulic conditions are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
002299	River Boyne And River Blackwater SAC	14.0	<p>Alkaline fens [7230] 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] River Lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) [1099] Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106] Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]</p>	<p>This site comprises the freshwater element of the River Boyne as far as the Boyne Aqueduct, the Blackwater as far as Lough Ramor and the Boyne tributaries including the Deel, Stoneyford and Tremblestown Rivers. These riverine stretches drain a considerable area of Meath and Westmeath, and smaller areas of Cavan and Louth. The underlying geology is carboniferous Limestone for the most part, with areas of Upper, Lower and Middle well represented. In the vicinity of Kells Silurian Quartzite is present while close to Trim are carboniferous Shales and Sandstones. There are many large towns adjacent to but not within the site, including Slane, Navan, Kells, Trim, Athboy and Ballivor.</p> <p>Fishing is a main tourist attraction on the Boyne and Blackwater and there are a number of Angler Associations, some with a number of beats. Fishing stands and styles have been erected in places. The Eastern Regional Fishery Board have erected fencing along selected stretches of the river as part of their salmonid enhancement programme. Parts of the river system have been arterially dredged. In 1969 an arterial dredging scheme commenced and disrupted angling for 18 years. The dredging altered the character of the river completely and resulted in many areas in very high banks. The main channel from Drogheda upstream to Navan was left untouched, as were a few stretches on the Blackwater. Ongoing maintenance dredging is carried out along stretches of the river system where the gradient is low. This is extremely destructive to salmonid habitat in the area. Drainage of the adjacent river systems also impacts on the many small wetland areas throughout the site. The River Boyne is a designated Salmonid Water under the E.U. Freshwater Fish Directive.</p> <p>Urbanisation, invasive species, human disturbance from recreational pressures particularly nautical activities, storm damage, succession processes, bridge works, and coastal defence works are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
004139	Lough Croan Turlough SPA	14.0	<p>Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056] Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] Greenland White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]</p>	<p>Situated approximately 6 km east of the River Suck in Co. Roscommon, Lough Croan Turlough is a linear wetland, aligned north-west/south-east, which lies in a flattish area of glacial till. It is split into two main parts - the east functions as a typical turlough, with a wet, reedy centre, while the west is a fen, floating in places, which also floods in winter.</p> <p>Agriculture is the only threat/pressure identified in the standard data form for the site. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
002162	River Barrow And River Nore	14.0	<p>Estuaries [1130] Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low</p>	<p>This site consists of the freshwater stretches of the Barrow and Nore River catchments as far upstream as the Slieve Bloom Mountains, and it also includes the tidal elements and estuary as far downstream as Creadun Head in Waterford. The site passes</p>

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	SAC		<p>tide [1140] Reefs [1170] Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>) [1330] Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410] Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260] European dry heaths [4030] Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430] Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [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> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>) [91E0] Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>) [1016] Freshwater Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) [1029] White-clawed Crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) [1092] Sea Lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) [1095] Brook Lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) [1096] River Lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) [1099] Twaite Shad (<i>Alosa fallax fallax</i>) [1103] Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106] Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355] Killarney Fern (<i>Trichomanes speciosum</i>) [1421] Nore Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera durrovensis</i>) [1990]</p>	<p>through eight counties – Offaly, Kildare, Laois, Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Wexford and Waterford. Major towns along the edge of the site include Mountmellick, Portarlington, Monasterevin, Stradbally, Athy, Carlow, Leighlinbridge, Graiguenamanagh, New Ross, Inistioge, Thomastown, Callan, Bennettsbridge, Kilkenny and Durrow. The larger of the many tributaries include the Lerr, Fushoge, Mountain, Aughavaud, Owenass, Boherbaun and Stradbally Rivers of the Barrow, and the Delour, Dinin, Erkina, Owveg, Munster, Arrigle and King's Rivers on the Nore.</p> <p>The main threats to the site and current damaging activities include high inputs of nutrients into the river system from agricultural run-off and several sewage plants, over-grazing within the woodland areas, and invasion by non-native species, for example Cherry Laurel (<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>) and Rhododendron (<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>). The water quality of the site remains vulnerable. Good quality water is necessary to maintain the populations of the Annex II animal species listed above. Good quality is dependent on controlling fertilisation of the grasslands, particularly along the Nore. It also requires that sewage be properly treated before discharge. Drainage activities in the catchment can lead to flash floods that can damage the many Annex II species present. Capital and maintenance dredging within the lower reaches of the system pose a threat to migrating fish species such as lamprey and shad. Land reclamation also poses a threat to the salt meadows and the populations of legally protected species therein.</p> <p>Urbanisation, invasive species, human disturbance from recreational pressures particularly nautical activities, storm damage, succession processes, bridge works, and coastal defense works are the main threats or pressures identified by the NPWS in the standard data form. No other site-specific threats have been identified from the NPWS database of protected sites.</p>
001957	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC		<p>Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes") [2120], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Estuaries [1130], Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Atlantic salt meadows</i> (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>)) [1330], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Shifting dunes (<i>Embryonic shifting dunes</i>) [2110], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes") [2130]</p>	<p>While the site has a good diversity of coastal habitats including fixed dunes most have been modified in some way. The containment of the main tidal channel has altered the tidal pattern which affects the functioning of the various estuarine habitats. Both dune systems were formerly far more extensive but much of the stable areas have now been converted to golf courses. Site is important for wintering waterfowl supporting nine species in nationally important numbers including <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> an Annex I EU Birds Directive species. <i>Sterna albifrons</i> breeds or attempts to breed in most years.</p> <p>The known threats and pressures identified in the standard data form are as follows: Urbanised areas, human habitation, Storm, cyclone, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Bridge, viaduct, Storage of materials, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Reduction, lack or prevention of erosion, Dykes, embankments, artificial beaches, general, Vandalism, Invasive non-native species, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Biocenotic evolution, succession, Disposal of inert materials, Other human intrusions and disturbances, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Removal of sediments (<i>mud...</i>), Off-road motorized driving, Interpretative centres, Pollution to surface waters (<i>limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish</i>), Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles.</p>
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC		<p>Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) [1096], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230], Reefs [1170], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) [1029], Coastal lagoons [1150], Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106], River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) [1099], Estuaries [1130], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) [1095], Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1349], Subtidal sandbanks (<i>Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time</i>) [1110], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>) [6410], Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Atlantic salt meadows</i> (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>)) [1330], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310]</p>	<p>The site contains many Annexed habitats including the most extensive area of estuarine habitat in Ireland. A good range of Annexed species are also present including the only known resident population of <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> in Ireland all three Irish species of lamprey and a good population of <i>Salmo salar</i>. A number of birds listed on the EU Birds Directive either winter or breed in the site. The site is internationally important for waterfowl with more than 50000 individuals occurring in winter. Several species listed in the Irish Red Data Book are present perhaps most notably the only known Irish populations of <i>Scirpus triquetar</i>.</p> <p>The known threats and pressures identified in the standard data form are as follows: Grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Discharges, Fertilisation, Sylviculture, forestry, Nautical sports, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hand cutting of peat, Removal of beach materials, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Leisure fishing, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Air pollution, air-borne pollutants, Hunting, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Polderisation, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Invasive non-native species, Eutrophication (<i>natural</i>).</p>
002241	Lough Derg, North-east Shore SAC		<p>Limestone pavements [8240], Yew-dominated woodland (<i>Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles</i>) [9130], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Alkaline fens</p>	<p>This site supports a wide range of habitats including Alkaline fens Juniper scrub formations limestone pavement Yew woodlands alluvial woodlands and Cladium fen. It also supports the only known population in the country for the Irish Red Data Book species <i>Inula salicina</i>. Other scarce plant species found here include <i>Sorbus aria</i> and <i>Rhamnus catharticus</i>. The endangered fish species <i>Coregonus autumnalis</i> has its European stronghold in</p>

