

Screening for Appropriate Assessment Determination

Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Planning and Development Regulations 2001
(as amended):

Draft Patrickswell Local Area Plan 2024-2030

In order to comply with the requirements of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, this determination has been made by Limerick City and County Council relating to the potential for the Draft Patrickswell Local Area Plan 2024-2030 to have effects on the integrity of European Sites.

In making the determination that Appropriate Assessment (AA) is not required, the information on the potential effects on the integrity of European Sites arising from the Draft Plan have been taken into account (this information will be placed on public display in the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report alongside the Draft Plan). The process of screening for AA began at an early stage in the drafting of the Plan. The screening process assessed whether the emerging Draft Plan had the potential to have effects on the integrity of any European Site, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects.

The screening process concluded that an AA of the emerging Draft Plan would not be required, as the Plan: is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of European Sites; and will not, on the basis of objective information, individually, or in combination with other plans and projects, not have adverse effects on the integrity of 2 (no.) European Sites.

The two European sites that were identified which have a pathway for potential likely significant effects arising from the implementation of the Plan are:

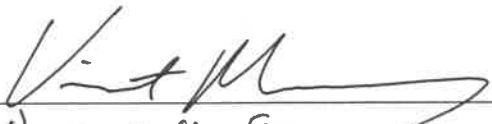
- Lower River Shannon SAC;
- River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA.

A weak source-pathway-receptor model for impact has been identified. The weakness of the pathway for impact indicates that, at a plan level, only major construction projects or high-risk projects could potentially impact the European Sites.

At a plan level, none of the projects, policies and objectives, or zonings outlined within the LAP are of the scale, or of a nature, which could have significant adverse impacts on the European sites within the Zone of Influence.

The Draft Plan will not result in any significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Therefore, Stage 2 AA (including the preparation of the Natura Impact Report) is not required for the Draft Plan.

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above. The undersigned hereby determines pursuant to Section XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and for the purposes of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive that it can be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the Draft Plan, individually, or in combination with other plans and projects would not have a likely adverse effect on the integrity of a European Site. Therefore, an AA is not required.

Signed:  _____
Position: DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
Date: 1st SEPT 2023