FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

LIMERICK LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2024-2029

Natura Impact Report

Prepared for:

Limerick City & County Council

Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City & County Council

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Core House, Pouladuff Road, Cork, T12 D773, Ireland

T: +353 21 496 4133 | E: info@ftco.ie

CORK | DUBLIN | CARLOW

www.fehilytimoney.ie

Natura Impact Report for the Limerick Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

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Abstract: Fehily Timoney and Company is pleased to submit this Natura Impact Report for the Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This Natura Impact Report (NIR) has been prepared in support of the Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Draft Limerick Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 [the Draft LACAP] in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) (hereafter referred to as the "Habitats Directive").

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

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 which form the Natura 2000 Network.

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 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[1] 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 (including spatial data collected for the most recent Article 17 conservation status reporting cycle, 2019).

In addition to being informed by these reports, the NIR was also informed by the Limerick Development Plan and the accompanying SEA Environmental Report, Natura Impact Report and SFRA.

All of these data sources are likely to be useful for AAs that must be undertaken for lower-tier plans/projects under the Plan.

[1] Various documents where publishing, in journals for example, is not the primary activity of the producing body. Examples include: conference presentations; regulatory data; unpublished trial data; government publications; and dissertations/theses.

The ecological desktop study completed for the AA of the Draft LACAP comprised the following elements:

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

There are four main stages in the AA process 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 effects on European sites by identifying possible effects early in the plan-making process and avoiding such effects. Second, the approach involves the application of mitigation measures, if necessary, during the AA process to the point where no adverse effects on the site(s) remain. If potential effects 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-receptor model[2], 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.

In the interest of this report, receptors are the ecological features that are known to be utilised by the qualifying interests or special conservation interests of a European site. A source is any identifiable element of the Draft LACAP provision that is known to interact with ecological processes. The pathways are any connections or links between the source and the receptor. This report provides information on whether direct, indirect and cumulative adverse effects could arise from the Draft LACAP.

The NIR 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; and
- Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management; OPR Practice Note PN01; Office of the Public Regulator, 2021.

The scope of the AA was informed by the submissions received on the scope of the accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment[3] (SEA) process being undertaken on the Draft LACAP, including a submission from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht that provided various information and suggestions relevant to the AA.

[2] 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

[3] Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme before a decision is made to adopt it.

2. DESCRIPTION OF DRAFT LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

2.1 Overview

The LCCC LACAP is an action plan which defines local level climate adaptation and mitigation measures to support the reduction of GHG emissions within the local authority as an organisation and throughout the local community in the local authority's functional area.

LACAP should have an inward and outward focus. Climate action in the plan should be defined by local authorities for their own organisation which they have full control over (i.e., the inward focus), and for communities in their functional area, which they exert a strong influence over in partnership with relevant stakeholders (i.e., the outward focus).

The plan period for the Draft LACAP will be from 2024 to 2029. The Council must review and update the plan after a period of 5 years.

The LACAP has been developed in accordance with the requirements of Section 16 of the Climate Act. It must be consistent with the Climate Action Plan 2023 (CAP23) and the National Adaptation Framework. Local authority Development Plans must also be aligned with their LACAP.

2.2 Context

Climate change refers to the long-term changes in the earth's weather patterns or average temperatures. In Ireland this is demonstrated by rising sea levels, extreme weather events and changes in the eco-system. Extensive research and a significant body of evidence has shown a correlation between the increasing global average temperature and the increasing quantity of GHG released into the atmosphere, particularly from anthropogenic sources.

Changes in weather patterns and climate can have significant adverse impacts on the environment and human beings. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published the Climate Change 2022: *Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability in 2022*. Included in this report is an outline of observed impacts of climate change on the environment and human beings. These include impacts from inland flooding, damages to infrastructure, impacts from infectious disease, displacement, animal and livestock health and productivity, mental health and water scarcity derived from climate change.

The seriousness of the potential impacts and risks associated with climate change is reflected in the vast quantity of international, European and national legislation that has been introduced to mitigate those impacts and risks.

The Irish Climate Act provides a statutory underpinning to climate action in Ireland. It specifies the requirement to develop a national Climate Action Plan (and update it every year), a National Adaptation Framework (NAF), a National Long Term Climate Action Strategy and Sectoral Adaptation Plans (SAPs). It also specifies a series of carbon budgets and the associated sectoral emission ceilings.

It sets out actions that must be taken to ensure delivery of commitments and a target to reduce GHG by 51% by 2030 and to achieve net zero GHG emissions by 2050. The successful delivery of climate action and the achievement of these targets will require significant, unanimous effort across all sectors of society.

A key element of the Climate Act is the requirement under Section 16 for local authorities to prepare individual LACAPs for their functional area. The purpose of LACAPs will be to deliver effective climate action and mitigation at local authority and community levels. The Act acknowledges that local authorities are key drivers in advancing and delivering on climate policy.

2.3 Plan Content

The Draft LACAP focusses on several theme areas which are considered to be key for achieving a climate resilient and climate neutral future at organisational and community level. A number of main objectives have been developed for each theme area. Multiple specific actions have been defined to support the achievement of these main objectives. An overview of the theme areas and main objectives under the Draft LACAP is presented in Table 2-1.

Table 2-1: Draft LACAP Theme Area and Main Objectives

Theme Area	Main Objective
Travel and Mobility	Modal Shift - Support the shift to more sustainable transport modes such as walking, cycling and public transport
	Support the provision of EV infrastructure and other infrastructure across the County to support the transition to zero emissions vehicles
	Future-proof the transport network to adapt to the risks posed by Climate change
	Transition all council fleet and Internal Combustion Machinery (ICE) to be zero emissions
Built Environment and Energy	Create a policy framework to support the transition to carbon neutrality across county.
	Provide additional infrastructure to support communities to become climate resilient
	Increase the resilience of people, businesses and infrastructure to the effects of climate change
	Implement measures to reduce carbon emissions from all council buildings by 51% by 2030 and to be net zero by 2050
Governance and Leadership	Ensure that climate action is embedded in all Council actions, plans & policies
	Ensure that key stakeholders are actively engaged and involved in implementing climate action initiatives across the county.
	Ensure that the adequate resources, structures and processes are in place to support accountability, transparency and delivery with regards to climate action
Communities and Partnership	Actively engage with communities on Climate Action Initiatives that impact them
	Deliver an education and awareness building programme across the county that all communities can access
	Support communities to actively engage with the Climate crisis

Theme Area	Main Objective
Natural Environment	Protect conserve, and enhance the County's biodiversity and heritage through the implementation of effective climate-related actions
	A safe and healthy environment that is resilient to the effects of climate change
Environmental Management and Circular Economy	Reduce waste from the Limerick City and City and County Council operations and actively promote waste minimisation policies

2.4 Overall Vision and Strategic Outcomes

The overall vision of the Draft LACAP for LCCC is to meet the environmental, economic and social challenges of climate change. Through Just Transition, the county will adapt to a decarbonised, climate neutral, resilient and biodiversity rich future. This will be achieved by protecting the environment and building strong partnerships and collaborations with their communities.

Through the development and implementation of specific, action-focused, time-bound and measurable actions, the Draft LACAP will achieve the following strategic outcomes (as defined by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications Guidelines for Local Authority Climate Action Plans):

1. Provide a strong emphasis on a place-based approach to climate action, delivering a better understanding of greenhouse gas emissions and climate-related risks at a local level, while addressing context-specific conditions and support for locally tailored policy making.
2. Deliver and promote evidence-based and integrated climate action by way of adaptation and mitigation measures, centred around a strong understanding of the role and remit of the local authority on climate action.
3. Translate and provide strategic direction at local and community levels on the delivery of the national climate objective which is seeking to curb further global warming and to transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy by no later than the end of 2050.

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 AA 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 habitat[4] or species[5] 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. Although sites beyond this buffer zone would be considered if relevant, a review of all sites within this zone has allowed the conclusion to be made that in the absence of significant hydrological links the characteristics of the Draft LACAP will not impose effects beyond the 15 km buffer. The assessment process also considers hydrogeological processes and possible effects to ground water with respect to ground water sensitive habitats and species.

[4] 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.
[5] 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.

Details of European sites that occur within 15 km of the Draft LACAP boundary are provided in Table 3-1. European sites and EPA Rivers 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) have been considered by both the AA screening assessment (provided under this section) and Stage 2 AA (provided under Section 4). Conservation objectives that have been considered by the assessment are included in the following National Parks and Wildlife Service documents:

- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Danes Hole, Poulnalecka SAC [IE0000030] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Lough Gash Turlough SAC [IE0000051] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC [IE0000064] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Curraghchase Woods SAC [IE0000174] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Barrigone SAC [IE0000432] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Tory Hill SAC [IE0000439] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Galtee Mountains SAC [IE0000646] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Clare Glen SAC [IE0000930] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Silvermine Mountains SAC [IE0000939] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Glenomra Wood SAC [IE0001013] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Keeper Hill SAC [IE0001197] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Glen Bog SAC [IE0001430] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Glenstal Wood SAC [IE0001432] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Philipston Marsh SAC [IE0001847] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Ballyhoura Mountains SAC [IE0002036] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Carrigeenamronety Hill SAC [IE0002037] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Bolingbrook Hill SAC [IE0002124] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Anglesey Road SAC [IE0002125] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Lower River Suir SAC [IE0002137] Version 1.
- NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for Lower River Shannon SAC [IE0002165] Version 1.
- NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC [IE0002170] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Moanour Mountain SAC [IE0002257] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Silvermines Mountains West SAC [IE0002258] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Askeaton Fen Complex SAC [IE0002279] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC [IE0002312] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Ratty River Cave SAC [IE0002316] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Knockanira House SAC [IE0002318] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Kilkishen House SAC [IE0002319] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Moanveanlagh Bog SAC [IE0002351] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA [IE0004058] Version 9.

- NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA [IE0004077] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Blackwater Callows SPA [IE0004094] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Kilcolman Bog SPA [IE0004095] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA [IE0004161] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA [IE0004165] Version 9.

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 Draft LACAP against the QIs/SCIs of each site. The conservation objectives for each site were consulted throughout the assessment process.

3.3 Assessment Criteria and Screening

3.3.1 Is the Draft LACAP Necessary to the Management of European Sites?

The overarching objective of the Draft LACAP is not the nature conservation management of the sites, but to provide for coherent and coordinated approach to climate action within the County. Therefore, the Draft LACAP is not considered to be directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites.

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

The Draft LACAP provides a framework for the sustainable development of the Council boundary area. There are a number of environmental sensitivities within the area and an assessment of effects indicates the potential effects relate to the following:

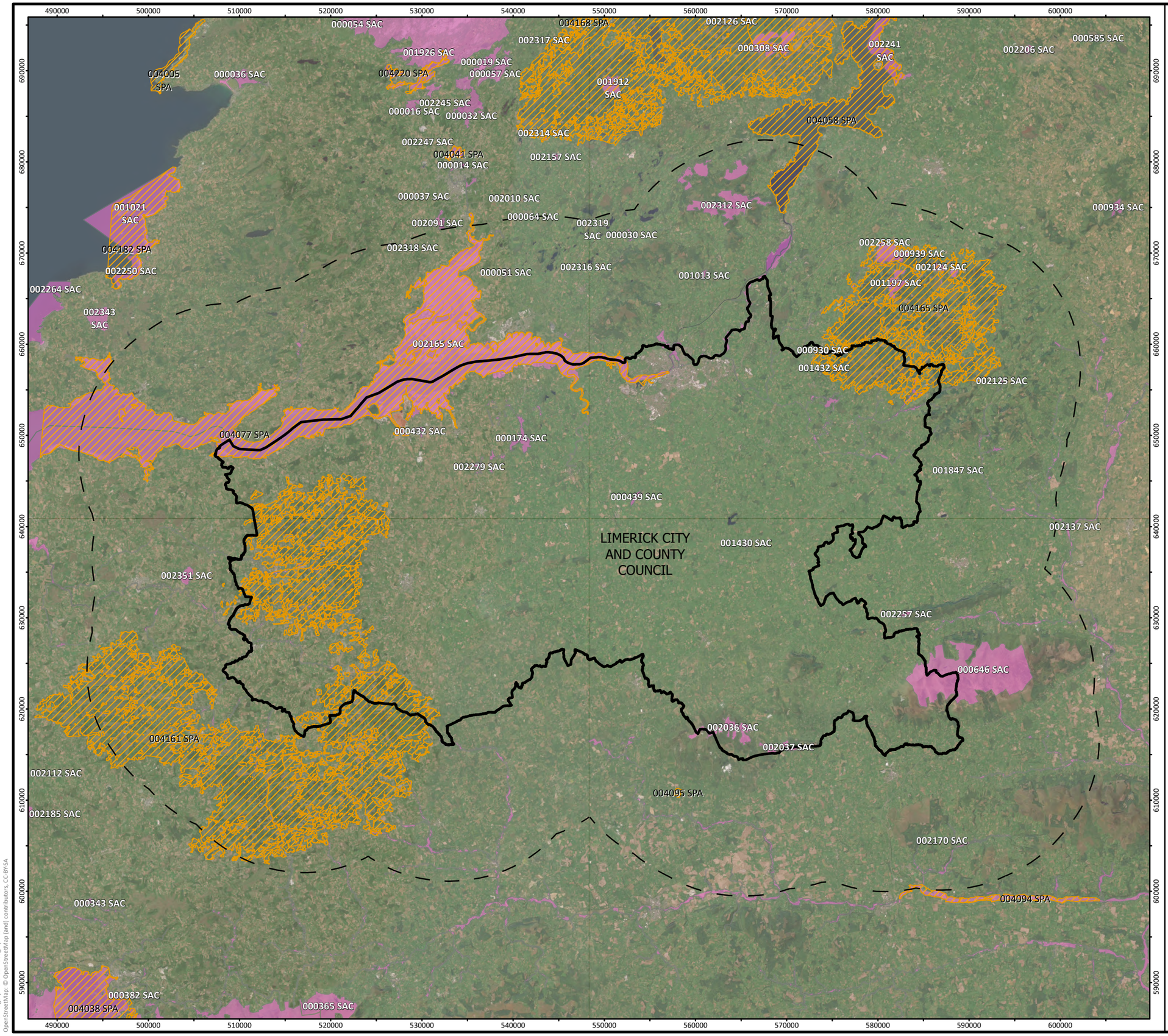
- *Arising from both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure:*
  - *Loss of/damage to biodiversity in designated sites (including European sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and 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.*
- *Emissions to air including greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions.*

The elements of the Draft LACAP with the highest potential to give rise to the effects indicated above are associated with construction phase elements of the implementation of the Draft LACAP. The operational phase elements of the Draft LACAP are consistent with the existing condition of the area. All policies and objectives are considered in this assessment with respect to the ecological integrity of each of the European sites identified. Considering the sensitivities/vulnerabilities of the QIs and SCIs in relation to all potential sources for effects and potential pathways for such effects. Where sources and pathways for effects are identified potential effects will be assessed in relation to the SSCOs.

3.3.3 Screening of Sites

Table 3-1 examines whether there is potential for effects on European sites considering information provided above, including Appendix I. Sites are screened out based on one or a combination of the following criteria:

- The existence of potential for pathways for significant effects, such as hydrological links, Draft LACAP proposals and the site to be screened;
- The distance of the relevant site from the Draft LACAP boundary; and
- The existence of a link between identified threats or vulnerabilities at a site to potential impacts that may arise from the Draft LACAP.



Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protected Areas

LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL
Local Authority Climate Action Plans

FIGURE NO:	3.1
CLIENT:	LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL
DATE:	15/08/2023
SCALE:	1:410,000 @ A3

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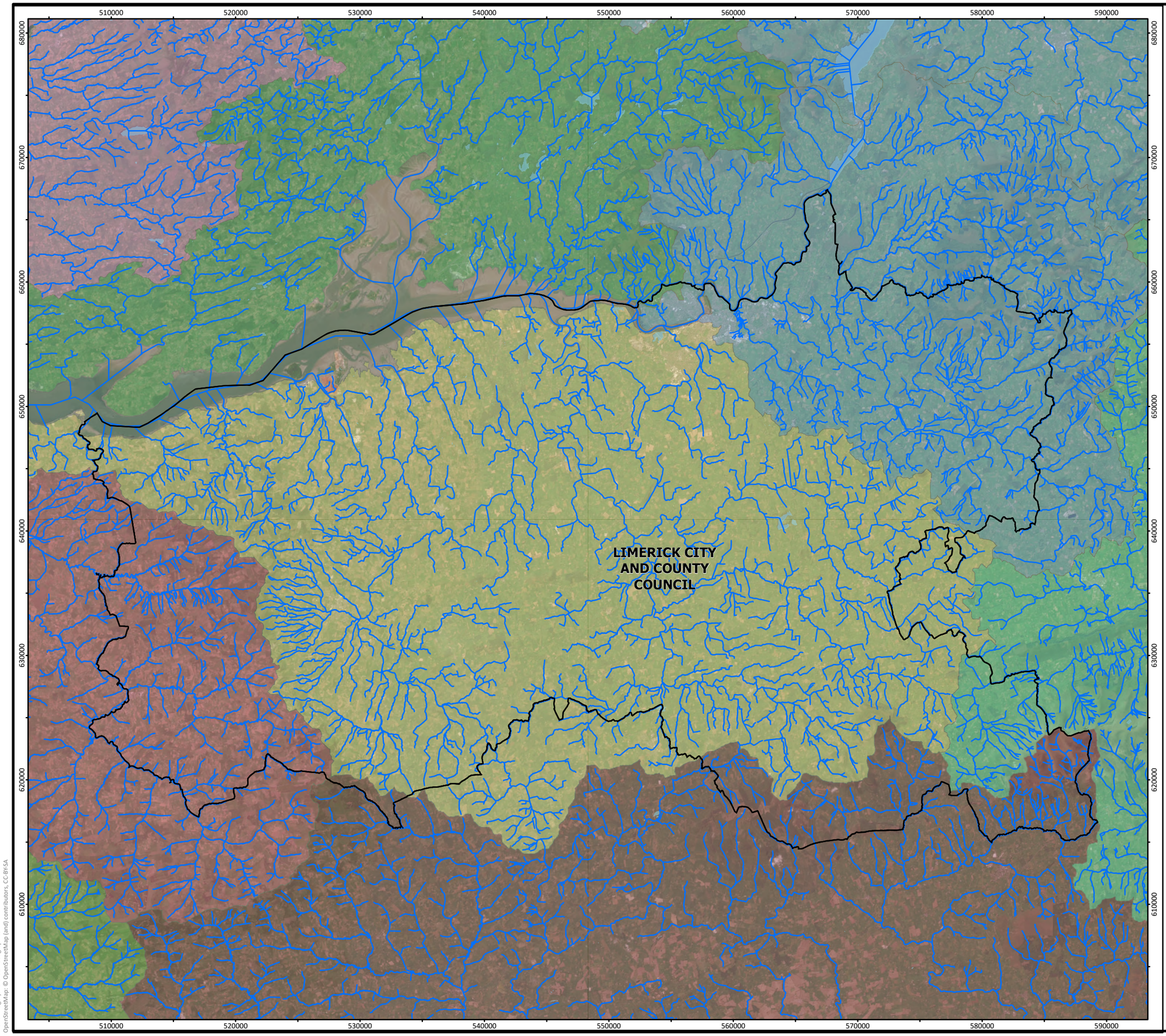

Legend

- Local Authority Boundaries
- Rivers

WFD Catchments

Catchment Name

- Blackwater (Munster)
- Laune-Maine-Dingle Bay
- Lower Shannon
- Mal Bay
- Shannon Estuary North
- Shannon Estuary South
- Suir
- Tralee Bay-Feale

Hydrology

LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL
Local Authority Climate Action Plans

FIGURE NO:	3.2
CLIENT:	LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL
DATE:	15/08/2023
SCALE:	1:300,000 @ A3

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Table 3-1: Screening of European sites which have ecological pathways for potential effects

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000174	Curraghchase Woods SAC	0	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016]	The European Site is located within the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000432	Barrigone SAC	0	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Limestone pavements [8240]	The European Site is located within the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000439	Tory Hill SAC	0	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and	The European Site is located within the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Alkaline fens [7230]	Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000646	Galtee Mountains SAC	0	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	The European Site overlaps with the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000930	Clare Glen SAC	0	Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	The European Site overlaps with the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
001430	Glen Bog SAC	0	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]	The European Site is located within the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
001432	Glenstal Wood SAC	0	Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421]	The European Site is located within the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002036	Ballyhoura Mountains SAC	0	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030]	The European Site overlaps with the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002037	Carrigeenamronety Hill SAC	0	European dry heaths [4030], Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421]	The European Site overlaps with the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	0	Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time [1110], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Reefs [1170], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230],	The European Site overlaps with the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Estuaries [1130], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus) [1349], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Coastal lagoons [1150]			
002170	Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC	0	Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Twaite shad (Alosa fallax) [1103], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	The European Site overlaps with the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			[1330], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Estuaries [1130], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]			
002279	Askeaton Fen Complex SAC	0	Alkaline fens [7230], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210]	The European Site is located within the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	0	Greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Curlew (Numenius	The European Site overlaps with the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			arquata) [A160], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Scaup (Aythya marila) [A062], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149], Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]	Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004161	Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA	0	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]	The European Site overlaps with the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	0	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]	The European Site overlaps with the Limerick City & County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002257	Moanour Mountain SAC	1.34	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030]	There is a separation distance of approximately 1.34 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
002137	Lower River Suir SAC	1.72	Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Twaite shad (Alosa fallax) [1103], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis	There is a separation distance of approximately 1.72 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 2 km (in-stream distance) is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099]			
001847	Philipston Marsh SAC	3.87	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	There is a separation distance of approximately 3.87 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002351	Moanveanlagh Bog SAC	3.98	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	There is a separation distance of approximately 3.98 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
001013	Glenomra Wood SAC	4.47	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	There is a separation distance of approximately 4.47 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
001197	Keeper Hill SAC	4.65	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	There is a separation distance of approximately 4.65 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
002125	Anglesey Road SAC	5.96	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230]	There is a separation distance of approximately 5.96 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
004095	Kilcolman Bog SPA	6.21	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Limerick City & County LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002312	Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC	6.73	European dry heaths [4030], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]	There is a separation distance of approximately 6.73 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	7.17	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Limerick City & County LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002258	Silvermines Mountains West SAC	8.2	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030], Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130]	There is a separation distance of approximately 8.2 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000051	Lough Gash Turlough SAC	8.74	Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270], Turloughs [3180]	There is a separation distance of approximately 8.74 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002124	Bolingbrook Hill SAC	9.25	European dry heaths [4030], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230]	There is a separation distance of approximately 9.25 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002316	Ratty River Cave SAC	9.63	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	There is a separation distance of approximately 9.63 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
000939	Silvermine Mountains SAC	9.68	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230]	There is a separation distance of approximately 9.68 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000030	Danes Hole, Poulnalecka SAC	11.49	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Caves not open to the public [8310]	There is a separation distance of approximately 11.49 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
002319	Kilkishen House SAC	13.84	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	There is a separation distance of approximately 13.84 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
002318	Knockanira House SAC	14.01	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	There is a separation distance of approximately 14.01 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004094	Blackwater Callows SPA	14.43	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	There is a separation distance of approximately 14.43 km between this European Site and the area of the Limerick LACAP. At this distance, there is potential for significant effects to the SCIs of this SPA through deterioration of suitable foraging habitat within the LACAP area as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000064	Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC	14.97	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	There is a separation distance of approximately 14.97 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
004028	Blackwater Estuary SPA	37.3	Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149], Redshank (Tringa	There is a separation distance of approximately 37.3 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 77.6 km (in-stream distance) is present.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			totanus) [A162], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]	The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	44.1	Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Nore Pearl Mussel (Margaritifera durrovensis) [1990], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Estuaries [1130], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], European dry heaths	There is a separation distance of approximately 44.1 km between this European Site and the area of Limerick City & County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 123.8 km (in-stream distance) is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			[4030], Reefs [1170], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Twaite shad (Alosa fallax) [1103]			

3.4 In-combination effects with Other Plans and Programmes

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the plan or project, have the potential to adversely affect European sites. Appendix II outlines a selection of plans or projects that may interact with the Plan to cause in-combination effects to European sites. These plans, programmes, strategies etc. were considered throughout the assessment.

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

The National Planning Framework (NPF) sets out Ireland's planning policy direction for the next 20 years. The NPF is to be implemented through Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSESs) and lower tier Development Plans and Local Area Plans. The RSES for the Southern Region sets out objectives for land use planning, tourism, infrastructure, sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been subject to environmental assessment and must be implemented through the Draft LACAP. Section 18, Part 3 of the Climate Acts 2015-2021 and Section 10 (2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) require that local authorities take account of their LACAPs when preparing a County Development Plan. Local authorities must be cognisant of this provision and forge a strong link between spatial planning and positive climate action ensuring that land-use planning and development integrates considerations of adaptation and mitigation.

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

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

Additional information on the in-combination effects relationship with other plans and programmes is provided in Appendix 2.

3.5 AA Screening Conclusion

The effects that could arise from the Draft LACAP have been examined in the context of several factors that could potentially affect the integrity of any European site. On the basis of the findings of this Screening for AA, it is concluded that the Draft LACAP:

- Is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site; and
- May, if unmitigated, have significant adverse effects on 21 (no.) European sites.

Therefore, a Stage 2 AA is required for the Draft LACAP (see Section 4 of this report). An AA Screening Determination undertaken by the planning authority accompanies this report and the Draft LACAP.

4. STAGE 2 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

4.1 Introduction

The Stage 2 AA assesses whether the Draft LACAP alone, or in-combination with other plans, programmes, and/or projects, would result in adverse effects on the integrity of the 21 European sites brought forward from screening (those considered on Table 3-1 for which there is "Potential Pathway for Significant Effects" and/or "Potential for In-Combination Effects"), with respect to site structure, function and/or conservation objectives.

4.2 Characterisation of European sites Potentially Affected

The AA Screening identified 21 European sites with pathway receptors for potential effects arising from the implementation of the Draft LACAP. Appendix I characterises each of the qualifying features of the ALL European sites brought forward from Stage 1 in context of each of the sites' vulnerabilities. Each of these site characterisations were taken from the NPWS website[6].

4.3 Identifying and Characterising Potential Significant Effects

The following parameters can be used when characterising impacts[7]:

- Direct and Indirect Impacts - An impact can be caused either as a direct or as an indirect consequence of a Plan/Project.
- Magnitude - Magnitude measures the size of an impact, which is described as high, medium, low, very low or negligible.
- Extent - The area over that the impact occurs – this should be predicted in a quantified manner.
- Duration - The time that the effect is expected to last prior to recovery or replacement of the resource or feature.
    - Temporary: Up to 1 Year;
    - Short Term: The effects would take 1-7 years to be mitigated;
    - Medium Term: The effects would take 7-15 years to be mitigated;
    - Long Term: The effects would take 15-60 years to be mitigated; and
    - Permanent: The effects would take 60+ years to be mitigated.
- Likelihood – The probability of the effect occurring taking into account all available information.
    - Certain/Near Certain: >95% chance of occurring as predicted;
    - Probable: 50-95% chance as occurring as predicted;
    - Unlikely: 5-50% chance as occurring as predicted; and
    - Extremely Unlikely: <5% chance as occurring as predicted.

[6] Last accessed 17th July 2023; https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites

[7] These descriptions are informed by publications including: Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2016) "Guidelines for ecological impact assessment"; Environmental Protection Agency (2002) "Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements"; and National Roads Authority (2009) "Guidelines for Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Roads Schemes".

- Ecologically Significant Impact - An impact (negative or positive) on the integrity of a defined site or ecosystem and/or the conservation status of habitats or species within a given geographic area.
- Integrity of a Site - The coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, which enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was classified.

The Habitats Directive requires the focus of the assessment at this stage to be on the integrity of the site as indicated by its Conservation Objectives. It is an aim of NPWS to draw up conservation management plans for all areas designated for nature conservation. These plans will, among other things, set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest within a site.

Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) have been prepared for a number of European sites. These detailed SSCOs aim to define favourable conservation condition for the qualifying habitats and species at that site by setting targets for appropriate attributes that define the character habitat. The maintenance of the favourable condition for these habitats and species at the site level will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

> *Favourable conservation status of a species can be described as being achieved when: 'population data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself, and the natural range of the species is neither being reduced or 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.'*
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> *Favourable conservation status of a habitat can be described as being achieved when: 'its natural range, and area it covers within that range, is stable or increasing, and the ecological factors that 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'.*

Generic Conservation Objective for SACs:

> *To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species that the SAC has been selected.*

One generic Conservation Objective for SPAs:

> *To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.*

4.3.1 Types of Potential Effects

Assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted utilising a standard source-pathway model (see approach referred to under Sections 1.3 and 3). The 2001 European Commission AA guidance outlines the following potential changes that may occur at a designated site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site: loss/reduction of habitat area; habitat or species fragmentation; disturbance to key species; reduction in species density; changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.); and climate change. Each of these potential changes are considered below and in Table 4-1 with reference to the QIs/SCIs of all of the European sites brought forward from Stage 1 of the AA process (see Section 3).

4.3.1.1 Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area

The Draft LACAP provides for action related to climate action and generally seeks to reduce CO_2 emissions through coordination, advocacy, awareness etc. Many of the actions also relate to land use change or the provision of infrastructure developments such as green energy and active travel projects. The exact spatial location of these projects is not fully developed within the plan. The development of all infrastructural have associated construction phase effects which include land take, habitat destruction, disturbance effects, light pollution, dust, hydrological interactions, airborne pollution, excessive noise etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure that there are no significant adverse effects due to construction on the ecological integrity of any European site.

As identified above LACAP boundary has several European sites within it; therefore, there is potential for effects to European sites through urbanisation and direct habitat loss on foot of the implementation of the Draft LACAP; however, several mitigation measures have been integrated into the Draft LACAP to ensure that its implementation will not result in the loss of any habitat necessary for the ecological integrity of any European site; namely list of actions to avoid habitat loss N1[8], N2[9], N3[10], N5[11], N6[12], N8[13], N9[14], N11[15], N13[16] and N15[17].

[8] A local Biodiversity Action Plan will set out measures to protect and enhance local biodiversity, including climate-relevant measures. Implement relevant actions of the national Bio-diversity Action Plan at local level, having due regard to co-benefit opportunities such the maintenance and improvement of water quality in line with the aims of the Water Framework Directive, or the potential for increasing carbon sequestration levels.
[9] Set targets to maintain existing woodlands in good condition and plant new native trees in urban and rural areas, subject to independent ecological assessment, to enhance carbon storage, biodiversity and landscape, air quality, and urban heat island mitigation.
[10] A wetland survey will inform council strategy and planning documents and implement recommendations in terms of conservation and restoration of wetlands, having due regard to co-benefit opportunities such the maintenance and improvement of water quality in line with the aims of the Water Framework Directive, or the potential for increasing carbon sequestration levels.
[11] Support the implementation of Marine Spatial Plan and to protect the Shannon estuary.
[12] Deliver a habitat protection and creation of new habitats, landscapes, hedgerows strategy, having due regard to the need to appropriately protect, conserve and enhance important habitats and species and European sites, and support the maintenance and improvement of water quality in line with the aims of the Water Framework Directive. This plan shall be developed by a competent ecology team, and shall have due regard to the need to appropriately manage these habitats.
[13] Carry out ecological/habitat survey and highlight areas at risk and those suitable for ecological restoration and, where appropriate, enhanced carbon storage.
[14] Create and maintain pollinator-friendly habitats based on most up to date scientific advice from AIPP.
[15] Identify urban areas, towns and villages to be greened (tree planting, pollinators, community gardens, sensory gardens, allotments natural play areas) using native species.
[16] Investigate community tree planting and biodiversity enrichment programmes (Mini-Forest initiatives) using native species.
[17] Create Engagement Sessions for communities on how to develop their Town/Village Biodiversity Plans.