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			[7230], Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210]	<p>Lough Derg. The open water areas of the lake itself are important for wintering wildfowl. Goat island holds a breeding colony of <i>Sterna hirundo</i>. A subflock of <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> uses the callow lands around Slevoir Bay in Winter. A good population of <i>Cygnus olor</i> occurs.</p> <p>The known threats and pressures identified in the standard data form are as follows: Piers or tourist harbours or recreational piers, Forest replanting (<i>native trees</i>), Flooding and rising precipitations, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Problematic native species, Fertilisation, Droughts and less precipitations, Eutrophication (<i>natural</i>), Non intensive mixed animal grazing, Wildlife watching, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Mining and quarrying, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Species composition change (<i>succession</i>), Temperature changes (<i>e.g. rise of temperature & extremes</i>), Invasive non-native species, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Intensive grazing, Pollution to surface waters (<i>limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish</i>)</p>
004058	Lough Derg SPA		Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Common coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067]	<p>Lough Derg is of importance for both breeding and wintering birds. The islands support nationally important breeding colonies of <i>Sterna hirundo</i> <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> and probably <i>Aythya fuligula</i>. It is a traditional site for nesting <i>Larus ridibundus</i> but there is no recent survey information. In winter the lake is particularly important for diving ducks with nationally important populations of <i>Aythya fuligula</i> and <i>Bucephala clangula</i> occurring. <i>Cygnus olor</i> also has a population of national importance whilst a range of other species occur in lesser numbers including <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> <i>Anas crecca</i> <i>Fulica atra</i> and <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>. A flock of <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> has traditionally used the site where they feed on grassy islands but birds have seldom been recorded in recent years.</p> <p>The known threats and pressures identified in the standard data form are as follows: Hunting, Fertilisation, Nautical sports, Leisure fishing.</p>
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA		Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Red knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143], Common shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048], Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137], Greater scaup (<i>Aythya marila</i>) [A062], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Common greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>) [A164], Eurasian oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130], Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141], Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069]	<p>This is the most important coastal wetland site in the country and regularly supports in excess of 50000 wintering waterfowl. It has internationally important populations of <i>Calidris alpina</i> <i>Limosa limosa</i> and <i>Tringa totanus</i>. A further 16 species have populations of national importance. The site is particularly significant for <i>Calidris alpina</i> (11% of national total) <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> (7.5% of total) <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> (6.5% of total) <i>Tringa totanus</i> (6.1% of total) and <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (6.0% of total). It has <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> and <i>Limosa lapponica</i> in significant numbers. The site was formerly frequented by a population of <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> but these have now abandoned the area. The site provides both feeding and roosting areas for the wintering birds and habitat quality for most of the estuarine habitats is good.</p> <p>The known threats and pressures identified in the standard data form are as follows: Urbanised areas, human habitation, Nautical sports, Industrial or commercial areas, Shipping lanes, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Discharges, Fertilisation.</p>
004080	Boyne Estuary SPA		Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Little tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) [A195], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Common shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048], Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Common greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>) [A164], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Eurasian oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Red knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143], Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144], Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141]	<p>The Boyne Estuary is one of the most important sites for wintering waterfowl on the east coast. It has a total of 10 species with populations of national importance - of particular note is that it supports 7.0% of the national total of <i>Calidris canutus</i> and 4.0% of the total for <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>. Other species which have populations of national importance include <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> <i>Limosa limosa</i> <i>Tringa totanus</i> and <i>Arenaria interpres</i>. The site provides both feeding and roosting areas for the birds. <i>Sterna albifrons</i> bred in the past but successful breeding has not occurred since 1996.</p> <p>The known threats and pressures identified in the standard data form are as follows: Leisure fishing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Golf course, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Invasive non-native species, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits.</p>

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List of all Qualifying Interests of SACs that have undergone Assessment including Summaries of Current Threats and Sensitivity to Effects

