



Draft Patrickswell LAP 2024-2030

Material Alterations

AA Screening

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Revision History

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S1_P01 7/12/2023	Draft Report and Screening Determination	Carmel Brislane
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Contract

This report describes work commissioned by Limerick City and County Council. Anne Mullen of JBA Consulting carried out this work.

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Purpose

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Table 2-1: Table of Zoning changes, with screening commentary and result.

Abbreviations

AA	Appropriate Assessment
CJEU	Court of Justice of the European Union
CIEEM	Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
DEHLG	Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government
DHLGH	Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage
EC	European Communities
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EU	European Union
GSI	Geological Survey Ireland
IROPI	Imperative Reasons of Over-riding Public Interest
LAP	Local Area Plan
LTP	Local Transport Plan
NBDC	National Biodiversity Data Centre
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service
OPR	Office of the Planning Regulator
QI	Qualifying Interest
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SPA	Special Protection Area
WFD	Water Framework Directive
Zol	Zone of Influence

1.0 Introduction

In September 2023 the Draft Patrickswell Local Area Plan 2024-2030 Written Statement was published, alongside the environmental assessments associated with the Plan – the Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report and Determination and the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report and Determination. The Draft Plan 2024-2030 was placed on public display for a six-week period from the 2nd of September-16th October inclusive. A total of 27 no. written submissions were received within the statutory timeframe for public display.

The 27 no. submissions were considered by the Chief Executive, responses and recommendations were presented in a Chief Executive's report, dated the 10th of November 2023 and issued to the Elected Members of Limerick City and County Council for consideration. A briefing meeting was held for the Elected Members of Limerick City and County Council to outline the contents of the Chief Executive's Report on the 22nd of November 2023. The Elected Members of Limerick City and County Council, at their meeting on the 27th of November 2023 passed a resolution to make the Draft LAP. This was done subject to two amendments to the Chief Executive's report dated the 10th of November 2023, subject to further public consultation on the Material Alterations.

The Draft Plan and accompanying documents were displayed on the Council's dedicated online public consultation portal at: <https://www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-property/local-area-plans/patrickswell-local-area-plan>

The purpose of this AA Screening Report is to determine if the material alterations are assessed as giving rise to significant environmental effects on any European Sites as required in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) (hereafter referred to as the "Habitats Directive") and to comply with the requirements of Section 177V of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. A Screening Assessment is provided along with a Draft AA Determination in Section 5 of this report.

1.1 Form of the Report

The original Natura Impact Report for the Local Area Plan report remains in the same format and layout as original and the Material Alterations are fully encompassed within this report, which will now be included as Appendix to the original NIS, and can be read as a standalone revision of the original Draft Plan. The main focus of the report will be a change to land use zoning and boundary, but alterations to policies/objectives or text arising from submissions within the written statement is also recorded, as relevant.

How Alterations are Indicated

A table template is used to identify the alteration, which includes the submission reference number (based on the submission or chapter number/the relevant section/heading of the Draft Local Area Plan, followed by the details of the alterations.

Unchanged text:

Existing, unchanged text will remain in normal font.

Additions:

Additions to the text in the Patrickswell Local Area Plan are shown in green font for example: **green font.**

Deletions:

Deletions to the text in the Patrickswell Local Area Plan are shown in red font with strikethrough for example ~~strikethrough, red text.~~

1.2 Legislative Context and Methodology

No significant changes in legislative context occurred between the original Draft Appropriate Assessment Screening and the present assessment. Similarly, there has been no changes in methodology or in the guidance.

1.2.1 Likely Significant Effect Test

The test for AA screening is whether the project could have a 'Likely Significant Effect' (LSE) on any Natura 2000 site. A likely significant effect is defined as any effect that could undermine the conservation objectives of a Natura 2000 site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. There must be a causal connection between the project and the qualifying interest of the site, which could result in possible significant effects on the site. The LSE test is a lower threshold for the screening assessment than 'adverse effect on site integrity' considered at Appropriate Assessment stage (Stage 2) as screening is intended to be a preliminary examination for potential effects.

The Zone of Influence was used to identify Natura 2000 sites that could be impacted by the project. For each of these sites, the Qualifying Interest features and their associated conservation objectives were identified, and the possibility of LSE was determined by a combination of location, ecological and hydrological connectivity, sensitivity of receptor and magnitude of the source of impact.

This report also considers whether additional measures are required to mitigate any of the material alterations i.e. whether the mitigation measures presented in the original NIA and LAP are sufficient to protect the Natura 2000 network.