Additionally, the environmental governance section of the LACAP sets out a number of measures which will ensure the protection of biodiversity throughout the implementation of the plan such as:

- Promote climate action projects that support and maximise environmental co-benefits, such as biodiversity protection and enhancement; improved air, water or soil quality; or enhanced recreation, amenity and cultural heritage value, to ensure win-win benefits are gained.
- Support or facilitate climate action related projects and initiatives which seek to make improvements in soil structure, management and health by increasing soil organic carbon - which will create the environmental co-benefits of improving flood resilience by enhancing water holding capacity of soils and increasing the level of GHG sequestration associated with land use functions.
- Ensure local authority development underpinned or supported by plan actions is planned and implemented in a manner that appropriately considers the potential for environmental co-benefits, potential environmental impacts and environmental protection requirements. No local authority climate action related development project that is likely to have significant negative effects on the receiving environment shall be supported.
- Promote - through control or influence as appropriate - the carrying out of flood resilience measures underpinned by plan actions in a manner that supports climate action-biodiversity related co-benefits, and which has due regard for the protection and enhancement of rare, protected or important habitats and species.
- Promote the carrying out of climate action related projects supported by the plan in a manner that supports climate action-cultural heritage co-benefits, and which has due regard to cultural, archaeological or architectural features and sensitivities.
- Promote the carrying out of climate action related projects underpinned by the plan in a manner that supports climate action water quality co-benefits, and the achievement of Water Framework Directive objectives.
- Promote climate action projects that support protected trees, hedgerows and other habitats such as wetlands, floodzones which contribute to green infrastructure.
- Support opportunities to improve ecological connectivity of non-designated habitats and sites to improve overall ecosystem resilience and functioning while supporting climate action within the county.
- Ensure local authority projects supported by plan actions have taken the necessary precautions to identify and manage invasives species, particularly with regard to Schedule III species. No local authority climate action related development project that is likely to cause the spread of invasives species listed in Schedule III shall be supported.
- Support opportunities to promote peatland restoration, rehabilitation and maintenance while achieving climate targets through the implementation of the climate actions within the plan.

These policies ensure that there will be no loss of habitat or supporting habitat for species that are necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European sites throughout the lifetime of the plan.

4.3.1.2 Habitat or species Fragmentation

As previously stated, the Draft LACAP provides for infrastructure developments which have associated effects. These effects could result in the fragmentation of habitat and or species through light pollution, habitat loss, removal of stepping stone habitats etc. This is particularly relevant for linear projects such as active travel schemes. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure that there are no significant adverse effects in relation to fragmentation on the ecological integrity of any European site.

The Draft LACAP recognises the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources. The Draft LACAP provides actions to minimise potential fragmentation and to facilitate the enhancement of ecological corridors such as hedgerows; mitigation measures such as N1[8], N2[9], N3[10], N6[12], N7[18], N8[13], N9[14], N11[15], N13[16], N14[19], N15[17] and N16[20] (see full list of measures reproduced at Section 5 of this report). Lighting is a particular issue for biodiversity - particularly with regard to linear projects, however, there are no actions related to lighting within the Draft LACAP and therefore there are no sources for effects in that regard.

Further to these provisions there are actions related to specific ecological resources and/or habitats such as waterways, wetlands and peatlands etc. These actions apply to all plans, programmes and/or projects that may arise due to the implementation of the Draft LACAP and will ensure that habitat or species fragmentation will not occur in relation to the connectivity of the ecological resources necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European sites throughout the lifetime of the Draft LACAP.

4.3.1.3 Disturbance to Key Species

Disturbance effects are caused by any activity that has potential to alter the movement patterns/distribution of species. Disturbance effects can relate to direct disturbance through human activity/movement or noise pollution. This is particularly relevant in relation to tourism and recreation in general, which could be influenced by the Draft LACAP due to the provision of active travel schemes and other green initiatives within the Draft LACAP; from the perspective that many of the tourism destinations or attractions in the area are in or adjacent to European sites. The Draft LACAP accounts for noise pollution effects through its policies and objectives affording protection to European sites by ensuring any projects that arise from the implementation of the Draft LACAP avoid or minimise noise in compliance with the Environmental Noise Directive and associated National Regulations through the LCCC Noise Action Plan 2018 - 2023.

[18] Implement a policy to cease the use of chemical pesticides and herbicides across council operations.
[19] Support Citizen Science projects that target our natural environment.
[20] Meet annual inspection targets as per EPA National Agriculture Inspection Plan, while ensuring sustainable transport modes are used to travel to and from inspection sies, where feasible.

The Draft LACAP accounts for noise pollution effects through its policies and objectives affording protection to European sites by ensuring any projects that arise from the implementation of the Draft LACAP avoid or minimise noise in compliance with the Environmental Noise Directive and associated National Regulations through the Limerick City & County Council Noise Action Plan 2018 - 2023. Actions to ensure the protection of habitat quality with respect to disturbance effects from noise and other sources have been built into the Draft LACAP; namely E11[21], T1[22], T2[23], T4[24], T5[25], T6[26], T21[27] and B10[28], (further details see Section 5).

These measures are robust to ensure that any sensitive habitat features or species will be identified and only compliant applications will be granted. All of the policies related to positive effects for Biodiversity are detailed in Section 5.

4.3.1.4 Reduction in species density

Species densities are reliant on species distributions, habitat condition, connectivity of ecological resources and availability of resources such as prey/food. The Draft LACAP introduces potential sources for effects to affect these four determinant factors for species densities in the form of construction phase effects such as habitat destruction, visitor movements/access, hydrological interaction or operational effects such as disturbance effects, habitat encroachment, trampling etc. However, the Draft LACAP contains provisions to enhance biodiversity, landscape and the environment within Council boundary N1[8], N6[12], N7[18], N8[13], N9[14], N11[15], N13[16], N14[19], N15[17], N16[20] and E5[29]. Similarly, the Draft LACAP the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources. Further to these provisions there are actions related to specific ecological resources and/or habitats such as N2[9], N3[10], N5[11] and N10[30]. These actions apply to all plans, programmes and projects that may arise due to the implementation of the plan. Measures relating to light pollution, noise pollution, habitat loss and fragmentation are addressed above (further detailed in Section 5).

[21] Prepare an updated noise action plan.
[22] Increase the use of public transport through the implementation of the bus connects programme. Promote - through control or influence, as appropriate - project adherence to planning and environmental protection criteria.
[23] Develop and implement a park and ride strategy, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, traffic and transport conditions and cultural heritage.
[24] Implement the Active travel programme in particular the Limerick Metropolitan Cycle Network Study, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as archaeology, European sites, biodiversity and amenity value, and the potential to enhance ecological connectivity.
[25] Deliver a network of secure, public bicycle and powered personal transportation parking, to accommodate a variety of bike types across the County, including at schools, parks, playgrounds, towns, and villages, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, and local air quality.
[26] Continue to promote active travel, for a wide range of ages, abilities and journey types, utilising LCCC's active travel website, social media and events.
[27] Implement a smarter travel workplace plan for corporate buildings.
[28] Implement the LSMATS Strategy was prepared by the NTA in collaboration with Limerick City and County Council. The strategy aims to deliver a transport system for the region, which will enable it to become an environmentally sustainable and unified metropolitan unit. Use influence and control, as appropriate, to promote climate action co-benefits and development project conformance with planning and environmental protection requirements.
[29] Integrate Nature Based Solution, including biodiversity and water protection measures, into Local Authority Own Developments including public realm/Section 38 and Active Travel initiatives.
[30] Work with Irish Water and LAWPRO (Local Authority Water Programme) to identify the impacts of critical and vulnerable receptors in accordance with the River Basin Management Plan and Water Framework Directive.

In addition to this the Draft LACAP identifies actions to protect and improve water quality interactions (see below for further details) which can influence species densities. There are also a number of provisions relating to protective buffer zones, further assessment requirements as well as commitments to increasing water quality standards etc. These measures are detailed across the Draft LACAP.

4.3.1.5 Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value

Water quality is the primary macro indicator of conservation value. The Draft LACAP contains many robust actions to ensure the protection of both surface and ground water quality. Development within the vicinity of groundwater or surface water dependant European sites will not be permitted where there is potential for a likely significant effect on the groundwater or surface water supply to the European sites. Action that specifically relate to the protection of water quality which account for potential effects to European sites include B3[31], N5[11], N7[18], N8[13], N10[30], N12[32], N16[20], E3[33] and E5[29]. Similarly, emissions to air have potential to adversely affect the conservation status of European sites; however, the Draft LACAP contains actions – such as N17[34], N18[35], T1[22], T2[23], T3[36], T424, T5[25], T7[37], T14[38], T15[39], etc – which account for this.

Additionally, the actions provide broader scope to ensure the protection of the wider landscape associated with riparian zones and habitats sensitive to hydrological interactions; such as N3[10], N5[11], N7[18], N8[13], N10[30], N12[32], N16[20], B3[31] and E5[29].

[31] Implement the Catchment Flood Risk Management (CFRAM) programme across Limerick following the OPW Plans (2016) for Athea, Adare, Askeaton, Croom, Foynes, Newcastlewest, Rathkeale, Castleconnell and Limerick City and Environs. Ensure due regard is given to promoting Sustainable Drainage Systems, nature-based solutions, and environmental sensitivities, including water quality, biodiversity, European sites, riparian corridors and aquatic ecology.
[32] Promote efficient water use by businesses and the wider community and create a business case for rainwater capture.
[33] Include technologies to improve water efficiency within LA buildings (such as rainwater harvesting, grey water systems, flow regulators, water efficient toilets and showerheads).
[34] Undertake and expand upon air quality monitoring capabilities.
[35] Enable improvements in air quality through inspections of fuel suppliers to address unauthorised sale of unapproved solid fuels.
[36] Examine the feasibility of the provision of new greenways either within disused rail lines or immediately adjacent to existing or proposed rail corridors, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as archaeology, European sites, biodiversity and amenity value, and the potential to enhance ecological connectivity.
[37] Prepare an EV charging strategy to support city / town centre charging as well as destination charging locations, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, and cultural heritage.
[38] Assess individual vehicles of the Class (GVW) available in EV format. Ascertain the minimum annual KM to be of benefit as a change from ICE (Internal Combustion Engine) to EV. Agree a fleet replacement plan to comply with SI-381-2021, whilst ensuring appropriate end-of-life management practices are in place for Electric Vehicles under the ownership of local authorities.
[39] For the vehicles that will not migrate to EV, assess EURO Stage emissions and look at replacements with newer improved emission levels. Alternatively switch from
DERV to HVO (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil) proposed test at Park rd depot before rolling out to main depots. Ensure renewable fuels procured by the local authority are sourced from sustainable sources.

4.3.1.6 Climate change

The Draft LACAP is specifically focused on climate action and most of the actions within the plan are aimed at reducing carbon emissions and move towards renewable energy sources; T7[37], T21[27], B2[40], B4[41], B8[42], B10[28], B11[43], B12[44], B13[45], B14[46], etc.

Therefore, there are no sources for significant effects to climate change factors identified within the Draft LACAP having regard for the measures identified above and in Section 5 below. Therefore, there are no changes projected to arise from climate change to the degree that it would affect the QIs or SCIs of the European sites considered.

[40] Prepare a renewable energy strategy for Limerick incorporating all forms of renewable energy including integrated renewables that will guide the development of new energy infrastructure in the county. This strategy shall be informed by planning and environmental protection related considerations and constraints.
[41] To support communities to be make the transition to EV it is necessary to set out a strategy for the development of a public charging network across the county that is based on site suitability, grid capacity and demand. The strategy will identify both on street and off-street options including the provision of eMaaS hubs. Ensure development supported by the strategy is delivered in a manner that has due regard to environmental sensitivities (European sites, biodiversity, built heritage) and available grid capacity.
[42] Partner with the Chamber of Commerce to encourage businesses to carry out energy efficiency upgrade works to their premises and to reduce their carbon emissions, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, protected species, European sites and biodiversity, and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures.
[43] Support the implementation of the Shannon Estuary Taskforce Plan sets out recommendations for the delivery of up to 30GW of Atlantic Offshore Wind through the Estuary by 2050, and measures to maximise the industrial development opportunities arising from this, whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure supported projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.
[44] Carry out an energy audit of identify the scale of investments required to meet the required carbon reductions.
[45] Set out a roadmap to Decarbonise the councils building stock buildings through: A. Connection to District Heating B. Use of Heat Pumps & associated fabric improvements C. Use of other non-fossil fuels (eg Woodchip, Bio LPG)
[46] All buildings leased or bought by LCCC shall have an energy rating of A3 of better, as per SI 426 of 2014.

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

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
000174	Curraghchase Woods SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to unsocial behaviour, forestry, recreation, and land use management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000432	Barrigone SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to land use management and succession. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000439	Tory Hill SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, land use management, and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000646	Galtee Mountains SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to land use change, land use management, recreation, burning, agriculture, hydrological interactions, and waste management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
000930	Clare Glen SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, forestry, recreation, succession, land use management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001430	Glen Bog SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to direct interaction with species and populations and hydrological interactions. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001432	Glenstal Wood SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry, land use management, invasive species, and succession. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002036	Ballyhoura Mountains SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry, mining/ resource extraction, infrastructure, recreation, energy production, and burning. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
002037	Carrigeenamronety Hill SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to burning, forestry, and recreation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, waste management, mining/ resource extraction, aquaculture, agriculture, land use management, recreation, direct interaction with species and populations, forestry, infrastructure, coastal protection, land use change, and invasive species. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002170	Blackwater River (Cork/ Waterford) SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to invasive species, waste management, land use change, land use management, infrastructure, agriculture, mining/ resource extraction, recreation, erosion, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002279	Askeaton Fen Complex SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to waste management, hydrological interactions, habitat fragmentation, agriculture, burning, land use change, and land use management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, commercial shipping, aquaculture, agriculture, infrastructure, land use management, and waste management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004161	Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to forestry, infrastructure, irrigation, mining/ resource extraction, and habitat fragmentation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to forestry, infrastructure, habitat fragmentation, agriculture, and mining/ resource extraction. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002137	Lower River Suir SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, waste management, invasive species, hydrological interactions, forestry, land use change, flooding, infrastructure, land use management, and commercial shipping. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
001847	Philipston Marsh SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004095	Kilcolman Bog SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to hydrological interactions, recreation, agriculture, and land use management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, agriculture, and direct interaction with species and populations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000051	Lough Gash Turlough SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to land use management, agriculture, waste management, hydrological interactions, infrastructure, recreation, and direct interaction with species and populations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
004094	Blackwater Callows SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agriculture, land use management, infrastructure, and recreation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004028	Blackwater Estuary SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to infrastructure, direct interaction with species and populations, land use management, agriculture, and recreation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, hydrological interactions, waste management, changes in abiotic conditions, infrastructure, flooding, land use management, forestry, mining/ resource extraction, direct interaction with species and populations, recreation, commercial shipping, aquaculture, invasive species, and erosion. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

5. MITIGATION MEASURES

This section outlines measures that have been incorporated into the Draft LACAP in order to mitigate against potential effects to European sites as identified above. The Draft LACAP was prepared in an iterative manner whereby the Plan and AA documents have informed subsequent versions of the other. These mitigation measures ensure that there will be no significant effects to the ecological integrity of any European site from implementation of the Draft LACAP. The mitigation measures most relevant to the protection of European sites are identified in Table 5-1 and Table 5-2 below[47]. Some of these measures, many of which were integrated into the current Plan through the SEA and AA processes for that Plan, have been retained and/or updated.