Qualifying Interests	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Active raised bogs [7110]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Erosion, land-use changes.
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> (<i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i>) [91E0]	Inappropriate grazing levels; invasive species; and clearance for agriculture or felling for timber.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Changes in management.
Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]	Abandonment; overgrazing; burning; outdoor recreation; quarries; communication networks; and wind farm developments.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]	Grazing; sand and gravel extraction; recreational activities; coastal protection works.	Overgrazing and erosion. Changes in management.
Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>) [1330]	Overgrazing; erosion; invasive species, particularly common cordgrass (<i>Spartina anglica</i>); infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Overgrazing, erosion and accretion.
Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]	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.
Bog woodland [91D0]	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.
Brook Lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) [1096]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent Highly sensitive to hydrological change.
Calaminarian grasslands of the (<i>Violetalia calaminariae</i>) [6130]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Calcareous fens with species of mariscus sedge and bog cotton (<i>Cladium mariscus</i> and <i>Caricion davallianae</i>) [7210]	Hydrological changes, pollution to surface waters, urbanisation, roads development, groundwater interactions, grazing and cultivation practices and the inappropriate use of pesticides.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210]	Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Coastal lagoons [1150]	Mixed source marine water pollution (marine and coastal); modification of hydrological flow; drainage; abiotic natural processes (e.g. erosion, silting up, drying out, submersion, salinization; accumulation of organic material; extraction activities generating marine pollution; sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Erosion, land-use changes.
Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Erosion, land-use changes.
Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>) [1016]	Loss of riverside and canalside habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>) [2170]	Agricultural improvement; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing; forestry; recreational activity.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]	Natural erosion processes exacerbated by recreation and sand extraction. Coastal protection interfering with natural processes.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Estuaries [1130]	Pollution, fishing /aquaculture and habitat quality.	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity
European dry heaths [4030]	Afforestation, overburning, over-grazing, under-grazing and bracken invasion.	Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (<i>grey dunes</i>) [2130]	Recreation; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing: non-native plant species, particularly sea buckthorn (<i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>).	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Freshwater Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) [1029]	Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
Geyer's Whorl Snail (<i>Vertigo geyeri</i>) [1013]	Loss of riverside and canalside habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Grey Seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>) [1364]	Distance to human activities, accidental entanglement in fishing gear competition for prey resources, illegal killing, pollution and habitat degradation.	Prey availability, reduction in available habitat and water quality.

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Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140]	Hydrological changes, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Humid dune slacks [2190]	Agricultural improvement; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing; forestry; recreational activity.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management. Sensitive to hydrological change.
Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]	Overgrazing, erosion, scrub clearance, inappropriate land use management, and succession processes.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Killarney Fern (<i>Trichomanes speciosum</i>) [1421]	Threatened by habitat loss, deliberate collection, encroachment of invasive or vigorous species, or indirectly by water pollution, removal of woodland or alteration of watercourses.	Land use management and direct impacts.
Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]	Pressures on the habitat include nutrient enrichment, dredging and invasive alien species. Overall Status is assessed as Bad and deteriorating, a genuine decline since the 2013 assessment of Inadequate and improving, and is based on more detailed information.	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity, surface water runoff, discharge etc. On site management activities.
Limestone pavements [8240]	Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>) [6510]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
Marsh Fritillary (<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>) [1065]	Declines in habitat quality lead to species decline.	Habitat management; land use change and drainage.
Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410]	Over-grazing by cattle or sheep; infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development and reclamation.
Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>) [6410]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]	Aquaculture, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works and invasive species, particularly cord-grass; hard coastal defence structures; sea-level rise.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.
Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160]	Nutrient alterations; management shifts in the associated peatland habitat, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Natural eutrophic lakes with <i>Magnopotamion</i> or <i>Hydrocharition</i> - type vegetation [3150]	Hydrological changes, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010]	Reclamation, afforestation and burning; overstocking; invasion by non-heath species; exposure of peat to severe erosion.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
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.
Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea [3130]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i>) [3110]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]	Decrease in water quality: Use of pesticides; fertilization; vegetation removal; professional fishing (including lobster pots and fyke nets); unting; poisoning; sand and gravel extraction; mechanical removal of peat; urbanised areas; human habitation; continuous urbanization; drainage; management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes; and canalization or modifying structures of inland water course.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Sensitivity to pollution.
Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]	Disruption of the sediment supply, owing to the interruption of the coastal processes, caused by developments such as car parks and coastal defence structures including rock armour and sea walls. The removal of gravel.	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity and gravel removal.
Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>) [1395]	There are no significant impacts affecting this species.	None identified.
Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [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.
River Lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) [1099]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent Highly sensitive to hydrological change.

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Rivers with muddy banks with <i>Chenopodium rubri</i> p.p. and <i>Bidention</i> p.p. vegetation [3270]	Aquaculture, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works and invasive species, particularly cord-grass; hard coastal defence structures; sea-level rise.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.
Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Marine water dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Infilling, reclamation, invasive species.
Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106]	Marine survival rates are of concern for the populations.	Disease, parasites and barriers to movement.
Sea Lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) [1095]	Barriers to upstream migration (<i>e.g. weirs</i>), which limit access to spawning beds and juvenile habitat are main threats to this species.	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity.
Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Slender Green Feather-moss (<i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i>) [1393]	Pollution, land use, climate change and invasive species.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
<i>Taxus baccata</i> woods of the British Isles [91J0]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i> [1349]	Prey availability, fisheries threats and marine vessel movements.	Physical disturbances. alterations to trophic structure, distribution patterns and hydrological interactions.
Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]	A number of significant pressures were identified, including trampling by walkers, invasive non-native species, gravel extraction, and sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change. There have been no significant losses in sea cliff habitat since the Directive came into force.	Land use activities such as tourism and/or agricultural practices. Direct alteration to the habitat or effects such as burning or drainage.
Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Erosion, land-use changes.
Turloughs [3180]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Twaite Shad (<i>Alosa fallax fallax</i>) [1103]	Habitat quality, particularly at spawning sites is the most notable threat to this species.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260]	Eutrophication; overgrazing, excessive fertilisation; afforestation; and the introduction of invasive alien species.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
White-clawed Crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) [1092]	Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Invasive species, disease, surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
White-clawed crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) [1092]	Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.

List of all Special Conservation Interest of SPAs that have undergone Assessment including Summaries of Current Threats and Sensitivity to Effects

Special Conservation Interests	Vulnerabilities of Special Conservation Interests
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<p>Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038] Pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059] Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061] Coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125] Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050] Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056] Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] Greenland White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395] Little Grebe (<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>) [A004] Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053] Common Scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>) [A065] Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067]</p>	<p>Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142] Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017] Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054] Scaup (<i>Aythya marila</i>) [A062] Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137]</p>	<p>Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160] Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>) [A164] Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169] Little Tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) [A195]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bird species are particularly vulnerable to direct disturbance due to noise and/or vibration. These effects are localised, and disturbance effects are foreseen to be low at distances beyond 2km. • Direct habitat loss is a serious concern for bird species, as well as the reduction in habitat quality. Habitat degradation could occur through effects such as local enrichment due to agricultural practices or damage to habitat through activities such as trampling. • Prey species diversity and availability is a key element of species conservation. Community dynamics and ecosystem functionality are complex concepts and require site specific information. The site synopsis and conservation objectives for the SPAs identified within the ZOI were used to identify any specific prey sensitivities. • Availability of nesting/roosting habitat. • Vegetation composition, structure and functionality.
<p>Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]</p>			<p>Direct land take is a common vulnerability to all sites; as well as significant water quality effects. The conservation objective of all SPAs designated for Wetland and Waterbirds is to maintain the favourable conservation condition of the wetland habitat as a resource for the regularly-occurring migratory waterbirds using it.</p>

Appendix II Relationship Other Plans and Programmes

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
European Level			
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 an 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. 	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.
EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)	<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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA. For projects listed in Annex II, a "screening procedure" is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account Annex III. The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor. Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made. 	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.
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. 	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.
Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)	<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. 	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.