1.2.2 In-combination Screening

The possibility of in-combination effects are considered only at a high level. Where there is no effect at all via a pathway, there is no possibility of in-combination effects. Where an LSE is identified, the in-combination assessment is carried forwards to a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment.

1.3 Limitations and constraints

The assessment necessarily relies on some assumptions, and it was inevitably subject to some limitations. These do not affect the conclusion, but the following points are recorded to ensure the basis of the assessment is clear:

- The LAP is a higher-level plan. Therefore, this assessment cannot include any detailed assessment of any developments that may arise from the implementation of this Plan. Where broad level assessments are required to determine the potential for cumulative or in-combination impacts, the precautionary principle is used.
- Any changes to the Plan will require re-assessment by a suitably qualified Ecologist to determine if further screening and assessment will be required. In all instances of this assessment, the precautionary principle is used.

2.0 Screening of Policy/Objective Text Changes


The following tables provide a screening of material alterations to the plan. Note new text in green font, deleted text in strikethrough, red text.

2.1 Amendments Chapter 4 Town Centre First Approach

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
<p>1. Insert additional Section into Chapter 4.5 Opportunity Sites as follows:</p> <p><u>Opportunity Sites and Climate Adaptive/Resilient Urban Greening</u></p> <p><u>The management of rainwater and flood risk as part of climate adaptive and resilient urban greening should be considered at the outset of the design process of all proposed Opportunity Sites. Proposals should adhere to the rainwater management mechanisms outlined within the national guidance for water sensitive urban design (Nature-Based Solutions to the Management of Rainwater and Surface Water Runoff in Urban Areas: Water Sensitive Urban Design: Best Practice Interim Guidance Document). All new development is required to manage and minimise surface water runoff through the use of Nature based Solutions / Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), unless otherwise agreed with the Council. Development will only be permitted where the Council is satisfied that suitable measures have been proposed that mitigate the impact of surface water, through the achievement of control of run-off quantity and quality, while enhancing amenity and habitat.</u></p>	1, 5, 6	NO	
AA Response:			
It is identified that changes are unlikely to have a significant effect on the Natura Network. Measures such as nature-based solutions and SuDS are likely to have an overall positive effect. Policies for providing environmental protection are already integrated into the Draft Plan provide for environmental protection for the Natura Network.			

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
<p>2. Insert additional action under the theme 'Greening' in Table 4.2 Draft Patrickswell LAP Action Timeframe as follows:</p> <p>Action: <u>Provision of a cycle route and active travel measures on the Clarina Road linking into the village</u></p> <p>Lead Responsibility: <u>NTA and LCCC Transport and Mobility Directorate</u></p> <p>Timeline: <u>Short to Medium Term</u></p>	3	NO	
AA Response:			
No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alterations. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.			

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
<p>3. Amend the title of Figure 4.9 in Chapter 4 Town Centre First Approach as follows: Proposed Indicative Layout: Community facilities at site fronting Faha View and Lisheen Park including St. Patrick's AFC</p>	<p>16, 20, 21, 23, 26</p>	<p>NO</p>	
<p>AA Response: Minor text change No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.</p>			

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
<p>4. Insert revised Indicative Layout of Opportunity Site 2 with updated layout to area adjacent to Patrickswell National School as follows:</p> 	<p>20, 23</p>	<p>NO</p>	
<p>AA Response: No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.</p>			

2.2 Amendments Chapter 5 Sustainable Communities

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
5. Amend Objective CO4 Part (c) Sports and Recreation Facilities in Chapter 5 Sustainable Communities as follows: Protect <u>land zoned open space and recreation</u> existing space by not permitting development, which encroaches on such open space and land zoned open space and recreation from inappropriate development and facilitate/support the provision of allotment or community gardens at appropriate locations development in line with the uses set out in the zoning matrix and subject to appropriate environmental assessments.	14	NO	
AA Response: Minor text change which provides amended context to the policy. Inherent protection is provided within the policy for the Natura Network. No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Additionally, protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.			

2.3 Amendments Chapter 7 Sustainable Mobility

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
6. Amend Section 7.3 of Chapter 7 as follows: The N/M20 Cork to <u>Limerick Motorway Scheme Project</u> also includes the provision of active travel infrastructure ensuring that sustainable development principles are core considerations in the scheme. The <u>Scheme Project</u> will not just enhance Patrickswell's motorised connectivity, but also create improved active travel linkages and connections from the village to the south of the Country.	9	NO	
AA Response: No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.			