The plan making process was carried out in parallel with the SEA and AA processes. Regular communication and interaction took place between the environmental assessment team and the plan making team. Environmental considerations that came to light during the SEA and AA processes, including consultation processes, were regularly communicated to the plan making team during the plan making process. As necessary, environmental mitigation measures to ameliorate the potential negative environmental effects of implementing the Draft LACAP were developed and then integrated into the Draft LACAP. Much of the environmental mitigation was embedded in the plan early on in the process as a result of this. This process was carried out in an iterative manner to ensure optimal plan making and environmental outcomes. Environmental considerations were also integrated into the plan so as to facilitate maximizing identified positive environmental effects of the Draft LACAP.

Mitigation measures have been proposed that maximize the co-benefits of climate action for other environmental components such local air quality, human health, biodiversity, water quality and other interrelated areas (i.e., win-win solutions).

Additional text clarifying environmental protection related obligations and environmental enhancement opportunities has been attached to a variety of defined actions in the plan (as seen in Table 5-1). This text has been shaped to ensure that environmental considerations are appropriately taken into account during plan implementation. This text has also been shaped to ensure plan implementation generates the minimum level of negative environmental effects and the maximum level of positive environmental effects.

Several environmental governance principles were established to ensure plan implementation generates the minimum level of negative environmental effects and the maximum level of positive environmental effects (as seen in Table 5-2). These environmental governance principles shall underpin and guide plan implementation and shall apply to and be integrated into all actions/activities which result due to the implementation of the plan.

[47] For a complete assessment of the Plan, against all environmental components (These components comprise biodiversity, fauna, flora, population, human health, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors), refer to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report.

Table 5-1: Recommendations integrated into the Plan

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
T1	Increase the use of public transport through the implementation of the bus connects programme	This action facilitates modal shift and the use of public transport facilities. This may lead to reductions in GHG emissions, benefitting human health and leading to improvements in local air quality. Infrastructural development that may be supported by this action may lead to a variety of negative environmental effects, including construction related effects (E.g., noise, dust, SW run-off), effects on biodiversity and European sites, and effects on material assets and traffic and transport conditions - in the absence of good design or appropriate environmental mitigation.	Attach the following text to the action: Promote - through control or influence, as appropriate - project adherence to planning and environmental protection criteria.
T2	Develop and implement a park and ride strategy.	This action supports active travel and modal shift. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional active travel infrastructure (in this instance, Park and Ride Infrastructure) have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts. The delivery of an expanded safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, traffic and transport conditions and cultural heritage.
T3	Examine the feasibility of the provision of new greenways either within disused rail lines or immediately adjacent to existing or proposed rail corridors	These actions support the development of additional green infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of such infrastructures have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as archaeology, European sites, biodiversity and amenity value, and the potential to enhance ecological connectivity.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		The delivery of an expanded, safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	
T4	Implement the Active travel programme in particular the Limerick Metropolitan Cycle Network Study	These actions support the development of additional green infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of such infrastructures have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts. The delivery of an expanded, safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as archaeology, European sites, biodiversity and amenity value, and the potential to enhance ecological connectivity.
T5	Deliver a network of secure, public bicycle and powered personal transportation parking, to accommodate a variety of bike types across the County, including at schools, parks, playgrounds, towns, and villages.	This action supports the development of additional cycling infrastructure. This action has the potential to encourage modal shift within the community and the use of active travel modes and networks. It will help fully realise the potential positive environmental effects associated with sustainable/active travel - including air quality impacts. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional cycling infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, and local air quality.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
T7	Prepare an EV charging strategy to support city / town centre charging as well as destination charging locations	The introduction of a public electric vehicle charging network will lead to the development of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the local authority's functional area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, and cultural heritage.
T9	Implement an Annual Gulley Cleaning Scheme (AGCS).	This action will promote good flood risk management and flood risk reduction. Proper gully maintenance will generate a positive effect for environmental receptors that are at risk of being negatively impacted by flood events - by reducing the risk of such flood events. This action has the potential to cause unintended negative effects to water quality and biodiversity.	Attach the following text to the action: ensuring the plan takes nature-based solutions and protection of biodiversity into consideration.
T10	Implement a bridge rehabilitation programme that is resilient to the impacts of Climate change	This action has the potential to adversely affect Annex II and IV species such as Daubenton's Bat through disturbance and habitat loss or impact protected structures if incorrectly implemented.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures in accordance with relevant protected structures regulations, and the need to not

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
			negatively impinge on any protected species or European sites.
T11	Carry out maintenance and rehabilitation of regional and local roads in accordance with the guidance document on the climate adaptation of regional and local roads	This action will promote the protection of road assets from climate change risks such as a climate change influenced flooding or erosion. This action will likely to lead to retrofitting and upgrading of existing roads. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the retrofitting of the existing road network have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, and local air quality.
T12	In road construction projects, minimise the use of virgin materials and promote the use of reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP) or low carbon alternatives	This action is likely to promote effective waste management and waste/material circularity. Any measures that improve resource efficiency/circularity will broadly support the reduction of lifecycle GHG emissions associated with the production of materials and goods. This is likely to result in a positive environmental effect generally. The inappropriate management/reuse of waste, such as road construction waste may lead to negative environmental effects, such as effects on air, water or soil quality.	Attach the following text to the action: Ensure material reuse takes place in accordance with Regulation 27 and 28 of the Waste management Act and materials reused are inert and environmentally non-hazardous.
T14	Assess individual vehicles of the Class (GVW) available in EV format. Ascertain the minimum annual KM to be of benefit as a change from ICE (Internal Combustion Engine) to EV. Agree a fleet replacement plan to comply with SI-381-2021	This action will support the local authority in reducing its organisational GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. The action is likely to have a slight to significant positive environmental effect in terms of fuel efficiency improvements in the local authority vehicle fleet which will reduce/minimise vehicle fleet-related GHG emissions. This has the potential to generate some degree of positive effects on climate and local air quality. This action will lead to the LA transitioning its vehicle fleet to electric vehicles. Electric vehicles have the potential to generate a variety of uncertain lifecycle impacts, including production-related impacts and end-of-life related.	Attach the following text to the action: whilst ensuring appropriate end-of-life management practices are in place for Electric Vehicles under the ownership of local authorities.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
T15	For the vehicles that will not migrate to EV, assess EURO Stage emissions and look at replacements with newer improved emission levels. Alternatively switch from DERV to HVO (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil) proposed test at Park Rd depot before rolling out to main depots	This action will support the local authority in reducing its organisational GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. The action is likely to have a slight to significant positive environmental effect in terms of fuel efficiency improvements in the local authority vehicle fleet which will reduce/minimise vehicle fleet-related GHG emissions. This has the potential to generate some degree of positive effects on climate and local air quality. The scalable adoption of vehicles based on certain alternative fuels may contribute to the expansion of alternative fuel production sectors. These sectors may indirectly cause environmental effects (including uncertain and potentially negative effects) as a result of fuel sourcing, production and supply processes.	Attach the following text to the action: Ensure renewable fuels procured by the local authority are sourced from sustainable sources.
T16	Assess depots etc for suitability for EV charging and parking to include potential for solar generation to support charging.	Delivering such a report will have no real environmental effect when considered in isolation. This action may lead to the development of renewable energy and EV charging infrastructure. This supports the local authority in reducing its transport sector GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. This has the potential to generate some degree of positive effects on climate and local air quality. This action could also lead to the delivery of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the LA. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including material asset impacts, noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts.	Attach the following text to the action: Ensure development supported by the strategy is delivered in a manner that has due regard to environmental sensitivities (European sites, biodiversity, built heritage, glint and glare impact) and available grid capacity.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
B2	Prepare a renewable energy strategy for Limerick incorporating all forms of renewable energy including integrated renewables that will guide the development of new energy infrastructure in the county	This action has the potential to support the delivery of renewable energy infrastructure. The action may require additional development, including linear cable infrastructure development, which may lead to a range of potential slight to significant environmental impacts, including impacts on soils, the receiving noise environment, biodiversity and European sites.	Attach the following text to the action: This strategy shall be informed by planning and environmental protection related considerations and constraints.
B3	Implement the Catchment Flood Risk Management (CFRAM) programme across Limerick following the OPW Plans (2016) for Athea, Adare, Askeaton, Croom, Foynes, Newcastlewest, Rathkeale, Castleconnell and Limerick City and Environs	This flood resilience related action has the potential to lead to significant development taking place including development at and in the vicinity of water bodies. In the absence of any mitigation, such development could potentially have a variety of significant, negative environmental effects, including effects on: water quality and the hydrology of water bodies; biodiversity, including flora and fauna reliant on aquatic eco-systems; and the receiving air environment (due to the generation of construction dust). Flood resilience action has the potential to have positive environmental effects also. The possible development of nature based solutions and SUDS as part of surface water management has the potential to have slight to significant, positive effects on biodiversity and water quality at or downstream of a particular water body.	Attach the following text to the action: Ensure due regard is given to promoting Sustainable Drainage Systems, nature-based solutions, and environmental sensitivities, including water quality, biodiversity, European sites, riparian corridors and aquatic ecology.
B4	To support communities to be make the transition to EV it is necessary to set out a strategy for the development of a public charging network across the county that is based on site suitability, grid	This action may lead to the development of renewable energy and EV charging infrastructure across the County. This supports the reduction of transport sector GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. This has the potential to generate some degree of positive effects on climate and local air quality. This action could also lead to the delivery of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the LA.	Attach the following text to the action: Ensure development supported by the strategy is delivered in a manner that has due regard to environmental sensitivities (European sites, biodiversity, built heritage) and available grid capacity.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
	capacity and demand. The strategy will identify both on street and off-street options including the provision of eMaaS hubs.	In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including material asset impacts, noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts.	
B7	Support owners of historic building to carry out appropriate retrofitting initiatives by developing guidance and supports	This action will work to protect existing infrastructure against potential harm caused by climate change. In the absence of appropriate mitigation, such retrofitting works may have slight to significant impacts on protected species that may be present in old buildings.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures in accordance with relevant protected structures regulations, and the need to not negatively impinge on any protected species.
B8	Partner with the Chamber of Commerce to encourage businesses to carry out energy efficiency upgrade works to their premises and to reduce their carbon emissions	This action will support local businesses in reducing their GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. The action is likely to have a moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. Upgrade or retrofitting works associated with this action may result in the generation of localized environmental effects, including dust and noise impacts. Such works may also impinge on the status of protected structures.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, protected species, European sites and biodiversity, and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures.
B9	Implement the Blue Green Infrastructure strategy for Limerick City and Environs whose aim is to inform and guide the planning and management of green and blue spaces in	This action supports the development of additional green and blue infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of such infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to opportunities to enhance tourism, recreation and cultural heritage value associated with routes, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites,