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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
EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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 	<p>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.</p>
EU Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive (2008/1/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<p>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.</p>
EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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). 	<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>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.</p>
EU Renewables Directive (2009/28/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Renewable Energy Directive establishes an overall policy for the production and promotion of energy from renewable sources in the EU. It requires the EU to fulfil at least 20% of its total energy needs with renewables by 2020 – to be achieved through the attainment of individual national targets. All EU countries must also ensure that at least 10% of their transport fuels come from renewable sources by 2020. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Directive promotes cooperation amongst EU countries (and with countries outside the EU) to help them meet their renewable energy targets. The Directive specifies national renewable energy targets for each country, taking into account its starting point and overall potential for renewables. EU countries set out how they plan to meet these targets and the general course of their renewable energy policy in national renewable energy action plans. Progress towards national targets is measured every two years when EU countries publish national renewable energy progress reports. 	<p>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.</p>
EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>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.</p>
Indirect Land Use Change Directive (2012/0288(COD))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 3(4) of Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (3) requires Member States to ensure that the share of energy from renewable energy sources in all forms of transport in 2020 is at least 10 % of their final energy consumption. The blending of biofuels is one of the methods available for Member States to meet this target, and is expected to be the main contributor. Other methods available to meet the target are the reduction of energy consumption, which is imperative because a mandatory percentage target for energy from renewable sources is likely to become increasingly difficult to achieve sustainably if overall demand for energy for transport continues to rise, and the use of electricity from renewable energy sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit the contribution that conventional biofuels (with a risk of ILUC emissions) make towards attainment of the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive; Improve the greenhouse gas performance of biofuel production processes (reducing associated emissions) by raising the greenhouse gas saving threshold for new installations subject to protecting installations already in operation on 1st July 2014; Encourage a greater market penetration of advanced (low-ILUC) biofuels by allowing such fuels to contribute more to the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive than conventional biofuels; Improve the reporting of greenhouse gas emissions by obliging Member States and fuel suppliers to report the estimated indirect land-use change emissions of biofuels. 	<p>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.</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
Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (2014/94/EU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive sets out minimum requirements for the building-up of alternative fuels infrastructure, including recharging points for electric vehicles and refuelling 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 refuelling points, and user information requirements. 	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.
EU Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes a set of binding measures to help the EU reach its 20% energy efficiency target by 2020. Under the Directive, all EU countries are required to use energy more efficiently at all stages of the energy chain, from production to final consumption. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy distributors or retail energy sales companies have to achieve 1.5% energy savings per year through the implementation of energy efficiency measures EU countries can opt to achieve the same level of savings through other means, such as improving the efficiency of heating systems, installing double glazed windows or insulating roofs The public sector in EU countries should purchase energy efficient buildings, products and services Every year, governments in EU countries must carry out energy efficient renovations on at least 3% (by floor area) of the buildings they own and occupy Energy consumers should be empowered to better manage consumption. This includes easy and free access to data on consumption through individual metering National incentives for SMEs to undergo energy audits Large companies will make audits of their energy consumption to help them identify ways to reduce it Monitoring efficiency levels in new energy generation capacities. 	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.
EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>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:</p> <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. 	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.
European Union Biodiversity Strategy to 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims to halt or reverse biodiversity loss and speed up the EU's transition towards a resource efficient and green economy. Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them in so far as feasible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines six targets and twenty actions to aid European Union in halting the loss to biodiversity and eco-system services. The six targets cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity Maintaining, enhancing and protecting for ecosystems, and green infrastructure Ensuring sustainable agriculture, and forestry Sustainable management of fish stocks Reducing invasive alien species Addressing the global need to contribute towards averting global biodiversity loss 	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.
EU Green Infrastructure Strategy	Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.	<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. 	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.
UNESCO (1972) The Convention for the Protection of the World	links concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties; and recognizes the way in which people	<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; 	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align

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Cultural and Natural Heritage	interact with nature, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	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.
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. 	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.
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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	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.
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. 	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.
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 complimentary 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. 	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.
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. 	<p>To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030:</p> <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. 	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.
The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC) (EU Air Framework Directive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets objectives for ambient air quality designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole. 	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in

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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
Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets new air quality objectives for PM_{2.5} (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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims to assess the ambient air quality in Member States on the basis of common methods and criteria. Obtains information on ambient air quality in order to help combat air pollution and nuisance and to monitor long-term trends and improvements resulting from national and community measures. Ensures that such information on ambient air quality is made available to the public. Aims to maintain air quality where it is good and improving it in other cases. Aims to promote increased cooperation between the Member States in reducing air pollution. 	<p>combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	<p>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>	<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>	<p>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.</p>
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>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.</p>
Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	<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 (Dangerous Substances) 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>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.</p>
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 	<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, 	<p>Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align</p>

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	<p>groundwater.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve and maintain the quality of water intended for human consumption. Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set values applicable to water intended for human consumption for the parameters set out in Annex I. Set values for additional parameters not included in Annex I, where the protection of human health within national territory or part of it so requires. The values set should, as a minimum, satisfy the requirements of Article 4(1) (a). Implement all measures necessary to ensure that regular monitoring of the quality of water intended for human consumption is carried out, in order to check that the water available to consumers meets the requirements of this Directive and in particular the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5. Ensure that any failure to meet the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5 is immediately investigated in order to identify the cause. Ensure that the necessary remedial action is taken as soon as possible to restore its quality and shall give priority to their enforcement action. Undertake remedial action to restore the quality of the water where necessary to protect human health. Notify consumers when remedial action is being undertaken except where the competent authorities consider the non-compliance with the parametric value to be trivial. 	<p>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.</p>
<p>Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)</p>	<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>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.</p>
<p>Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC and Directive 2013/30/EU</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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 	<p>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.</p>