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
7. Amend Section 7.4 of Chapter 7 as follows: Active Travel measures as part of the N/M20 <u>Cork to Limerick Motorway</u> Project including cycle and pedestrian infrastructure from Patrickswell to Croom, Bruree connections to the proposed Limerick Greenway and wider national cycle network	9	NO	
AA Response: Minor text change to provide clarity on the policy/objective. No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.			

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
<p>8. Insert the following text into Section 7.5 Rail Transport: <u>This LAP seeks to safeguard the rail line against encroachment that would compromise the long-term development of this facility.</u></p> <p>Insert the following objective under Section 7.5 Rail Transport <u>Objective SMT: Protection of Existing Rail Route: It is an Objective of the Council to:</u> <u>a) Protect the existing rail route against encroachment from inappropriate uses that could compromise the long-term development of the rail facility and support appropriate upgrades, which are in line with the appropriate and necessary environmental and ecological assessments as required.</u> <u>b) Support any future proposals for passenger rail services in Patrickswell.</u></p>	1, 10	NO	
<p>AA Response: Inherent protection for the environment is provided within the policy itself. The measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan provide for environmental protection for the Natura Network. Project level assessments will provide ongoing protection for the Natura Network. No significant effects are anticipated at the plan level from the inclusion of this objective.</p>			

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
<p>9. Amend SMT O6 (b) to reference national road network as follows: 'Protect the capacity of the <u>national and</u> regional road network from inappropriate development, having regard to all relevant Government guidance,'</p>	1, 2	NO	
<p>AA Response: Minor text change to provide clarity on the policy/objective. No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.</p>			

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
<p>10. Update the Amenity and Sustainable Transport Map to distinguish between existing and proposed cycling and walking infrastructure. (updated map provided for under Section 3.3 Amendments to Maps)</p>	1, 3, 11, 23	NO	
<p>AA Response: Minor text change to provide clarity on the policy/objective. No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.</p>			

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
<p>Provide a new Section under Section 7.4 Modal Shift and Targets and update the text as follows:</p> <p>There are a number of opportunities, which have the ability to address current travel trends and to examine the existing travel behaviours within Patrickswell to provide for the realisation of a more sustainable transport mode. <u>The Draft Local Area Plan focuses on the provision of increased permeability through future development within the settlement. The plan provides a change of focus towards the town centre first initiatives, development of infill/brownfield sites and the creation of a more compact village and endeavours to improve permeability and localised access through the development of the four identified opportunity sites. Local conditions including lack of infrastructure, inadequate linkages and lack of permeability create physical barriers to enabling a move away from the predominant car travel, as exists in Patrickswell. In relation to cycling, there are no cycle paths in the village with cyclists using footpaths instead, in some instances. Policies contained within this Plan ensure that new development proposals provide for permeability and appropriate linkages that are required to open up future and existing development, creating the conditions to enable active travel modes and improving access for those with mobility issues. The following table identifies active travel infrastructure that seeks to create convenient, efficient routes to key destinations for local amenities, facilities, social infrastructure and services and in doing so, reducing walking/cycling distances and creating the conditions that gives active modes a competitive advantage over the private car. The table below outlines active travel measures to enable the 10-minute town concept prioritising a number of these measures:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation of pedestrian/cycling safety measures on Main Street as part of the Patrickswell Village Renewal Scheme commenced March 2023; • Improved connectivity from Main Street to Patrickswell National School as part of Patrickswell Village Renewal Scheme; • Upgrade of existing pedestrian link from Laurel Park to Lisheen Park at Patrickswell National School; • Improvement works outside Patrickswell NS for walking and cycling infrastructure and in turn, increase the number of students who cycle to school; 	<p>1, 3, 11,</p> <p>Motion by Cllr. Daniel Butler</p>	<p>No</p>	

- ~~• Active Travel measures as part of the N/M20 Motorway project including cycle and pedestrian infrastructure from Patrickswell to Croom, Bruree and connections into the proposed Limerick Greenway and wider national cycle network;~~
- ~~• Increase permeability through future development within the settlement;~~
- ~~• Change of focus to town centre first initiatives, development of infill/brownfield sites and creation of a more compact village;~~
- ~~• Opportunity sites focused on improving permeability and localised access~~