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
	Limerick City and Environs, including our rivers, parks and open green spaces, helping drive the transition to a low carbon and climate resilient society.	The delivery of an expanded, safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	and cultural heritage related sensitivities.
B10	Implement the LSMATS Strategy was prepared by the NTA in collaboration with Limerick City and County Council. The strategy aims to deliver a transport system for the region, which will enable it to become an environmentally sustainable and unified metropolitan unit.	The delivery of an expanded, safe public transport network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of public transport infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to profound significant environmental effects (depending the scale, extent and character of the development), including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts.	Attach the following text to the action: use influence and control, as appropriate, to promote climate action co-benefits and development project conformance with planning and environmental protection requirements.
B11	Support the implementation of the Shannon Estuary Taskforce Plan sets out recommendations for the delivery of up to 30GW of Atlantic Offshore Wind through the Estuary by 2050, and measures to maximise the industrial development	This is an action that serves to support the carrying out of development and maintenance of offshore renewable energy projects. This action can potentially indirectly lead to positive climate effects whilst positively affecting air quality and material assets. The supporting of such developments could however result in a variety of slight to very significant negative environmental effects, including impacts on important habitats and species (due to collision risk and vibration effects), including European sites - thus further consideration and mitigation measures are required.	Attach the following text to the action: whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure supported projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
	opportunities arising from this.		
B16	Install maximum solar PV on appropriate LCCC owned corporate building.	This action may lead to the development of renewable energy infrastructure. This supports a reduction in the County's GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. This has the potential to generate some degree of positive effects on climate. There is the potential for light and air pollution during installation works. Therefore there is also scope for there to be negative effects on cultural heritage if unmitigated.	Attach the following text to the action: whilst having due regard to environmental sensitivities (European sites, biodiversity, glint and glare impacts, built heritage).
B17	Start retrofitting Council owned social housing to reduce carbon emissions as well as addressing fuel poverty	This action will support the LA in its reduction of its organisational GHG emissions. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. Therefore there is also scope for there to be negative effects if unmitigated.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity, and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures in accordance with relevant protected structures regulations.
B18	Make applications to Pathfinder. Pathfinder is a programme operated by SEAI. It provides finance to achieve substantial energy savings by bundling similar large-scale projects. scale projects together. It is operated by SEAI.	This action is generally supportive of energy and retrofit projects and may contribute toward achieving GHG emission reductions if successfully implemented. Such energy or retrofit projects may generate light and air pollution and may negatively impact sensitive environmental receptors and the conservation of protected structures, in the absence of appropriate mitigation.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as biodiversity, European Sites and sensitive human receptors.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
C9	Utilise the facilities of the CIL and other programmes to encourage communities to form SECs	This promotional/engagement action will support the effective delivery of climate action in the community. The adoption of this action will support the full realization of the plan vision in the community. The carrying out of the type of energy efficiency upgrades or small-scale renewable energy development supported by this programme has some potential to have negative localised effects - such as impacts on protected structures, or localized impacts on visual amenity or biodiversity, in the absence of mitigation.	Attach the following text to the action: Facilitate project adherence to planning and environmental protection requirements.
C9	Utilise the facilities of the CIL and other programmes to encourage communities to form SECs	This promotional/engagement action will support the effective delivery of climate action in the community. The adoption of this action will support the full realization of the plan vision in the community. The carrying out of the type of energy efficiency upgrades or small-scale renewable energy development supported by this programme has some potential to have negative localised effects - such as impacts on protected structures, or localized impacts on visual amenity or biodiversity, in the absence of mitigation.	Attach the following text to the action: Facilitate project adherence to planning and environmental protection requirements.
N1	A local Biodiversity Action Plan will set out measures to protect and enhance local biodiversity, including climate-relevant measures. Implement relevant actions of the national Bio-diversity Action Plan at local level	This action will support the protection and enhancement of biodiversity within the County. This has the capacity to have positive effects on biodiversity, human health, landscape/visual amenities, soil, land use, air quality, water quality, tourism/recreation, and climate change. This action has the potential to negatively affect biodiversity if misguided or inappropriate regimes.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to co-benefit opportunities such the maintenance and improvement of water quality in line with the aims of the Water Framework Directive, or the potential for increasing carbon sequestration levels.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
N3	A wetland survey will inform council strategy and planning documents and implement recommendations in terms of conservation and restoration of wetlands.	This action broadly supports the reduction of County GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect in terms of the reduction of GHG emissions and the protection of biodiversity. This action has the potential to generate slight to significant positive effects on biodiversity, water quality, soil health, carbon sequestration, and landscape/visual amenities. Restoration works, if carried out improperly, could potentially impact or impinge on important habitat or species present at wetlands, resulting in slight to significant environmental impacts. Such works could potentially impact on water quality also.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to co-benefit opportunities such the maintenance and improvement of water quality in line with the aims of the Water Framework Directive, or the potential for increasing carbon sequestration levels.
N6	Deliver a habitat protection and creation of new habitats, landscapes, hedgerows strategy	This action will support the protection and enhancement of biodiversity within the County. This has the capacity to have positive effects on biodiversity, human health, landscape/visual amenities, soil, land use, air quality, water quality, tourism/recreation, and climate change. This action has the potential to negatively affect biodiversity if misguided or inappropriate regimes.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to the need to appropriately protect, conserve and enhance important habitats and species and European sites, and support the maintenance and improvement of water quality in line with the aims of the Water Framework Directive. This plan shall be developed by a competent ecology team, and shall have due regard to the need to appropriately manage these habitats.
N11	Identify urban areas, towns and villages to be greened (tree planting, pollinators, community gardens, sensory gardens, allotments natural play areas)	This action has the potential to positively affect biodiversity, air quality, and climate change. Promoting vegetative growth may result in an additional degree of carbon sequestration, marginally offsetting the effects of GHG emissions. This action has the potential to negatively affect biodiversity if misguided or inappropriate regimes.	Attach the following text to the action: using native species.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
N13	Investigate community tree planting and biodiversity enrichment programmes (Mini-Forest initiatives)	This action has the potential to positively affect biodiversity, air quality, and climate change. Promoting vegetative growth may result in an additional degree of carbon sequestration, marginally offsetting the effects of GHG emissions. This action has the potential to negatively affect biodiversity if misguided or inappropriate regimes.	Attach the following text to the action: using native species.
N16	Meet annual inspection targets as per EPA National Agriculture Inspection Plan	This action will support behavioural change aimed at reducing the potential pollution of the Irish environment due to agricultural activities.	Attach the following text to the action: while ensuring sustainable transport modes are used to travel to and from inspection sites, where feasible.
E1	Investigate the development of composting centres to promote circularity of green waste	This action is likely to promote effective waste management and waste/material circularity. Any measures that improve resource efficiency/circularity will broadly support the reduction of lifecycle GHG emissions associated with the production of materials and goods. This is likely to result in a positive environmental effect generally. The construction and operation of composting facilities has the potential to generate a variety of slight to significant negative environmental effects, including noise, and air quality (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction).	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to planning and environmental considerations and constraints.
Decarbonising Zone			
	Historic building retrofit programme Support the retrofitting of historic buildings through the development of new business models including the establishment of a	This action has the potential to have significant positive effects on cultural heritage and architectural assets and the amenity value attained by people from these assets. This action has the potential to support carrying out retrofitting/upgrade works at historic structures and traditional buildings which could result in significant negative effects if unmitigated. This action has the potential to have adverse effects on Bats which are Annex IV species, as many roosts are located within old unused buildings.	Attach the following text to the action: having appropriate regard to the need to protect and conserve the architectural or cultural heritage value that may be associated with such buildings, and protected species that may be present in such buildings.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
	sustainable investment fund		
	District Heating Idea - Combined waste heat from local sources. Feasibility study required	Conducting a feasibility study is likely to have no environmental effect in and of itself but will provide essential information underpinning the potential development of district heating for Limerick which may result in lowering GHG emissions in the city.	Attach the following text to the action: Ensure such a report has appropriate regard to planning and environmental protection considerations.
	District Heating at Colbert Station In conjunction with LDA development of the Colbert Quarter support the development of district heating on a community scale.	This action will support the development of new projects aimed at regenerative action with energy efficiency at the core. The adoption of this action can potentially result in reduced energy consumption in new buildings and prevent GHG emissions. The action is likely to have a slight positive effect on climate - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. This action will support the implementation of district heating projects within the local authority functional area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional associated infrastructure, including linear pipeline development, have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts, cultural heritage asset impacts and impacts on traffic and transport (though the temporary creation of traffic diversions and congestion). The delivery this action has the potential to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Attach the following text to the action: Promote - through control and influence as appropriate - development taking place in accordance with relevant planning and environmental protection requirements.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
	River turbine +City xChange project has developed a tidal turbine which has obtained planning permission	This action supports the use of renewable energy options which has the capacity to result in lowered GHG emissions in the region. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional associated infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts, cultural heritage asset impacts and impacts on traffic and transport (though the temporary creation of traffic diversions and congestion).	Attach the following text to the action: Ensure the project adheres to planning permission conditions relating to proper planning, sustainable development and environmental protection.'
	Solar roof top The potential for roof sharing should be examined	The action could potentially support the carrying out of renewable energy projects that could generate a range of slight to significant positive environmental effects in terms of GHG emissions from schools in the County. The development of PV panels on Council roofs has the potential to result in negative glint and glare impacts on sensitive environmental receptors, including Dublin Airport, in the absence of mitigation.	Attach the following text to the Action: Due regard shall be had to environmental sensitivities relevant to solar projects, including built heritage, visual impact and biodiversity related sensitivities.
	Freight management delivery and service strategy This is a recommendation in LSMATS. The removal of heavy goods vehicles from the city centre would greatly improve air quality in the city centre	This action may lead to increased air quality in the DZ. Due regard should be given to the fact that it may result in increased instances of lighter goods vehicles which may negate the effort to reduce traffic volumes in the city and improve air quality.	It is recommended that a feasibility study be undertaken to ensure a net improvement to air quality through this action.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
	Behavioural Change/Active Travel/Travel planning for workplaces and schools Active travel are continuing to develop and implement a range of initiatives in the areas of safe school, and cycling networks that connect the city	This action supports the development of additional active travel infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional active travel infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts, cultural heritage asset impacts and impacts on traffic and transport (through the temporary creation of traffic diversions and congestion). The ongoing operation of active networks may have a slight to significant effect on traffic flows associated with other modes of transport, in absence of proper design of such networks at the outset and additional mitigation as may be required. The delivery of an expanded, safe active travel network has the potential to have a significant positive effect on population and human health through the promotion of modes of travel that benefit human health. The delivery of an expanded, safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Attach the following text to the action: Ensure the active travel network is planned in a manner that has due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites and cultural heritage.
	Promote and Facilitate EVs Develop an EV charging strategy for the city centre	The development of this strategy has the potential to lead to the development of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the local authority's functional area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to ensuring disabled access to EV charging, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, cultural heritage.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		The delivery of good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	
	Car club - EVs Support the roll out of EV car clubs and infrastructure in the DZ	The development of this strategy has the potential to lead to the development of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the local authority's functional area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to ensuring disabled access to EV charging, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, cultural heritage.
	LSMATS Park and Ride Hubs Hubs at strategic locations outside city to reduce traffic coming into the city.	The development of infrastructure associated with transport mobility hubs may result in negative construction related environmental effects, including effects on water quality, Biodiversity, European sites and local noise, dust and traffic related effects. The delivery of expanded sustainable/active travel networks has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions.	Attach the following text to the action: Ensure such development promotes climate action co-benefits, including SuDS and nature-based solutions, and does not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	
	Tree Planting Tree planting offers the potential to address the heat island effect which will become more pronounced as global warming increases. There is potential to increase planting and greening across the city.	This is likely to increase tree planting and engagement with nature which will promote environmental stewardship and is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Ensure efforts are made to use native Irish trees to support local biodiversity.
	Blue Green Infrastructure The Blue Green Infrastructure delivers a vital role in addressing climate change (e.g. through surface water and flood management, storing greenhouse gases, providing habitats for wildlife) whilst providing a wide range of benefits and supports. The Limerick BGI Strategy presents a road map for its integration across the city and environs.	This action supports the development of additional green and blue infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of such infrastructures have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts, cultural heritage asset impacts and impacts on traffic and transport (through the temporary creation of traffic diversions and congestion). The delivery of green infrastructures that provide an expanded, safe active travel network has the potential to have a significant positive effect on population and human health through the promotion of modes of travel that benefit human health. Blue Green Infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as archaeology, European sites, biodiversity and amenity value, and the potential to enhance ecological connectivity

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. The delivery of blue/green infrastructure has the potential to generate very significant positive tourism, recreation and cultural heritage related benefits/effects.	
	City Flood Relief Scheme The scheme will help protect the biodiversity of the Shannon Estuary	This action will support climate resilience and the protection of assets from climate influenced events such as storms or flooding.	Attach the following text to the action: having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as archaeology, European sites, biodiversity and amenity value, and the potential to enhance ecological connectivity
	Innovation area/R & D park Give support to novel food R & D, including Vertical urban farming, Protein from fermentation	Supporting such ventures provides an opportunity for biodiversity enhancement in urban settings in support of the All Ireland Pollinator Plan. Vertical farming may also contribute to higher air quality and offsetting local GHG emissions, whilst also enhancing visual amenity of the urban landscape. Efforts should be made to ensure practices supported are sustainable and, where possible, benefit local biodiversity.	Reword to the following: Give support to sustainable novel food R & D, including Vertical urban farming, Protein from fermentation

Table 5-2: Environmental Mitigation Measures related Environmental Governance Principles suggested for inclusion in the plan - specifically the plan implementation section

Promote climate action projects that support and maximise environmental co-benefits, such as biodiversity protection and enhancement; improved air, water or soil quality; or enhanced recreation, amenity and cultural heritage value, to ensure win-win benefits are gained.
Support or facilitate climate action related projects and initiatives which seek to make improvements in soil structure, management and health by increasing soil organic carbon - which will create the environmental co-benefits of improving flood resilience by enhancing water holding capacity of soils and increasing the level of GHG sequestration associated with land use functions.
Ensure local authority development underpinned or supported by plan actions is planned and implemented in a manner that appropriately considers the potential for environmental co-benefits, potential environmental impacts and environmental protection requirements. No local authority climate action related development project that is likely to have significant negative effects on the receiving environment shall be supported.
Promote - through control or influence as appropriate - the carrying out of flood resilience measures underpinned by plan actions in a manner that supports climate action-biodiversity related co-benefits, and which has due regard for the protection and enhancement of rare, protected or important habitats and species.
Promote the carrying out of climate action related projects supported by the plan in a manner that supports climate action-cultural heritage co-benefits, and which has due regard to cultural, archaeological or architectural features and sensitivities.
Promote the carrying out of climate action related projects underpinned by the plan in a manner that supports climate action water quality co-benefits, and the achievement of Water Framework Directive objectives.
Promote climate action projects that support protected trees, hedgerows and other habitats such as wetlands, floodzones which contribute to green infrastructure.
Support opportunities to improve ecological connectivity of non-designated habitats and sites to improve overall ecosystem resilience and functioning while supporting climate action within the county.
Ensure local authority projects supported by plan actions have taken the necessary precautions to identify and manage invasives species, particularly with regard to Schedule III species. No local authority climate action related development project that is likely to cause the spread of invasives species listed in Schedule III shall be supported.
Support opportunities to promote peatland restoration, rehabilitation and maintenance while achieving climate targets through the implementation of the climate actions within the plan.

6. CONCLUSION

Stage 1 AA Screening and Stage 2 AA of the Draft Limerick Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 has been carried out. Implementation of the Draft LACAP has the potential to result in effects to the integrity of any European sites, if unmitigated.

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

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

Having incorporated mitigation measures, it is concluded that the Draft Limerick Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 is not foreseen to give rise to any significant adverse effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects[48]. This evaluation is made in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species, for which these sites have been designated.

The AA process is ongoing and will inform and be concluded at adoption of the Plan.

[48] 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.

FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING,
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
& PLANNING

APPENDIX 1

Background information to European sites

Appendix 1 - Table 1 Quality and site characteristics of European sites considered in the assessment

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000030	Danes Hole Poulnalecka SAC	The site contains a small though significant natural limestone cave. As this site contains 250 Lesser Horseshoe Bats (Rhinolophus hipposideros) it is a site of international importance. It is also important as it lies along the eastern limit for the distribution of this species in Ireland. The site also supports a stand of Old Oak woodland.	This site consists of a small fossil limestone cave in the banks of a tributary to the River Ahaclare west of Broadford Co. Clare. The cave is approximately 50 m long and 2-3m wide. The passage is at times quite low. The cave ends in a sump. There is no sign that this water floods other parts of the cave or that the stream outside the entrance floods the cave. The cave is used as a winter hibernation site by Lesser Horseshoe Bats. The area surrounding the cave is mixed woodland which provides ideal foraging habitat and shelter for the bats. A summer roost and important commuting hedgerows down to the Ahaclare are also included in the site.
000432	Barrigone SAC	The importance of this site lies primarily in the diverse range of habitats and species present within such a small area. This includes the protected plant Viola hirta and the Annex II species Euphydryas aurinia for which the site holds one of the biggest colonies in the county. 60% of the site is dominated by the priority Annex I habitats. In an area where agricultural activity is high and in this case intensive quarrying is carried out these dry grassland habitats are very important. Limestone outcrops throughout the site. Calcareous grassland is well represented and is notably species rich particularly for orchids of which 8 species have been recorded including the scarce Neotinea maculata. Associated with the limestone pavement and calcareous grassland are areas of Juniperis communis scrub.	Topographically the site slopes gently upwards from north to south from 15m on the north boundary to almost c. 40m at the south. From here there is a distant view of Aughinish Island and the Shannon Estuary to the North. Barrigone is an area of dry grassland with limestone outcrops together with associated scrub. The substrate bedrock and microclimate contribute to produce a specific and substantial range of plants.
000939	Silvermine Mountains SAC	Though small the site is important for the presence of the priority habitat Nardus grassland and also for the nationally important population of the Red Data Book species Pseudorchis albida within this habitat. A small but intact example of wet heath is also present. A typical upland fauna occurs with Lagopus lagopus and Lepus timidus hibernicus.	This small site is situated on the northern slopes of the Silvermine Mountains. The site is underlain by sandstone. The dominant habitat is heath which occurs with upland grasslands and scrub. The site is longest on its north/south axis. It rises 150m from north to south and has a maximum altitude of 409m. Grazing is the main landune. A road cuts through the N/S axis of the site.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
001197	Keeper Hill SAC	The site supports a significant representation of intact blanket bog which has a varied topography and occurs in association with wet heath. Falco peregrinus and Lagopus lagopus breed within the site. Several rare bryophytes occur within the site.	A small to medium upland site in the midlands underlain by Old Red Sandstone. The dominant habitats are heath blanket bog and upland wet grassland. The site is almost completely surrounded by coniferous woodland. With access easy along forest roads at the trackway to the summit the site is a popular amenity area and vantage point.
002036	Ballyhoura Mountains SAC	This site has been selected for the presence of the Annex 1 habitats wet heath dry heath and active blanket bog. The heath habitats are the dominant habitats and are generally of high quality. Blanket bog covers a smaller area though is still well represented. Although the flanks of the mountain range has been extensively afforested with conifers the quality of the remaining upland area is good with relatively low levels of disturbance from potentially damaging operations such as grazing and burning. The site provides crucial foraging habitat and potential nesting habitat for the important population of Circus cyaneus that nests in the Ballyhoura mountain range. The site also supports breeding Falco peregrinus.	Ballyhoura Mountains is located on the border between counties Cork and Limerick. The site comprises the unafforested summit ridges within the mountain range extending from Carron Mountain east towards Long and Seefin Mountains and including outliers at Coolfree Mountain. These areas are dominated by heath and blanket bog habitats. The flanks of this mountain range have been intensively afforested in the past 40 years. Old Red Sandstone dominates the bedrock geology of the site.
002124	Bolingbrook Hill SAC	The main importance of this site lies in the presence of good examples of typically upland habitats namely species rich Nardus grassland wet heath and dry heath. Some blanket bog also occurs but this is small in extent and mostly degraded. A good diversity of native fauna occurs.	This is a small to medium sized upland site on the lower slopes of Mother Mountain. It is in two separate parts. The eastern section is dominated by dry heath on higher ground with upland grassland on mineral soils on the lower slopes. Some of this grassland is improved further areas are maintained by grazing and to the north under-grazing leads to scrub invasion. A small area of bog is present in a depression. The western portion of the site consists mainly of wet heath and acidic grassland.
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	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 Tursiops truncatus in Ireland all three Irish species of lamprey and a good population of Salmo salar. A number of birds listed on the EU Birds Directive either winter or breed in the site.	A very large long site approximately 14 km wide and 120 km long encompassing: the drained river valley which forms the River Shannon estuary; the broader River Fergus estuary plus a number of smaller estuaries e.g. Poulnasherry Bay; the freshwater lower reaches of the Shannon River between Killaloe and Limerick plus the freshwater stretches of much of the Feale and Mulkear catchments; a marine area at the mouth of the Shannon estuary with high rocky cliffs to the north