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		<p>ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives. 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>European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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>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>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.</p>
<p>Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<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>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.</p>
<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>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.</p>
<p>European Landscape Convention 2000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. Organise European co-operation on landscape issues. 	<p>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.</p>
<p>The Seventh Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community (2013-2020)</p>	<p>It identifies three key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing 	<p>Four so called "enablers" will help Europe deliver on these objectives (goals):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better implementation of legislation. Better information by improving the knowledge base. More and wiser investment for environment and climate policy. Full integration of environmental requirements and considerations into other policies. <p>Two additional horizontal priority objectives complete the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make the Union's cities more sustainable. To help the Union address international environmental and climate challenges more effectively. 	<p>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.</p>

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Bern Convention (Convention on the 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>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.</p>
Bali Road Map (2007)	<p>The overall goals of the project are twofold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase national capacity to co-ordinate 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. 	<p>The Bali Action Plan is centred on four main building Blocks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> mitigation adaptation technology financing 	<p>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.</p>
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>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.</p>
Doha Climate Gateway (2012)	<p>Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which pave the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015.</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. 	<p>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.</p>
EU Common Agricultural Policy	<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>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.</p>
EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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>The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation; and 	<p>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</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restriction of chemicals. REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.	their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Stockholm Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants. 	<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 	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.
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”.	Under the “three pillars” of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to: <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. 	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.
European 2020 Strategy for Growth	Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe’s social market economy for the 21st century and puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities: <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. 	In order to reach these priorities, the Commission proposes five quantitative targets to fulfil by 2020: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed; 3% of the EU’s GDP should be invested in R&D; the “20/20/20” climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right); the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree; 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty. 	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.
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.	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 Level			
Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, the National Planning Framework, (replacing the National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020) and the National Development Plan (2018-2027)	<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 	National Strategic Outcomes as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Compact Growth Enhanced Regional Accessibility Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities Sustainable Mobility A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills High-Quality International Connectivity Enhanced Amenity and Heritage Transition to a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Society Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services 	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.

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<p>Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040 [in preparation]</p>	<p>decisions in Ireland over the next two decades, to cater for an expected population increase of over 1 million people.</p> <p>The PLUTO will take account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies and will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term; 2. Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and, 3. Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040. 	<p>In preparation</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The core principal objectives of this Act are to amend the Planning Acts of 2000 – 2009 with specific regard given to supporting economic renewal and sustainable development. 	<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>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.</p>
<p>European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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). 	<p>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.</p>
<p>European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011, as amended)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<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>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.</p>
<p>Waste Management Act 1996, as amended</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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>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.</p>
<p>European Communities Environmental Objectives (FPM) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 296 of 2009)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels 	<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. 	<p>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.</p>

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<p>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. 9 of 2010), as amended (S.I. No. 366 of 2016)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) to make further provision to implement Commission Directive 2014/80/EU of 20 June 2014 amending Annex II to Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure. <p>The substances and threshold values set out in Schedule 5 to S.I. No. 9 of 2010 have been reviewed and amended where necessary, based on existing monitoring information and international guidelines on appropriate threshold values.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part A of Schedule 6 has been amended to include changes to the rules governing the determination of background levels for the purposes of establishing threshold values for groundwater pollutants and indicators of pollution. Part B of Schedule 6 has been amended to include nitrites and phosphorus (total) / phosphates among the minimum list of pollutants and their indicators which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must consider when establishing threshold values. Part C of Schedule 6 amends the information to be provided to the Minister by the EPA with regard to the pollutants and their indicators for which threshold values have been established. 	<p>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.</p>
<p>European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 31 of 2014)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These Regulations, which give effect to Irelands 3rd Nitrates Action Programme, provide statutory support for good agricultural practice to protect waters against pollution from agricultural sources 	<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>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.</p>
<p>Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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>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>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.</p>
<p>The Sustainable Development Goals National Implementation Plan (2018 – 2020)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Implementation Plan 2018 - 2020 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 Plan provides a 'SDG Matrix' which identifies the responsible Government Departments for each of the 169 targets. It also includes a 'SDG Policy Map' indicating the relevant national policies for each of the targets. 	<p>The Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness: raise public awareness of the SDGs; Participation: provide stakeholders opportunities to engage and contribute to follow-up and review processes, and further develop national implementation of the Goals; Support: encourage and support efforts of communities and organisations to contribute towards meeting the SDGs, and foster public participation; and Policy alignment: develop alignment of national policy with the SDGs and identify opportunities for policy coherence. 	<p>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.</p>
<p>Infrastructure and Capital Investment Plan (2016-2021)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> €27 billion multi-annual Exchequer Capital Investment Plan, which is supported by a programme of capital investment in the wider State sector, and which over the period 2016 to 2021 will help to lay the foundations for continued growth in Ireland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Capital Plan reflects the Government's commitment to supporting strong and sustainable economic growth and raising welfare and living standards for all. It includes allocations for new projects across a number of key areas and funding to ensure that the present stock of national infrastructure is refreshed and maintained. 	<p>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</p>