**Insert Table showing Active Travel Proposal and Priority Route:
Table 7.3 Active Travel Measures and Priorities**

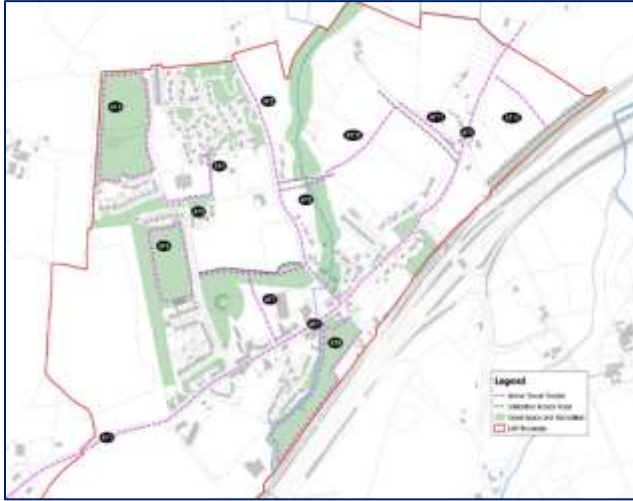
Action/ Intervention Reference	Description	Proposed Link Type/ Active Mode Priority	Expected Timeframe	Need for Intervention
AT1	Main Street Patrickswell Village Centre	Cycle Infrastructure Active Mode Priority	Medium to long Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Connection into existing segregated cycle track along R526 to Raheen/Limerick City and future connections associated with Active Travel measures of N/M20 Cork to Limerick Project, Patrickswell to Charleville Greenway and Rathkeale/Limerick Greenway - Increase uptake of active travel modes - Connection between village centre to residential areas/local facilities/services
AT2	Clanna Road	Cycle Infrastructure Active Mode Priority	Short to Medium Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase uptake of active travel modes - Connection between village centre to existing and proposed residential areas/local facilities/services
AT3	Patrickswell FC/Lisheen Park/Faha View (Opportunity Site 2)	Looped Pedestrian Walkway Active Mode Priority	Short Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of looped walk around perimeter of site included in proposed development design as part of Opportunity Site 2.
AT4	Sycamore Heights to Patrickswell National School	Pedestrian Link Active Mode Priority	Short Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade of existing link from residential estate to Patrickswell NS, Lisheen Park and local amenities/facilities

AT3	Site entrance fronting Patrickswell National School	Front entrance and road network at front of Patrickswell NS Active Mode Priority	Short Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resignment of road network and provision of walking and cycling infrastructure at front of Patrickswell NS. - Provision of 'school street/school zone'
AT5	Patrickswell GAA Grounds	Looped Pedestrian Walkway	Short Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of looped walk around perimeter of site included as part of future development proposals on the GAA grounds.
AT7	Patrickswell Village Centre Opportunity Site 1/Residential Development	Active Travel Connection – cycle and walking provision. Active Mode Priority	Short Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of connectivity and permeability link between Clarina Road, School Road and the centre of Patrickswell - Provision of active travel linkage linked to future residential development.
AT8	Riverside Park off Village Centre	Looped Walking/Cycling pathway	Medium Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Riverside Park as part of Opportunity Site 3
AT9	Barnakyle	Residential Active Travel Connection – cycle and walking provision. Active Mode Priority	Short Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of active travel linkage linked to residential development granted under Planning File 22/8017. Potential to provide linkages from proposed residential development through to local facilities/services (school, GAA etc).
AT10	Barnakyle Opportunity Site 4	Residential Active Travel Connection – cycle and walking provision	Medium to Long Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of active travel linkage linked to future residential development/open space.
AT11	Barnakyle Opportunity Site 4	Residential Active Travel Connection – cycle and walking provision	Long Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of active travel linkage linked to future residential development/open space.
AT12	Serviced Site at Barnakyle on R526	Residential Active Travel Connection – cycle and walking provision	Medium to Long Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of active travel linkage linked to future residential development/open space.