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		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 Scirpus triqueter.	and south; ericaceous heath on Kerry Head and Loop Head; and several lagoons. The underlying geology ranges from Carboniferous limestone (east of Foynes) to Namurian shales and flagstones (west of Foynes) to Old Red Sandstone (at Kerry Head). The salinity of the system varies daily with the ebb and flood of the tide and with annual rainfall fluctuations seasonally.
002279	Askeaton Fen Complex SAC	The site is most important for the presence of the Annex I habitat Cladium fen and also for the presence of Alkaline fens. Small areas of species-rich dry grassland are also found. The site supports a diversity of habitats and species.	The site consists of a number of separate small fen areas north east and south of Askeaton in an area of undulating ground underlain by Carboniferous Limestone. The fen is predominantly the Cladium type though alkaline fens are found around the landward margins. Adjacent to the fens are associated habitats such as freshwater marsh wet grassland and open water. On higher ground dense scrub is found. Occasionally at the south of the site cliffs are present. Diverse dry grassland is found also at the south of the site though this is further fragmented by agricultural improvement.
002312	Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC	This extensive upland site has been selected for the presence of the Annex 1 habitats active blanket bog dry heath and wet heath. The quality of these habitats is generally very good due to low levels of recent disturbance. The occurrence of Vaccinium oxycoccus is of note. The site ranks as one of the most extensive high quality upland areas in the mid-west of Ireland and is of high importance. Areas of conifer plantation have been included within the site. The site is used as foraging habitat by a small population of Circus cyaneus which nests in the Slieve Bernagh mountain range. Lagopus lagopus occurs within the site.	This is a large upland site located in the south-east of county Clare. The site comprises three distinct blocks of land separated by extensive conifer plantations which dominate the mountain slopes. The dominant bedrock within the site is base-poor Silurian sedimentary rocks and Old Red Sandstone. These rocks support a rather shallow peat soil which give rise to the dominant heath habitats. Where peat is deeper especially on plateau areas blanket bog has developed. Small areas of conifer plantations have been retained within the site area as well as some areas of cutover blanket bog
002316	Ratty River Cave SAC	The cave is small (5-10 m) but in excellent condition. Cave habitats include rock roof and walls and stalactites. The cave provides stable and undisturbed winter hibernating conditions for an internationally important number of lesser horseshoe bats. The nearest known summer roost of lesser horseshoe bats is also included in the site.	This site includes a natural fossil limestone cave situated in the bank of the Ratty or Owenogarney River. A section of the river and accompanying bankside vegetation is also included in the site.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
			An old disused cottage situated approximately 500 m from the cave is included in the site as it is used as a summer roost by the bats. . The surrounding habitat consists of unimproved pasture and scrub woodland. Castle Lake occurs a few hundred metres upstream of the site.
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	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 Calidris alpina Limosa limosa and Tringa totanus. A further 16 species have populations of national importance. The site is particularly significant for Calidris alpina (11% of national total) Pluvialis squatarola (7.5% of total) Vanellus vanellus (6.5% of total) Tringa totanus (6.1% of total) and Tadorna tadorna (6.0% of total). It has Cygnus cygnus Pluvialis apricaria and Limosa lapponica in significant numbers. The site was formerly frequented by a population of Anser albifrons flavirostris 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.	The River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries form the largest estuarine complex in Ireland. The site comprises all of the estuarine habitat west from Limerick City and south from Ennis extending west as far as Killadysert and Foynes on the north and south shores of the Shannon respectively (a distance of some 25 km from east to west). Also included are several areas in the outer Shannon estuary notably Clonderalaw Bay and Poulnasherry Bay. The site has vast expanses of intertidal flats. The main macro-invertebrate community is a Macoma-Scrobicularia-Nereis community which provides a rich food resource for the wintering birds. Eelgrass (Zostera spp.) is present in places. The intertidal flats are often fringed with salt marsh vegetation areas which provide important high tide roost sites for the birds. In the innermost parts of the estuaries the tidal channels or creeks are fringed with species such as Phragmites australis and Scirpus spp. Spartina anglica is frequent in parts.
004095	Kilcolman Bog SPA	Kilcolman Bog is an important site for wintering waterfowl with nationally important populations of Cygnus cygnus Anas crecca and Anas clypeata. The Anas clypeata population is of particular note as it comprises over 6% of the national total. Other species with important populations include Anas penelope Fulica atra and Vanellus vanellus. The site formerly supported a small population of Anser albifrons flavirostris but the flock has now abandoned the area. The site is a Nature Reserve and is managed for the benefit of birds. The bird populations have been intensively monitored since the 1970s. The site supports Rumex maritimus a Red Data Book species.	Kilcolman Bog is situated on the southern foothills of the Ballyhoura Mountains. It occupies a glacially eroded hollow in Carboniferous limestone. The site comprises a quaking fen fed by calcareous groundwater with areas of reedswamp freshwater marsh and wet grassland. There is a small permanent lake but in winter a large flooded area is usual. The site has been managed for conservation since the 1970s. The surrounding landuse is mostly intensive agriculture.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002258	Silvermines Mountains West SAC	Silvermines West is a substantial upland area dominated by wet heath with smaller areas of dry heath blanket bog (incl. degraded bog) acid grassland scrub and outcropping rock. The site has been selected for the presence of the Annex 1 habitat wet heath. The site is one of the largest remaining unafforested upland areas in the north Tipperary area a large proportion of the adjoining uplands having been afforested in recent decades. The quality of the site is high due to the relatively low levels of burning and grazing in the recent past. Site is used as foraging habitat by part of the important Circus cyaneus population that nests in the Silvermine-Slievefeelim uplands.	This is an upland site dominated by heath grassland and blanket bog habitats. The dominant bedrocks within the site are Silurian sandstones and shales which outcrop frequently especially at higher elevations with old red sandstone at lower elevations. Deposits of minerals such as zinc lead and copper - now largely exhausted - occur along the northern boundary of the site where the older rocks meet limestone. Extensive disused mine workings - dominated by a large tailings pond - lie along the north-eastern boundary and some areas within the site show indications of disturbance from these past mining works. Most of the adjoining mountain ridge to the east has been afforested with conifers.
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	Lough Derg is of importance for both breeding and wintering birds. The islands support nationally important breeding colonies of Sterna hirundo Phalacrocorax carbo Podiceps cristatus and probably Aythya fuligula. It is a traditional site for nesting Larus ridibundus but there is no recent survey information. In winter the lake is particularly important for diving ducks with nationally important populations of Aythya fuligula and Bucephala clangula occurring. Cygnus olor also has a population of national importance whilst a range of other species occur in lesser numbers including Cygnus cygnus Anas crecca Fulica atra and Vanellus vanellus. A flock of Anser albifrons flavirostris has traditionally used the site where they feed on grassy islands but birds have seldom been recorded in recent years.	Lough Derg is the largest of the Shannon Lakes being some 40 km long. Its maximum breadth across the Scarriff Bay-Youghal Bay transect is 13 km but for most of its length it is less than 5 km wide. The lake is relatively shallow at the northern end being mostly 6 m in depth but in the middle region it has an axial trench and descends to over 25 m in places. The narrow southern end of the lake has the greatest average depth with a maximum of 34 m. The greater part of the lake lies on Carboniferous limestone but the narrow southern section is underlain by Silurian strata. Most of the lower part of the lake is enclosed by hills on both sides the Slieve Aughty Mountains to the west and the Arra Mountains to the east. The northern end is bordered by relatively flat agricultural country. The lake shows the high hardness levels and alkaline pH to be expected from its mainly limestone catchment basin and it has most recently been classified as a mesotrophic system. The lake has many small islands especially on its western and northern sides. The shoreline is often fringed with swamp vegetation. Aquatic vegetation includes a range of charophyte species.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000051	Lough Gash Turlough SAC	This site is at the extreme end of two ranges in variation of the turlough habitat i.e. wetness and trophic status. It has a greater area of annual vegetation than any other site and this includes Rorippa islandica a rare species found in 10-20 turloughs. Wildfowl numbers are high for its size especially Aythya ferina and Cygnus olor. There is no effective drainage of the site and though over enriched its nutrient balance could be restored.	Lough Gash is a late-draining turlough in a hollow just to the west of Newmarket-on-Fergus. It is flooded into August in most years and this results in the dominance of annual plant species which form an ungrazed stand 60cm high. This is surrounded by a fringe of amphibious species. Channels have been dug at the western and southern corners but these have little drainage effect. There are some wildfowl nesting. An inflow comes through the town on the east side and has a nutrient enriching effect.
000064	Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC	This is an important example of a natural limestone cave with a good diversity of features. As >50 Lesser Horseshoe Bats have been recorded at this site it is a site of international importance. It is also important as it is at the eastern limit of this species' distribution in Ireland.	This site is a natural limestone cave situated in a field south of a school in Quin Co. Clare. A large entrance leads to a wide chamber from which three passages radiate. Two of these soon become blocked but a route to the left leads into a passage which has been used by >50 Lesser Horseshoe Bats as a winter hibernation site. Cave habitats include slow moving water thick mud boulders pools of water rock walls and roof.
000439	Tory Hill SAC	This site has an excellent diversity of habitats all of good quality over a relatively small area. The calcareous grassland and fen habitats which are represented at the site are rare in the county. The calcareous grassland is particularly species-rich and has some locally scarce species including Arabis hirsuta and Ophrys apifera. An area of limestone heath-scrub on the western flank of Tory Hill is remarkable for the occurrence of a stand of Taxus baccata which is a feature now rare in Ireland. Tory Hill has geological and geomorphological importance and represents an excellent example of a landform that is rare outside of the Burren. The site has been the subject of palaeoecological investigations and has high educational potential.	Tory Hill is an isolated limestone outcrop rising to 112 m. It is an excellent example of an end-moraine. Of particular geomorphological note are ice marks that are clearly visible on the solid rock of its northern flank. Soil is a coarse calcareous drift. Most of the hill is dominated by deciduous scrub and woodland with a well developed heath-scrub complex occurring on its western flank. Some limestone pavement occurs in association with the calcareous grassland. Lough Nagirra is a small lake that is surrounded by swamp and fen vegetation and wet grassland.
001013	Glenomra Wood SAC	This is an old oak woodland which was clear-felled and left to regenerate naturally resulting in a rather dense and even-aged stand. The understorey is also dense which along with recent grazing has resulted in an impoverished ground flora.	This site is dominated by deciduous woodland on a west facing slope. Although probably of ancient origin it was clear-felled around 50 years ago and left to regenerate naturally. The diversity of the site is enhanced by an area of species-rich grassland a small stream and a small area of raised bog.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		The wood is unmanaged and provides a haven for species such as Martes martes while ditches within the site support an abundant population of Rana temporaria. The association with other semi-natural habitats notably wet grassland and bog is of value.	
001847	Philipston Marsh SAC	The site supports an important though small example of transition mire vegetation in a region where such habitat is rare. It has many of the expected flora species for the habitat. A range of scarce plant species are found at the site notably Epipactis palustris Galium uliginosum and Eriophorum latifolium. The site appears to be in a fairly natural state.	The site is within the upper reaches of the Mulkear catchment. The southern part is flushed with calcareous groundwater issuing from the base of a gentle slope. A small stream or drainage channel flows along part of northern boundary. The site comprises a mosaic of wetland habitat types mainly reed swamp alkaline fen and transition mire. A small area of open water occurs. Willow (Salix spp.) scrub is present in places and some wet grassland is included. Some of the areas immediately adjacent to site are planted with conifers.
002125	Anglesey Road SAC	The primary scientific interest of this site is the presence of a fairly good example of Nardus grassland. Species rich Nardus grassland is a rare habitat in Ireland.	A small site on the lower slopes of Mother Mountain. It consists mainly of grassland on mineral soil. Some of the grassland has been improved. The other main component of the site is scrub along the river and lateral gullies. On steeper slopes a form of dry heath with Pteridium aquilinum invasion is found. A road runs through the site.
002137	Lower River Suir SAC	This site contains a range of Annex I habitats including floating river vegetation eutrophic tall herbs alluvial forest old oak woods yew woods and salt meadows. The site is very important for the presence of a number of scarce and specialised Annex II animal species with particularly important populations of the fish species Salmo salar and Alosa fallax fallax. Lutra lutra is widespread on the system as is Austropotamobius pallipes. The site supports two Annex I priority and five non-priority Annex I habitats. There are four Annex I species of birds present within the site. The rare lichen Lobaria pulmonaria an ancient woodland indicator occurs at Portlaw Oak Woods within the site.	The Suir River system flows through the counties of Tipperary Kilkenny and Waterford. The site consists of all of the freshwater stretches of the Suir immediately south of Thurles the tidal stretches as far as the confluence with the Barrow/Nore immediately east of Cheekpoint in Co. Waterford and many of the tributaries including the Clodiagh the Lingaun Anner Nier Tar Aherlow and Multeen. Much of the system flows through Carboniferous limestone though towards Waterford the geology changes to Old Red Sandstone and Ordovician bedrocks. The site supports a diverse range of habitats including marsh reedbeds wet and dry grasslands broad-leaved semi-natural woodlands salt marshes tidal rivers and estuarine channels. Substantial areas of improved grassland and arable lands are included for water quality reasons.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002319	Kilkishen House SAC	An internationally important hibernaculum of Rhinolophus hipposideros is present in the basement of the house. This winter roost is in good condition and provides stable and undisturbed hibernating conditions for the bats. A summer roosting site in the roof is in poor condition and is vulnerable to further dereliction. Foraging areas have not yet been established. The site also supports a population of Myotis nattereri.	The site consists of a two-storey over-basement mansion which is currently disused and a surrounding copse of woodland. It is surrounded by parkland with mature trees. Extensive areas of woodland and a small lake are found within 500 m of the site.
002351	Moanveanlagh Bog SAC	This site is of importance for the presence of active raised bog degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. Although the condition of these habitats is poor due to peat-cutting and burning and with only a very small area of active bog the site is important because it is the best remaining example of a raised bog in the south-west of the country. The presence of the scarce Sphagnum species S. imbricatum and S. fuscum is also noteworthy.	Moanveanlagh Bog is a medium-sized raised bog located on the Kerry/Limerick border 4 km east of Listowel town. The site overlies Namurian shales and grits which is unusual as most Irish raised bogs overlie limestone. There is intensive peat-cutting along the margins and this has resulted in the widespread drying out of the high bog surface. Part of the cutover had been converted to pasture grassland of varying quality. The insectivorous plant species Sarracenia purpurea has been introduced to the site and now covers a large proportion of the site surface.
004094	Blackwater Callows SPA	The site is of high importance for wintering waterfowl. It supports an internationally important population of Cygnus cygnus and nationally important populations of Anas penelope Anas crecca and Limosa limosa. The population of Limosa limosa has exceeded the threshold for international importance at times. Formerly it had a regular population of Cygnus columbarius bewickii but this no longer occurs reflecting a contraction of range at a national level. Egretta garzetta breeds locally and this species is now a regular visitor to the site. The Blackwater system is an important salmonid fishery and is of high conservation value for Salmo salar. It also supports important populations of Lampetra planeri L. fluviatilis Petromyzon marinus and Alosa fallax fallax. Lutra lutra is widespread throughout the site	The site comprises a 23 km stretch of the River Blackwater running in a west to east direction between Fermoy and Lismore. It includes the river channel and strips of seasonally flooded grassland within the flood plain. Sandstone ridges parallel to the river confine the area of flooding to a relatively narrow corridor. The lower stretch from Ballyduff to Lismore is more subject to flooding than the upper part. The river channel has a well-developed aquatic community along with emergent swamp vegetation in places. Most of the land above the banks is improved for agriculture with only occasional areas of fringing marshland wet grassland and wet woodland (mostly Salix spp.) still present. Some arable areas occur.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	Supports c. 3% of the all-Ireland population of Circus cyaneus and among the top 5 most important sites in the country for the species. Habitat excellent for both nesting and foraging purposes. Also has nesting Falco peregrinus Falco columbarius and Lapopus lagopus the latter a Red Data Book species. Falco columbarius probably nests but a survey is required.	This is an extensive upland site that occurs in Counties Tipperary and Limerick. Much of the site is over 200 metres in altitude rising to 694 m at Keeper Hill. The site is underlain mainly by Silurian-aged Sandstones. Several important rivers rise within the site including the Mulkear Bilboa and Clare rivers. Approximately half of the site is afforested including both first and second rotation plantations and clear fell areas. Roughly one-quarter of the site is unplanted blanket bog and heath with both wet and dry heath present. The remainder of the site is largely rough grassland that is used for hill farming. Some stands of deciduous woodland also occur especially in the river valley.
000174	Curraghchase Woods SAC	Curraghchase House is one of just two known Lesser Horseshoe sites (Rhinolophus Hipposideros) in County Limerick. As the number of bats is >50 all year round it is a site of international importance. The woodlands include areas of both alluvial forests and Taxus baccata woods. While both have been disturbed by planting with commercial forest they still retain key diagnostic characters and species and both areas display natural regeneration. The occurrence of Taxus woods is of particular note due to the very limited distribution in Ireland for this habitat.	The site consists largely of mixed woodland (Deciduous- native and non-native; commercial conifers). Lakes and fens run the length of the woods. The site is on a limestone ridge overlain by glacial drift. Lesser Horseshoe Bats inhabit the cellars of the former mansion Curraghchase House. The bats are present throughout the year. The surrounding woodland and wetland habitats are ideal for foraging bats.
000646	Galtee Mountains SAC	One of the highest inland mountain ranges in Ireland with extensive areas of dry heath alpine heath montane blanket bog and upland grassland including species-rich nardus grassland. The cliffs above the corries support arctic-alpine vegetation including the Red Data species Cardaminopsis petraea in one of its two Irish localities and several other notable Irish varieties. Site contains two known territories of Falco peregrinus.	An inland mountain range reaching 920m derived from folding of old red sandstone and silurian rocks with a series of small corrie lakes on the northern side and encompassing the headstreams of numerous tributaries of the river Suir. Site includes high level montane blanket bog alpine heath dry heath and montane cliffs.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000930	Clare Glen SAC	An important site for its remnants of old oak wood and an interesting and rich bryoflora including the only station in Ireland for Fissidens exiguus. The ravine includes a population of Trichomanes speciosum.	A steep-sided ravine cut into Old Red Sandstone surrounded by mixed woodland and pockets of old oak wood. The Clare river flows east to west through the ravine and incorporates a series of waterfalls fast-flowing ripples and pool sections. The site is of interest geologically for the stratigraphy of Old Red Sandstone and fossil ripple works.
001430	Glen Bog SAC	The site has an important and fairly extensive example of a type of alluvial woodland (Alnus glutinosa - Carex paniculata community) that is considered genuinely rare in Ireland. The woodland has developed naturally in a former lake basin and is dominated by native species. Its quality is good and it appears to be functioning in a natural state. The quarry on site supports a pair of Falco peregrinus. Rana temporaria is abundant in the wet woodland.	The site is situated approximately 2 km to the south-east of Lough Gur in Co. Limerick. Glen Bog is now dominated by wet woodland. The woodland does not flood but is permanently waterlogged. In addition to Glen Bog the site includes the summit and southern slopes of Knockderc which rises to 143 m. Knockderc is composed of an igneous intrusive porphyritic rock while the rest of the site is underlain by Lower Carboniferous limestone. Habitats on the hill include scrub bracken and acidic grassland. There is some exposed rock as well as a disused quarry.
001432	Glenstal Wood SAC	The main importance of this site is in the population of Trichomanes speciosum that it holds. The species was first recorded here in 1852; in 1934 it was said to be found here "in more than one spot"; while in 1949 a "fine clump" of the plant was seen. The glen is quite species-rich and supports a rich flora of flowering plants ferns bryophytes and lichens. Prunus padus a threatened species in Ireland was reported from the site in 1881.	The site is situated on the western foothills of the Slievefelim Mountains. It comprises stands of oak woodland around Glenstal Castle and Abbey and extending north-eastwards along a narrow glen cut into Old Red Sandstone. The glen is approximately 1.5km long and narrows at its north-eastern end to a rocky ravine. A small stream runs the length of the glen along its floor.
002037	Carrigeenamronety Hill SAC	The importance of this site lies in the presence of Trichomanes speciosum. Thirteen plants were recorded from the site in 1976. These were growing in clefts in rock.	Carrigeenamronety Hill is an eastern lower outlier of the Ballyhoura Mountains which straddles the border of Counties Cork and Limerick. It is underlain by old red sandstone and silurian rocks and its summit is crowned by an imposing escarpment of silurian conglomerate rock. Heath forms the dominant vegetation of the site especially in the higher sections. Areas of unimproved Molinia grassland and improved grassland are found at lower altitudes. Commercial forestry occurs commonly on the hill outside the site and on other high ground to the west.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	The site supports many Annexed habitats including the priority habitats of alluvial woodland and petrifying springs. Quality of habitat is generally good. The site also supports a number of Annex II animal species - Salmo salar Margaritifera margaritifera M.m. durrovensis Alosa fallax fallax Austropotamobius pallipes Petromyzon marinus Lutra lutra Lampetra fluviatilis and L. planeri. Annex I Bird species include Anser albifrons flavirostris Falco peregrinus Cygnus cygnus Cygnus columbianus bewickii Limosa lapponica Pluvialis apricaria and Alcedo atthis. A range of rare plants and invertebrates are found in the woods along these rivers and rare plants are also associated with the saltmarsh.	This site consists of most of the freshwater stretches of the Barrow/Nore River catchments. The Barrow is tidal as far upriver as Graiguenamanagh while the Nore is tidal as far upriver as Inishtioge. The site also includes the extreme lower reaches of the River Suir and all of the estuarine component of Waterford Harbour extending to Creadan Head. 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. Both rivers rise in the Old Red Sandstone of the Slieve Bloom Mountains. They traverse limestone bedrock for a good proportion of their routes though the middle reaches of the Barrow and many of the eastern tributaries run through Leinster Granite. A wide range of habitats associated with the rivers are included within the site including substantial areas of woodland (deciduous mixed) dry heath wet grassland swamp and marsh vegetation salt marshes a small dune system biogenic reefs and intertidal sand and mud flats. Areas of improved grassland arable land and coniferous plantations are included in the site for water quality reasons.
002170	Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC	The site supports important examples of a range of Annex I habitats notably estuaries intertidal mudflats and sandflats perennial vegetation of stony banks salt meadows floating river vegetation alluvial forests and oak woodlands. Most of these are of good quality and extensive in area. The Blackwater system is an important salmonid fishery and is of high conservation value for Salmo salar. Also supports important populations of Lampetra planeri L. fluviatilis Petromyzon marinus and Alosa fallax fallax. Substantial populations of Margaritifera margaritifera occur while Austropotamobius pallipes is found in the Awbeg River. Lutra lutra is widespread throughout the site and has been subject to detailed surveys. Trichomanes speciosum occurs at one location.	The River Blackwater is one of the largest rivers in Ireland draining a major part of Co. Cork and parts of Cos. Kerry Limerick Tipperary and Waterford. The site consists of most of the freshwater stretches of the system as well as the estuarine component at Youghal. Tidal influence extends almost to Cappoquin. The Blackwater rises in the east Kerry uplands where Namurian grits and shales build the low heather-covered plateaux. In the lowlands in the Mallow district it passes over limestone and later cuts through ridges of Old Red Sandstone to the south of Cappoquin. Main tributaries include the Rivers Lickey Bride Allow and Awbeg.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Annex I bird species present in the site include breeding Egretta garzetta Alcedo atthis and Falco peregrinus and wintering cygnus cygnus and Pluvialis apricaria. A good diversity of other winter waterfowl species also occurs.	A wide range of habitats associated with the rivers are included within the site including substantial areas of woodland (deciduous mixed) scrub wet grassland swamp and marsh vegetation bog salt marshes and intertidal sand and mud flats. Areas of improved grassland arable land and coniferous plantations are included in the site for water quality reasons.
002257	Moanour Mountain SAC	This site supports good examples of heath vegetation typical for the region.	The site occurs on the north-western slope of Moanour Mountain an outlying ridge of the Galtee Mountains. Much of the remainder of this mountainous ridge has been afforested. A fine altitudinal transition is seen from upland acid grassland on mineral soil at the lower elevations to wet and dry heaths on peats higher up. The wet heath grades into incipient blanket bog at the highest level. The only landuse in the site is grazing by sheep.
002318	Knockanira House SAC	This site supports an internationally important summer roost of Rhinolophus hipposideros. Knockanira House is unused undisturbed and in relatively good condition. It is located in an area highly populated with lesser horseshoe bats. It is one of two known maternity roosts within a 5km distance where a combined total of up to 300 bats are counted each summer (approximately 200 in Newhall House and 100 in Knockanira House). However a much larger number of lesser horseshoe bats are counted every winter from three SAC designated hibernacula within a similar 5km radius (up to 576 in Newhall Edenvale and 200 in Pouladatig - 776 in total). Foraging areas for the bats at Knockanira have not yet been established.	The site consists of an old two storey disused farm house situated approximately 10 km to the south-west of Ennis in Co. Clare. The bats roost in the attic. The site is surrounded by agricultural land with tree lines and hedgerows and some small copses of broadleaved woodland.
004028	Blackwater Estuary SPA	The Blackwater Estuary is of high ornithological importance for wintering waterfowl providing good quality feeding areas for a diversity of waterfowl species. At high tide the birds roost along the shoreline and salt marsh fringe. The site supports an internationally important population of Limosa limosa (over 5% of the national total).	The Blackwater Estuary SPA is a relatively small sheltered south-facing estuary which extends from below Youghal Bridge to the Ferry Point peninsula close to where the river enters the sea. It comprises a section of the main channel of the River Blackwater. At low tide intertidal flats are exposed. On the eastern side the intertidal channel extending as far as Kinsalebeg and Moord Cross Roads is included while on the west side the site includes much of the estuary of the Tourig