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European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-Fisheries) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 290 of 2013)	These regulations have been drafted to implement the responsibilities of the Minister for Agriculture Food and the Marine in relation to sea fisheries in Natura 2000 sites, in accordance with the Habitats and Birds Directives as transposed by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation 3 provides for the submission of a Fisheries Natura Plan in relation to planned fisheries; Regulation 4 provides for a screening of a Fisheries Natura Plan to determine whether or not an appropriate assessment is required; Regulation 5 provides for an appropriate assessment of a Fisheries Natura Plan and also provides for public and statutory consultation; Regulation 6 provides for the Minister to make a determination to adopt a Fisheries Natura Plan. The Minister may amend, withdraw or revoke a plan; Regulation 7 provides for publication of the adopted Fisheries Natura Plan; Regulation 8 provides for a Risk Assessment of unplanned fisheries and also provides for public and statutory consultation on the assessment; Regulation 9 provides for the issue of a Natura Declaration to prohibit, restrict including restricting by permit, control, etc. of sea fishing activities; Regulation 10 provides for Natura Permits to be issued where required by Natura Declarations; and Regulations 11 to 31 deal with functions of authorised officers and related matters, offences, etc. 	<p>environmental protection and management.</p> <p>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.</p>
Ireland's National Renewable Energy Action Plan 2010 (Irish Government submission to the European Commission)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) sets out the Government's strategic approach and concrete measures to deliver on Ireland's 16% target under Directive 2009/28/EC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NREAP sets out the Member State's national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020, and demonstrates how the Member State will meet its overall national target established under the Directive. 	<p>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.</p>
Strategy for Renewable Energy (2012-2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government's overarching strategic objective is to make renewable energy an increasingly significant component of Ireland's energy supply by 2020, so that at a minimum it will achieve its legally binding 2020 target in the most cost-efficient manner for consumers. Of critical importance is the role which the renewable energy sector plays in job creation and economic activity as part of the Government's action plan for jobs. 	<p>This document sets out five strategic goals, reflecting the key dimensions of the renewable energy challenge to 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing on and offshore wind, Building a sustainable bioenergy sector, Fostering R&D in renewables such as wave & tidal, Growing sustainable transport; and Building out robust and efficient networks. 	<p>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.</p>
National Climate Mitigation Plan 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Plan represents an initial step to set Ireland on a pathway to achieve the deep decarbonisation required in Ireland by mid-century in line with the Government's policy objectives. 	<p>The National Mitigation Plan focuses on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Action Policy Framework Decarbonising Electricity Generation Decarbonising the Built Environment Decarbonising Transport An Approach to Carbon Neutrality for Agriculture, Forest and Land Use Sectors 	<p>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.</p>
National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Policy Position provides a high-level policy direction for the adoption and implementation by Government of plans to enable the State to move to a low carbon economy by 2050. Statutory authority for the plans is set out in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015. 	<p>National climate policy in Ireland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognises the threat of climate change for humanity; Anticipates and supports mobilisation of a comprehensive international response to climate change, and global transition to a low-carbon future; Recognises the challenges and opportunities of the broad transition agenda for society; and Aims, as a fundamental national objective, to achieve transition to a competitive, low carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050. 	<p>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.</p>
National Clean Air Strategy [in preparation]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Clean Air Strategy will provide the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having a National Strategy will provide a policy framework by which Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation. 	<p>Implementation of the Plan need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in</p>

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	<p>reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Strategy should also help tackle climate change. The Strategy will consider 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 and this will be a strong theme of the Strategy. 	<p>combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>EirGrid's Grid25 Strategy and associated Grid25 Implementation Programme 2017-2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EirGrid's mission is to develop, maintain and operate a safe, secure, reliable, economical and efficient transmission system for Ireland; <i>"Our vision is of a grid developed to match future needs, so it can safely and reliably carry power all over the country to the major towns and cities and onwards to every home, farm and business where the electricity is consumed and so it can meet the needs of consumers and generators in a sustainable way."</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grid25, EirGrid's roadmap to uprate 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. 	<p>Implementation of the Plan as varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018)</p>	<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 off road experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; and 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>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.</p>
<p>National Water Resources Plan [in preparation]</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>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.</p>
<p>National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Development (2014-2020)</p>	<p>Vision: <i>"Aquaculture in RC is economically, socially and ecologically sustainable, with a developed infrastructure, strong human potentials and an organized market. The consumption of aquaculture products is equal or above EU average, while the technological development of the sector is among the best in the EU."</i></p>	<p>General development and growth objectives of marine and freshwater aquaculture (2014 – 2020):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the social, business and administrative environment for aquaculture development Increase in the total production to 24,050 tonnes while adhering to the principles of economic, social and ecological sustainability Improvement of the perception and increase in the national consumption of National products 	<p>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.</p>
<p>Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector</p>	<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 	<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; 	<p>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</p>

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	<p>the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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>environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland (1997)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The overall aim of this Strategy is to ensure that economy and society in Ireland can develop to their full potential within a well-protected environment, without compromising the quality of that environment, and with responsibility towards present and future generations and the wider international community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Strategy addresses all areas of Government policy, and of economic and societal activity, which impact on the environment. It seeks to re-orientate policies as necessary to ensure that the strong growth Ireland enjoys and seeks to maintain will be environmentally sustainable. 	<p>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.</p>
<p>National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character Assessment (pending preparation)</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: <i>"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."</i> 	<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>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.</p>
<p>National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2014-2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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>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 27 recommendations under the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention • Collection • Self-sufficiency • Regulation • Legacy issues • North-south cooperation • Guidance and awareness • Implementation 	<p>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.</p>
<p>Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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, child care facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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>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</p>

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HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vision is: "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." 	<p>These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive:</p> <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 	environmental protection and management. 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.
Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	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.
Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future – A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2020 (2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines a policy for how a sustainable travel and transport system can be achieved. Sets out five key goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce overall travel demand. To maximise the efficiency of the transport network. To reduce reliance on fossil fuels. To reduce transport emissions. To improve accessibility to transport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Others lower level aims include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reduce distance travelled by private car and encourage smarter travel, including focusing population growth in areas of employment and to encourage people to live in close proximity to places of employment ensuring that alternatives to the car are more widely available, mainly through a radically improved public transport service and through investment in cycling and walking improving the fuel efficiency of motorised transport through improved fleet structure, energy efficient driving and alternative technologies strengthening institutional arrangements to deliver the targets 	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.
Investing in our Future: A Strategic Framework for Investment in Land Transport (SFILT) – Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SFILT sets out a set of priorities to guide the allocation of the State's investment to best develop and manage Ireland's land transport network over the coming decades. 	<p>The three priorities stated in SFILT are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority 1: Achieve steady state maintenance (meaning that the maintenance and renewal of the existing transport system is at a sufficient level to maintain the system in an adequate condition); Priority 2: Address urban congestion; and Priority 3: Maximise the value of the road network. <p>In delivering on the steady state maintenance objective set out in SFILT, the Plan includes for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned replacement programme for the bus fleet operated under Public Service Obligation ("PSO") contracts; Tram refurbishment and asset renewal in the case of light rail; and To the extent within the Authority' remit, support for the operation of the existing rail network within the GDA. 	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.
Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland – The Energy Policy Framework 2007 – 2020 (2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> White paper setting out a framework for delivering a sustainable energy future in Ireland. Outlines strategic Goals for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Security of Supply Sustainability of Energy Competitiveness of Energy Supply 	<p>The underpinning Strategic Goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that electricity supply consistently meets demand Ensuring the physical security and reliability of gas supplies to Ireland Enhancing the diversity of fuels used for power generation Delivering electricity and gas to homes and businesses over efficient, reliable and secure networks Creating a stable attractive environment for hydrocarbon exploration and production Being prepared for energy supply disruptions 	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 Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2018 and forthcoming regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<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 	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