Insert Map with associated Action Reference as follows:

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
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Fig. 7.3 Map of Active Travel Measures and Priorities



AA Response:

No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
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12. Add the following text into SMT O6 (b) (ii) as follows:
[\(ii\) A Design Report will be required in accordance with TII Publications DN-GEO-03030 \(Design Phase Procedure for Road Safety Improvement Schemes, Urban Renewal Schemes and Local Improvement Schemes\) for works to the strategic national road network.](#)

2

NO

AA Response:

Providing clarification on detail of policy. No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further AA Assessment Required Yes/No
<p>13. Add the following text into SMT O6 (b) as follows: Protect the capacity of the regional road network from inappropriate development, having regard to all relevant Government guidance, Objective TR O39 National Roads and Objective TR O41 Strategic Regional Roads of the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 and ensure development does not compromise the performance of the network or future improvements to the network. (i) Road Safety Audits and Traffic Impact Assessments, <u>in accordance with TII guidance and publications</u>, will be required to demonstrate implications of development proposals on the national and regional road network.</p>	2	NO
<p>AA Response: Providing clarification on detail of policy. No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.</p>		

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further AA Assessment Required Yes/No
<p>14. Update Amenity and Sustainable Transport Map to reference walking loop proposed as part of future plans of Patrickswell GAA. (updated map provided for under Section 3.3 Amendments to Maps)</p> <p>Include proposed pedestrian loop within GAA Grounds under new Table inserted into Chapter 7 Proposed Active Travel Infrastructure.</p>	24	NO
<p>AA Response: Providing clarification on detail of policy. No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.</p>		

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further AA Assessment Required Yes/No
<p>15. Insert a new Part B into Objective SMT O2 - Sustainable Travel Infrastructure as follows: <u>Support the provision of further cycle infrastructure through Patrickswell Village linking into the existing segregated cycle track along the R526 to Limerick City and link into proposed active travel infrastructure as part of the N/M20 Cork to Limerick Project, the Patrickswell to Charleville Greenway, and the Rathkeale to Limerick Greenway.</u></p>	<p>11, 27, Motion by Cllr. Daniel Butler</p>	NO
<p>AA Response: Providing clarification on detail of policy. No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.</p>		

2.4 Amendments Chapter 9 Infrastructure and Utilities

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further AA Assessment Required Yes/No
16. Insert the following into Chapter 9 Infrastructure and Utilities as Part (f) to Objective IU O5 – Flood Risk Management: <u>Developments on lands benefitting from Arterial Drainage Schemes shall preserve the maintenance and access to these drainage channels. Land identified as benefitting from these systems may be prone to flooding, as such site specific flood risk assessments will be required as appropriate, at planning application stage.</u>	6	NO
AA Response: Consistency with SFRA. Project level assessment may be required to take into account environmental factors close to the river and potential for release of pollutants. However, taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for environmental protection for the Natura Network, it is identified that any potential effects arising from the Proposed Alterations outlined in this Report are unlikely to have a significant effect on the Natura Network.		

2.5 Amendments Chapter 10 Land Use Framework and Settlement Capacity Audit

Amendment No. 17:

Amend figures in Table 10 to reflect zoning changes to serviced sites provision as follows:

Zoning	Total Area Zoned in 2023 LAP – ha.	Total Area Zoned in 2015 LAP – ha.
Agriculture	39.634	44.50
Enterprise and Employment	10.814	9.99
Education and Community Facilities	4.567	12.18
Utilities	No use category	No use category
New Residential Total	16.861	23.5
Phase 1	13.926	17.19
Phase 2	2.935	6.31
Existing Residential	18.426	19.53
Residential Serviced Sites Total	4.773 5.173	14.88
Phase 1	-	10.41
Phase 2	-	4.47
Open Space and Recreation	21.814	15.65
Village Centre	4.76	4.28

AA Response: NO CHANGE

Minor change overall. No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.


2.6 Amendments Chapter Chapter 11 Monitoring and Evaluation

Proposed Amendment	Submission No.	Further AA Assessment Required Yes/No
<p>18. Insert the following new policy into Chapter 11 Monitoring and Evaluation as follows: <u>Policy ME P1: Monitoring and Evaluation: It is policy of the Council to: Implement in conjunction with key stakeholders, the policies and objectives of this Local Area Plan and to review the success or otherwise of the implementation of policies and objectives in line with Section 15(i) and 15(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, as well as Section 6.5 of Local Area Plans Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2013) and Chapter 13 of the Limerick Development Plan.</u></p>	1	NO
<p>AA Response: No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.</p>		

3.0 Elected Members Motions

The Elected Members of Limerick City and County Council, at their meeting on the 27th of November 2023 passed a resolution to make the Draft LAP. This was done subject to two amendments to the Chief Executive's report dated the 10th of November 2023. At the Limerick City and County Council meeting, two motions were proposed and seconded and the plan was passed by resolution with the following proposed amendments