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		It supports a further eight species in numbers of national importance: Tadorna tadorna Anas penelope Pluvialis apricaria Vanellus vanellus Calidris alpina Numenius arquata Tringa totanus and Tringa nebularia. A population of Limosa lapponica exceeds the threshold for national importance in some winters. Egretta garzetta breeds locally and the Blackwater Estuary is a main feeding area. The site is important for gulls and attracts substantial numbers of Larus fuscus in autumn and winter. The Blackwater Estuary has been well-studied with waterfowl counts extending back to 1974.	River. The intertidal sediments are mostly muds or sandy muds reflecting the sheltered conditions of the estuary. The sediments have a macrofauna typical of muddy sands with polychaete worms and bivalves well-represented. Salt marshes occur along the sheltered inlets. A low-lying field which provides an important roost is included.
004161	Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA	Supports c. 21% of the all-Ireland population of Circus cyaneus which is the largest concentration in the country for the species. Habitat excellent for both nesting and foraging purposes. Asio flammeus a rare breeding bird in Ireland has nested in the past and has been recorded intermittently in recent years. Falco columbarius has a presence though the size of the population is unknown. Lagopus lagopus a Red Data Book species occurs.	This a very large upland site centred on the borders between the counties of Cork Kerry and Limerick. The peaks are not notably high or indeed pronounced with a maximum of 451 m at Knockhefa. Many rivers rise within the site notably the Blackwater Feale Clydagh Oolagh and Smerlagh. The site consists of a variety of upland habitats though almost half (45%) is afforested. The coniferous forest includes first and second rotation plantations with both pre-thicket stands present as well as clearfell areas. A substantial part (28%) of the site is unplanted blanket bog and heath with both wet and dry heath present. The remainder of the site is largely rough grassland that is used for hill farming. Some areas of scrub and deciduous woodland occur especially within the river valleys.

Appendix 1 - Table 2 Background data for European sites considered in the assessment; including the Qualifying features (Qualifying Interests or Special Conservation Interests) and the known threats and pressures as recorded by the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000030	Danes Hole, Poulnalecka SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Caves not open to the public [8310], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	B06, D05, B01.01, A10.01, M02.03	Grazing in forests or woodland, Improved access to site, Forest planting on open ground (native trees), Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Decline or extinction of species
000051	Lough Gash Turlough SAC	Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270], Turloughs [3180]	E01, H01.08, D01.02, A10.01, A04, F03.01, A08	Urbanised areas, human habitation, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Roads, motorways, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Grazing, Hunting, Fertilisation
000064	Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Caves not open to the public [8310]	E01, G01.04.03, G05.04, A04, A10.01	Urbanised areas, human habitation, Recreational cave visits , Vandalism, Grazing, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub
000174	Curraghchase Woods SAC	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0]	G05.04, B02, J02.02.01, G01, B02.01.01	Vandalism, Forest and Plantation management & use, Dredging or removal of limnic sediments, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Forest replanting (native trees)
000432	Barrigone SAC	Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Limestone pavements [8240]	A04.03, K02.01, X	Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Species composition change (succession), No threats or pressures
000439	Tory Hill SAC	Alkaline fens [7230], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210]	J02.01.03, J02, X, A04.02.04	Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, No threats or pressures, Non intensive goat grazing

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000646	Galtee Mountains SAC	Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210]	A10.01, G01.03.02, J02.11, X, G01.02, J01, A04.01.02, G01.04.01	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Off-road motorized driving, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, No threats or pressures, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Fire and fire suppression, Intensive sheep grazing, Mountaineering & rock climbing
000930	Clare Glen SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421]	G01, I01, B02.04, B02.02, J02.11, X	Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species, Removal of dead and dying trees, Forestry clearance, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, No threats or pressures
000939	Silvermine Mountains SAC	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230]	A04.02.01, A04.01, M02.01	Non intensive cattle grazing, Intensive grazing, Habitat shifting and alteration
001013	Glenomra Wood SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	E01.03, D05, A10.01, D02.01, B02, B06, G05.06	Dispersed habitation, Improved access to site, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Electricity and phone lines, Forest and Plantation management & use, Grazing in forests or woodland, Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees
001197	Keeper Hill SAC	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	D01.01, X, K01.01, D02.03, G01.03.01, G01.03.02	Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, No threats or pressures, Erosion, Communication masts and antennas, Regular motorized driving, Off-road motorized driving
001430	Glen Bog SAC	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]	J02, F05.05, X	Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Shooting, No threats or pressures