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	change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur	and finance-based actions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
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. 	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 Renewable Energy Action Plan (2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out the Member State's national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020, and demonstrates how the Member State will meet its overall national target established under the Directive. 	Including Ireland's 16% target of gross final consumption to come from renewables by 2020.	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 Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland (2009 – 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the second National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Plan reviews the original 90 actions outlined in the first Plan and updates/renews/removes them as appropriate. 	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.
Wildlife Act of 1976 Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna. 	<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 	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.
Actions for Biodiversity (2017-2021) Ireland's National Biodiversity Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out strategic objectives, targets and actions to conserve and restore Ireland's biodiversity and to prevent and reduce the loss of biodiversity in Ireland and globally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To mainstream biodiversity in the decision-making process across all sectors. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity. To increase awareness and appreciation of biodiversity and ecosystem services. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider countryside. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the marine environment. To expand and improve on the management of protected areas and legally protected species. To substantially strengthen the effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services. 	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 Broadband Plan (2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out the strategy to deliver high speed broadband throughout Ireland. 	The Plan sets out: <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. 	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.

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<p>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of 2003)</p> <p>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014)</p> <p>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009)</p>	<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"> • A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area. • 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. 	<p>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.</p>
<p>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations of 2010 (SI 9 of 2010)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transpose the requirements of the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC into Irish Legislation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for groundwater bodies of groundwater against pollution and deterioration in quality. • Sets groundwater quality standards. • Outlines threshold values for the classification and protection of groundwater. 	<p>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.</p>
<p>Water Pollution Acts 1977 to 1990</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division. 	<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>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.</p>
<p>Water Services Act 2007</p> <p>Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012</p> <p>Water Services Act (No. 2) 2013</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 waste water 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 in the gateways and hubs listed in the National Spatial Strategy, and in other locations where services need to be enhanced. • 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. 	<p>Implementation of the Plan will need 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.</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	
Irish Water's Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and associated Proposed Capital Investment Plan (2014-2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Water Services Strategic Plan sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040. It details current and future challenges which affect the provision of water services and identifies the priorities to be tackled in the short and medium term. 	Six strategic objectives as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet Customer Expectations. Ensure a Safe and Reliable Water Supply. Provide Effective Management of Wastewater. Protect and Enhance the Environment. Support Social and Economic Growth. Invest in the Future. 	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.
Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	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.
Food Harvest 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development. 	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.
Agri-vision 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	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.
Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS) Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS) Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS)	<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. 	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 Rural Development Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	At a more detailed level, the programme also: <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 	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 Forestry Programme (2014-2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represents Ireland's proposals for 100% State aid funding for a new Forestry Programme for the period 2014 – 2020. 	Measures include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Afforestation and Creation of Woodland NeighbourWood Scheme 	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in

Screening for Appropriate Assessment for Proposed Material Alterations

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Roads • Reconstitution Scheme • Woodland Improvement Scheme • Native Woodland Conservation Scheme • Knowledge Transfer and Information Actions • Producer Groups • Innovative Forest Technology • Forest Genetic Reproductive Material • Forest Management Plans 	<p>combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
River Basin Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Basin Management Plans set out the measures planned to maintain and improve the status of waters. 	<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>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.</p>
National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)	<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>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.</p>
Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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>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>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.</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>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.</p>
Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCA) 2016	<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 2009/28/EC: 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>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</p>

Screening for Appropriate Assessment for Proposed Material Alterations

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017- 2030	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.	Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: <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 	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.
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.	Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including: <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. 	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 Cycle Network Scoping Study 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlines objectives and actions aimed at developing a strong cycle network in Ireland • Sets out 19 specific objectives, and details the 109 actions, aimed at ensuring that a cycling culture is developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets a target where 10% of all journeys will be made by bike by 2020 • Proposes the planning, infrastructure, communication, education and stakeholder participations measures required to implement the initiative 	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 Policy Framework for Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030	<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. 	<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.</p>	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.
Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021	The Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021 sets out actions that the Tourism Leadership Group has identified as priorities to be progressed until 2021 in order to maintain sustainable growth in overseas tourism revenue and employment. Each action involves specific tourism stakeholders, both in the public and private sectors, all of whom we expect to proactively work towards the completion of actions within the specified timeframe.	The Plan contains 27 actions focusing on the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Context • Marketing Ireland as a Visitor Destination • Enhancing the Visitor Experience • Research in the Irish Tourism Sector • Supporting Local Communities in Tourism • Wider Government Policy • International Context • Co-ordination Structures 	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.
Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025	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.	The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025: <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. 	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.
Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE)	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 2009/28/EC: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.	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. Methodology: Development of the Policy and Development Framework is to be	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.

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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
		informed by the carrying out of an SEA, including widespread consultation with stakeholders and public, and with AA under the Habitats Directive.	
National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017- 2030	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.	Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: <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 	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.
People Place and Policy - Growing Tourism to 2025, (DTTAS, 2014)	Growing Tourism to 2025 is a policy framework for the development of tourism within the Country.	The framework establishes the overall tourism goal of Government; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment in the tourism sector will be 250,000 by 2025, compared with around 200,000 at present. • There will be 10 million visits to Ireland annually by 2025. • The Government's ambition is that overseas tourism revenue will reach €5 billion in real terms by 2025. 	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.
Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan 2016-2020	The overarching aim of the Plan is to: <i>"Identify and protect the unique waterways heritage and promote its sustainable use for the enjoyment of this and future generations"</i> .	Four objectives of the Plan include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1: Fostering partnerships to continue building waterway heritage knowledge through storing information, undertaking research and developing best practice. • Objective 2: Promoting awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of our waterway heritage with a focus on community engagement. • Objective 3: Promoting the integrated management, conservation, protection and sustainable use of the inland navigable waterway asset. • Objective 4: To develop Waterways Ireland as a heritage organisation committed to achieving the aim of this plan. 	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.
Tourism Development and Innovation – A strategy for Investment 2016-2022, (Fáilte Ireland, 2016)	This strategy sets out the framework and mechanism for the delivery of investment to cities, towns, villages, communities and businesses across the country. It identifies priorities to support innovation in the sector to retain and grow the country's competitiveness in the marketplace. Its ultimate aim is to strengthen the appeal of Ireland for international visitors.	The objectives of the Tourism Development and Innovation Strategy are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To successfully and consistently deliver a world class visitor experience; • To support a tourism sector that is profitable and achieves sustainable levels of growth and delivers jobs; • To facilitate communities to play an enhanced role in developing tourism in their locality, thereby strengthening and enriching local communities; and • To recognise, value and enhance Ireland's natural environment as the cornerstone of Irish tourism. 	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.
Aquaculture Acts 1997 to 2006 : (Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 (8/2006), s. 1(3)) Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997 (23/1997) Fisheries and Foreshore (Amendment) Act 1998 (54/1998), ss. 2, 3 and 4 Fisheries (Amendment) Act 2001 (40/2001) Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 (8/2006)	The Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division ensures the efficient and effective management of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing in respect of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities.	The Strategic Objectives of the Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to develop and manage an efficient and effective regulatory framework in respect of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities; • to secure a fair financial return from the State's foreshore estate in the context of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing in respect of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities; • to progressively reduce arrears in the clearing of licence applications. 	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.
Regional/ County/Local Level			