Amendment No.	Amendment	Further AA Assessment Required Yes/No
1.	<p>Amendment No. 1:</p> <p>(i) Amend Table 7.3 Active Travel Measures and Prioritise, Action AT1 under column <i>Proposed Link Type/Active Mode Priority</i> as follows: Segregated Cycle Lane Cycle Infrastructure Active Mode Priority</p> <p>(ii) In line with above, amend Objective SMT02 Part B to read Support the provision of a segregated cycle lane further cycle infrastructure through Patrickswell Village linking into the existing segregated cycle track along the R526 to Limerick City and link into proposed active travel infrastructure as part of the N/M20 Cork to Limerick Project, the Patrickswell to Charleville Greenway, and the Rathkeale to Limerick Greenway.</p> <p>Reason In the interest of road safety and to ensure the appropriate provision of cycle infrastructure, in line with the current active travel scheme.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr. Daniel Butler Seconded: Cllr. Sarah Kiely</p>	NO
<p>AA Response: Clarification on policy or objective to provide more detail. No likely significant effects on the Natura Network are anticipated from this proposed alteration. Protective measures are already in force through the Limerick City and County Development Plan and those already included in the Patrickswell Draft Plan. Consequently, Stage 2 AA will not be required to be undertaken on the Proposed Alterations.</p>		

Amendment No.	Amendment	Further Assessment Required Yes/No	AA
2.	<p>Amendment No. 2:</p> <p>The Development Boundary of the Draft Patrickswell Local Area Plan be extended to incorporate lands (0.42 Hectares) as shown on the accompanying map at Ballyanrahan East, Patrickswell. Co. Limerick. The subject lands which are located within 600m of the village core, in a reduced speed zone and served by a public footpath and public lighting are to be zoned 'Residential Serviced Sites' and will accommodate 2 – 4 dwellings over the life of the plan.</p> <p>Reason</p> <p>There are no 'new' lands identified in the Draft LAP for serviced sites in the village and where it is a policy objective of the Local Authority in the CDP that lands are to be made available in settlements to counter the proliferation of 'one off' houses. In addition, the existing 'serviced sites' lands to the east of the village (which benefits from a grant of permission) are located in close proximity to the motorway, remote from the village and without pedestrian infrastructure.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr. Abul Kalam Azad Talukder Seconded: Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon</p> 	NO	
<p>AA Response:</p> <p>The integration to the Draft Plan of environmental protection measures relating to landuse zonings plan are supported through the AA process.</p> <p>The minor zoning addition was screened for impact on the Natura 2000 Network. No likely significant effects on the Natura 2000 Network are anticipated at a plan level from the change in zoning.</p>			

4.0 Amendments to Maps

Amendments to maps are outlined in Section 3 of the Chief Executive's Report, these are minor amendments and the integration to the Draft Plan of environmental protection measures for the Natura Network, relating to landuse zonings plan are supported through the AA process.

Taking into account the measures that have been already integrated into the Draft Plan that provide for and contribute towards the protection of the Natura Network, it is identified that any potential effects arising from the Proposed Alterations outlined in this Report are unlikely to have a significant effect on the Natura Network.

In addition, some amendments to map merely propose amended context setting text for Plan provisions and these will not result in significant environmental effects. Consequently, the above Proposed Alterations outlined in this Chief Executive's Report do not require AA.

5.0 Conclusion

It was concluded that the Draft LAP, individually, and in combination with other plans and projects, is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (Natura 2000 Site), and as such, a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment / Natura Impact Report is not required.

The Material Alterations to the LAP were examined by:

- Screening of text changes relating to policies and objectives
- Screening of the zoning changes.

A weak source-pathway-receptor model was identified at the Screening Stage.

No major construction or infrastructure projects have been identified arising from the Material Alterations to the Draft LAP. Similarly, no projects of a nature that would place significant additional risk on the European Sites within the Zone of Influence of the Plan area have been identified.

At a plan level, the Material Alterations are unlikely to have a significant effect on the Natura Network due to distance and the weak-pathway-receptor model identified. In-combination effects from interactions with other plans and projects were considered in this assessment, and a determination statement is provided to this effect.

It is concluded that the Material Alterations of Patrickswell LAP are not likely to have significant effects on the Natura 2000 Network, either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects.

References:

DHLGH. (2022). *Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland | 2022—2027*.

<https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/199144/7f9320da-ff2e-4a7d-b238-2e179e3bd98a.pdf#page=null>