Screening for Appropriate Assessment for Proposed Material Alterations

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Eastern and Midlands Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy 2019-2031	The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy provides a long-term strategic planning and economic framework for the Eastern and Midlands Region in order to support the implementation of the National Planning Framework.	The Eastern and Midlands 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.	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.
Integrated Implementation Plan 2019-2024	The Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035, which established an overall framework for transport investment over the next two decades and was subject to full SEA and Stage 2 AA, is a key policy shaping the six-year Integrated Infrastructure Plan. The priorities in the Integrated Infrastructure Plan align with the objectives and priorities set out in the Transport Strategy, focused on improving public and sustainable transport.	The Implementation Plan identifies investment proposals for a number of areas including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus; • Light Rail; • Heavy Rai; • Integration Measures and Sustainable Transport Investment; • Integrated Service Plan; and • Integration and Accessibility. 	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.
NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs	Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include: <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. 	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.
Groundwater Protection Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Groundwater Protection Scheme aims to maintain the quantity and quality of groundwater, and in some cases improve it, by applying a risk assessment-based approach to groundwater protection and sustainable development. 	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.
Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs), including the Westmeath LECP 2015-2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The overarching vision for each LECP is: “to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of the LECP, as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development of the relevant local authority area, both by itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders. 	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.
Land Use Plans including those in force in County Westmeath (Lissywollen South Framework Plan 2018-2024, Creggan Local Area Plan 2010-2025, Athlone Town Development Plan 2014-2020, and Mullingar Town Development Plan 2014-2020) and those in force in other adjoining planning authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline planning objectives for land use development (including transport and tourism objectives). • Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies. • Set out the policies and proposals to guide development in the specific Local Authority area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify future infrastructure, development and zoning required. • Protect and enhances amenities and environment. • Guide planning authority in assessing proposals. • Aim to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development. • Aim to promote sustainable development. • Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage. 	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.
Green Infrastructure Plans/Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes the maintenance and improvement of green infrastructure in an area. • Aims to protect and enhance biodiversity and habitats. 	not applicable	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

Screening for Appropriate Assessment for Proposed Material Alterations

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Westmeath Heritage Plan 2018-2023 and Westmeath Biodiversity Action Plan 2014-2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aim to highlight the importance of heritage at a strategic level. Aim to protect, conserve, enhance and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services across all spectrums. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage and promote heritage as well as increase awareness. Aim to conserve and protect heritage. Outline the status of biodiversity and identifies species of importance. Outline objectives and targets to be met to maintain and improve biodiversity. Aims to increase awareness 	environmental protection and management. 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.
Eastern & Midlands Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021	These plans give effect to national and EU waste policy, and address waste prevention and management (including generation, collection and treatment) over the period 2015-2021.	To manage wastes in a safe and compliant manner, a clear strategy, policies and actions are required.	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.
Westmeath Noise Action Plan 2018-2023	Noise Action Plans are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, Statutory Instrument 140 of 2006. These Regulations give effect to the EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. This Directive sets out a process for managing environmental noise in a consistent manner across the EU and the Noise Regulations set out the approach to meeting the requirements of the Directive in Ireland.	The main purpose of Noise Action Plans is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures which may be considered to address noise problems Address strategic noise issues by requiring competent authorities to draw up action plans to manage noise issues and their effects Reduce noise, where possible, and maintain the environmental acoustic quality where it is good 	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.
Westmeath Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024	Respond to the impact that climate change is having, and will continue to have. Attempt to climate change adaptation and mitigation.	These Plans include actions for: Energy and Buildings, Transport, Flood Resilience, Nature-Based Solutions and Resource Management.	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, programmes, etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Fáilte Ireland Tourism plans, strategies, including those relating to the Ireland's Ancient East and Hidden Heartlands brands	Fáilte Ireland's work includes preparing various plans and strategies for the Wild Atlantic Way, Ireland's Ancient East and other brands and initiatives. These plans are subject to their own environmental assessment processes and any project arising is required to be consistent with and conform with the provisions of all adopted/approved Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes, including provisions for the protection and management of the environment.	Some of Fáilte Ireland's plans and strategies include various projects relating to land use and infrastructural development, including those relating to development of land or on land and the carrying out of land use activities. Many of these projects exist already while some are not currently in existence. The Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes that provide for different projects undergo a variety of environmental assessments. These assessments ensure that environmental effects are considered, including: those arising from new and intensified uses and activities; and those arising from various sectors such as tourism.	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.
Westmeath Tourism Strategy 2016-2020	A strategy designed to deliver one common goal for 2020 and beyond – to develop Westmeath as a first-choice high quality destination that provides an authentic and memorable holiday experience.	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	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.
Various existing, planned and emerging projects provided for by the above plans and programmes	These projects have been provided for by higher-level plans and programmes.	These projects will contribute towards the development of the area to which the Plan relates and/or wider area and will contribute towards environmental protection and management.	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.



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Westmeath County Council,
Áras an Chontae,
Mount Street,
Mullingar,
Co. Westmeath

Tel: 044-9332000
Email: info@westmeathcoco.ie
Web: www.westmeathcoco.ie