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
001432	Glenstal Wood SAC	Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421]	K02.01, B02.03, I01	Species composition change (succession), Removal of forest undergrowth, Invasive non-native species
001847	Philipston Marsh SAC	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	B, A04, X, A08	Sylviculture, forestry, Grazing, No threats or pressures, Fertilisation
002036	Ballyhoura Mountains SAC	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], European dry heaths [4030]	C01.03, B01.02, G01.03.02, G01, D05, X, C03.03, J01	Peat extraction, Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), Off-road motorized driving, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Improved access to site, No threats or pressures, Wind energy production, Fire and fire suppression
002037	Carrigeenamrone ty Hill SAC	European dry heaths [4030], Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421]	B01.02, J01, G01.02, X	Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), Fire and fire suppression, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, No threats or pressures
002124	Bolingbrook Hill SAC	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230], European dry heaths [4030], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]	A10.01, D01.01, J01, X, B02, G05.07	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Fire and fire suppression, No threats or pressures, Forest and Plantation management & use, Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures
002125	Anglesey Road SAC	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230]	X, A08, B, A02	No threats or pressures, Fertilisation, Sylviculture, forestry, Modification of cultivation practices
002137	Lower River Suir SAC	Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera	A01, J02.01.02, E03, A08, J02.01, I01, J02.12.02, X, B, D03.01, E01, H01	Cultivation, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Discharges, Fertilisation, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Invasive non-native species, Dykes and flooding defense in inland water systems, No threats or pressures, Sylviculture, forestry, Port areas, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish)

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		margaritifera) [1029], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Twaite shad (Alosa fallax) [1103], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092]		
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Reefs [1170], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Nore Pearl Mussel (Margaritifera durrovensis) [1990], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Twaite shad (Alosa fallax) [1103], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Estuaries [1130], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], European dry heaths [4030], Sea lamprey	F02.03, A04.01.01, J02, B05, C01.03, D03.01, J03.02.01, F01.01, B07, I01, F02.01.02, J02.05.02, A02.01, A10.01, B02, C01.01.01, E02, J02.12.02, J02.02.01, J02.06, K01.01, M01, F02, B02.01.01, H01	Leisure fishing, Intensive cattle grazing, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Use of fertilizers (forestry), Peat extraction, Port areas, Reduction in migration or migration barriers, Intensive fish farming, intensification , Forestry activities not referred to above, Invasive non-native species, Netting, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Agricultural intensification, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Forest and Plantation management & use, Sand and gravel quarries, Industrial or commercial areas, Dykes and flooding defense in inland water systems, Dredging or removal of limnic sediments, Water abstractions from surface waters, Erosion, Changes in abiotic conditions, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Forest replanting (native trees), Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish)

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		(Petromyzon marinus) [1095], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092]		
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Coastal lagoons [1150], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Reefs [1170], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus) [1349], Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time [1110], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Estuaries [1130], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029]	C01.01.02, E03, G01.01, F03.01, D01.01, J02.01.02, A04, J02.01.01, B, H04, F02.03, J02.12.01, A08, C01.03.01, E01, F01, I01, J02.10, K02.03	Removal of beach materials, Discharges, Nautical sports, Hunting, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Grazing, Polderisation, Sylviculture, forestry, Air pollution, air-borne pollutants, Leisure fishing, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Fertilisation, Hand cutting of peat, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Invasive non-native species, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Eutrophication (natural)
002170	Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Twaite shad (Alosa fallax) [1103], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421],	C01.01, A08, A03, I01, G01.01, A04, B, G02, E02, E03.01, D01.04, D01.02, J02.01, F02.03, E01, K01.01	Sand and gravel extraction , Fertilisation, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Invasive non-native species, Nautical sports, Grazing, Sylviculture, forestry, Sport and leisure structures, Industrial or commercial areas, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Railway lines, TGV, Roads, motorways, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out,

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Estuaries [1130], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099]		general, Leisure fishing, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Erosion
002257	Moanour Mountain SAC	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030]	G01.02, A04, B	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Grazing, Sylviculture, forestry
002258	Silvermines Mountains West SAC	European dry heaths [4030], Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]	D01.01, X, J01, A04.02.03, G01.03, A04.02.04, G01.02, C01.04	Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, No threats or pressures, Fire and fire suppression, Non intensive horse grazing, Motorised vehicles, Non intensive goat grazing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Mines
002279	Askeaton Fen Complex SAC	Alkaline fens [7230], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210]	X, J02.01.02, J01, A08, H02, A10.01, E01.03	No threats or pressures, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Fire and fire suppression, Fertilisation, Pollution to groundwater (point sources and diffuse sources), Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Dispersed habitation
002312	Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	J01, C01.03.02, G01.02, A04.03, C01.01, G01.03.02, J02.01, A04, B02, D01.01, G05.01	Fire and fire suppression, Mechanical removal of peat, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Sand and gravel extraction , Off-road motorized driving, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Grazing, Forest and Plantation management & use, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Trampling, overuse

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002316	Ratty River Cave SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Caves not open to the public [8310]	E06.01, A04, A10.01	Demolishment of buildings & human structures , Grazing, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub
002318	Knockanira House SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	A04	Grazing
002319	Kilkishen House SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	A10.01, A04, E06.01	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Grazing, Demolishment of buildings & human structures
002351	Moanveanlagh Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110]	E03.01, X, A01, I01, C01.03, J02.01, D01.01, J01, A04	Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, No threats or pressures, Cultivation, Invasive non-native species, Peat extraction, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Fire and fire suppression, Grazing
004028	Blackwater Estuary SPA	Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]	F02.03, A04, D01.02, F03.01, G01.01, A08, E01	Leisure fishing, Grazing, Roads, motorways, Hunting, Nautical sports, Fertilisation, Urbanised areas, human habitation
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193]	F02.03, A08, G01.01, F03.01	Leisure fishing, Fertilisation, Nautical sports, Hunting
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	Scaup (Aythya marila) [A062], Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Shoveler	D03.02, E03, F01, G01.01, A08, E01, E02	Shipping lanes, Discharges, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Nautical sports, Fertilisation, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Industrial or commercial areas

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		(Anas clypeata) [A056], Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]		
004094	Blackwater Callows SPA	Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]	E01, A04, F02.03, A08	Urbanised areas, human habitation, Grazing, Leisure fishing, Fertilisation
004095	Kilcolman Bog SPA	Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	K01.03, G03, J02.05, A08	Drying out, Interpretative centres, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Fertilisation
004161	Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]	D01.01, D01.02, E01.03, B, C01.03, A09	Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Roads, motorways, Dispersed habitation, Sylviculture, forestry, Peat extraction, Irrigation
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]	E01.03, D01.02, B, D01.01, A04, C01.03	Dispersed habitation, Roads, motorways, Sylviculture, forestry, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Grazing, Peat extraction

Appendix 1 - Table 3 Known threats and pressures related to the qualifying interests from each Special Area of Conservation as per article 17 reporting from the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (Vertigo moulinsiana)	[1016]	Loss of riverside and canalside habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Freshwater Pearl Mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera)	[1029]	In stream works, hydrological and morphological alterations, sediment and enrichment, pollution due urbanisation etc. 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.
Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia)	[1065]	Declines in habitat quality lead to species decline.	Habitat management; land use change and drainage.
White-clawed Crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes)	[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.
Sea Lamprey(Petromyzon marinus)	[1095]	Barriers to upstream migration (e.g. weirs), 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.
Brook Lamprey (Lampetra planeri)	[1096]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
River Lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis)	[1099]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
Twaite Shad (Alosa fallax fallax)	[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.
Salmon (Salmo salar)	[1106]	Marine survival rates are of concern for the populations.	Disease, parasites and barriers to movement.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	[1110]	None identified by the NPWS in the 2019 publication of the Status of EU protected habitats and species in Ireland.	None identified.
Estuaries	[1130]	Pollution, fishing /aquaculture and habitat quality.	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity
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.
Coastal lagoons	[1150]	Eutrophication. Modification of hydrological glow and drainage.	Erosion and silting up. Accumulation of seaweed. Land use management resulting in hydrological interactions.
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.
Reefs	[1170]	Professional fishing; taking for fauna; taking for flora; water pollution; climate change; and change in species composition.	Sensitive to disturbance and 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.
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.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Lesser horseshoe bat(Rhinolophus hipposideros)	[1303]	Habitat availability, range and roost availability.	Temperature fluctuations in their roosts. Resource availability. Habitat connectivity. Lighting and noise effects. Urbanisation.
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.
Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	[1330]	Overgrazing; erosion; invasive species, particularly common cordgrass (Spartina anglica); infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Overgrazing, erosion and accretion.
Bottlenose Dolphin (Tursiops truncatus)	[1349]	Pressures acting on the species in Irish waters mainly involve commercial vessel-based activities such as impacts arising from geophysical seismic exploration or from local/regional prey removal from fisheries.	Large vessel movement effecting distributions. Prey availability, reduction in available habitat and water quality.
Otter (Lutra lutra)	[1355]	Decrease in water quality: Use of pesticides; fertilization; vegetation removal; professional fishing (including lobster pots and fyke nets); hunting; 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.
Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	[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.
Killarney Fern (Trichomanes speciosum)	[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.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
River Nore Freshwater Pearl Mussel (Margaritifera durrovensis)	[1990]	In stream works, hydrological and morphological alterations, sediment and enrichment, pollution due urbanisation etc. 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.
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.
Water courses of plain to montane levels with vegetation(Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion)	[3260]	Hydrological and morphological changes, water quality, enrichment, and surface water discharges from industrial site and/or agriculture.	Surface water dependent Highly sensitive to hydrological change and direct physical interactions.
Rivers with muddy banks with vegetation(Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p.)	[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.
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	[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.
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.
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.
Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	[5130]	Overgrazing, erosion, scrub clearance, inappropriate land use management, and succession processes.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Calaminarian grasslands of the Murawy galmanowa(Violetalia calaminariae)	[6130]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia)* important orchid sites	[6210]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	[6230]	Bracken encroachment, succession, inappropriate grazing, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	[6410]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	[6430]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Active raised bogs	[7110]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	[7120]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Blanket bogs (* if active bog)	[7130]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Transition mires and quaking bogs	[7140]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	[7150]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface and ground water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Calcareous fens with species of mariscus sedge and bog cotton (Cladium mariscus and Caricion davallianae)	[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.
Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	[7220]	Ground water interactions, on site management activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
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.
Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)	[8110]	Overgrazing, undergrazing and succession were recorded as medium-importance pressures in this reporting period, and Structure and functions were again assessed as Inadequate, the trend is considered to be stable rather than improving. This change is due to improved knowledge and the habitat is considered to have been stable since before the last assessment.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8210]	Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8220]	Pressures associated with the non-native invasive species New Zealand willowherb (Epilobium brunnescens).	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Limestone pavements	[8240]	Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Caves not open to the public	[8310]	Cave systems are mainly protected for the Lesser Horseshoe bat which require stable temperatures and limited disturbances. None reported to be significant.	None identified.
Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum 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.
Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	[91J0]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.

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

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A017	Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo carbo	C03, F02, F03, G01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A038	Whooper Swan	Cygnus cygnus	A02, A11, C03, D02, G01, H07	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Other forms of pollution
A046	Light-Bellied Brent Goose	Branta bernicla hrota	A02, A11, C03, D02, F01, G01, G05, H03, H07, I01, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Other Human intrusions and disturbances , Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Invasive non-native species, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A048	Common Shelduck	Tadorna tadorna	F01, F02, G01, H03, M01	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Changes in abiotic conditions
A050	Eurasian Wigeon	Anas penelope	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, I01, J02, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Invasive non-native species, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A052	Eurasian Teal	Anas crecca crecca	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A054	Northern Pintail	Anas acuta	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A056	Northern Shoveler	Anas clypeata	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution
A061	Tufted Duck	Aythya fuligula	C03, F03, G01, H01, H07, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Other forms of pollution, Changes in biotic conditions
A062	Greater Scaup	Aythya marila	C03, F01, F02, F03, G01, H01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution
A067	Common Goldeneye	Bucephala clangula	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Changes in biotic conditions
A082	Hen Harrier	Circus cyaneus	A02, B01, B02, C01, C03, F03, G01, I01, J01, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Forest planting on open ground, Forest and Plantation management & use, Mining and quarrying, Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species, Fire and Fire suppression, Other Ecosystem Modifications

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A137	Common Ringed Plover	Charadrius hiaticula	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A140	European Golden Plover	Pluvialis apricaria	A02, A04, B01, C01, C03, F01, G01, H03, J01, K03, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Forest planting on open ground, Mining and quarrying, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Fire and Fire suppression, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
A141	Grey Plover	Pluvialis squatarola	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A142	Lapwing	Vanellus vanellus	A02, C03, F01, G01, H03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A143	Knot	Calidris canutus	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A149	Dunlin	Calidris alpina	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A156	Black-Tailed Godwit	Limosa limosa islandica	A02, C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A157	Bar-Tailed Godwit	Limosa lapponica	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A160	Curlew	Numenius arquata	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A162	Common Redshank	Tringa totanus	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A164	Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia	C03, F01, G01, H03, J02, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Changes in abiotic conditions
A179	Black-Headed Gull	Larus ridibundus	A04, C03, F02, H03, J03, M01	Grazing, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A193	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	C03, D01, D03, G01, I01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Shipping lanes, ports, marine constructions, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species

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APPENDIX 2

Relationship with other plans and programmes

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

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)	• 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.	• 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 Climate Action 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)	• Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.	• All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	• 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.	• 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.	the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	• 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.	• 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 Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)	• 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.	• 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 Climate Action 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 Bathing Water Directive (revised) 2006 [2006/7/EC]	The purpose of this Directive is to preserve, protect and improve the quality of the environment and to protect human health by complementing Directive 2000/60/EC	This Directive lays down provisions for: • the monitoring and classification of bathing water quality; • the management of bathing water quality; and • the provision of information to the public on bathing water quality	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)	Reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and - preventing further such pollution.	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: • a limit on the amount of livestock manure applied to the land each year	Implementation of the Climate Action 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

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• set periods when land spreading is prohibited due to risk • set capacity levels for the storage of livestock manure	framework for environmental protection and management.
Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions. Transposed by:	The purpose of this Directive is lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection.	The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors: • energy; • metal production and processing; • minerals; • chemicals; • waste management; • and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs. All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC	• 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).	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
EU Renewable Energy Directive (EU/2018/2001)	• This Directive sets an overall European renewable energy target of 32% by 2030 and includes rules to ensure the uptake of renewables in the transport sector and in heating and cooling. • The directive sets common principles and rules for renewable energy support schemes, sustainability criteria for biomass and the right to produce and consume renewable energy and to establish renewable energy communities. • It also establishes rules to remove barriers, stimulate investments and drive cost reductions in renewable energy technologies and empowers citizens and businesses to participate in the clean energy transformation.	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Directive 2018/2001 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (recast)	This Directive establishes a common framework for the promotion of energy from renewable sources. It sets a binding European Union target for the overall share of energy from renewable sources in the Union's gross final consumption of energy in 2030: Member States shall collectively ensure that the share of energy from renewable sources in the Union's gross final consumption of energy in 2030 is at least 32%. Support schemes for energy from renewable sources shall be adopted by Member States.	The Directive lays down rules on financial support for electricity from renewable sources, on self-consumption of such electricity, on the use of energy from renewable sources in the heating and cooling sector and in the transport sector, on regional cooperation between Member States, and between Member States and third countries, on guarantees of origin, on administrative procedures and on information and training. It also establishes sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria for biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels. The latter include fuels produced from waste, from agricultural biomass and from forest biomass.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	Provisions on joint projects between Member States and between Member States and third countries are laid down too.	The Commission shall monitor the origin of biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels consumed in the European Union and the impact of their production, including the impact as a result of displacement, on land use in the Union and in the main third countries of supply.	
Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (2014/94/EU)	This Directive establishes a common framework of measures for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure in the Union in order to minimise dependence on oil and to mitigate the environmental impact of transport.	This Directive sets out minimum requirements for the building-up of alternative fuels infrastructure, including recharging points for electric vehicles and 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 Climate Action 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.
Energy Efficiency Directive (EU) 2023/1791	The new directive introduces a series of measures to help accelerate energy efficiency, including embracing the "energy efficiency first" principle in the energy and non-energy policies.	• Establishing an EU legally-binding target to reduce the EU's final energy consumption by 11.7% by 2030 (relative to the 2020 reference scenario). This includes for each Member State the requirement to set its indicative national contribution based on objective criteria reflecting national circumstances. If the national contributions do not add up to the EU target, an ambition gap mechanism is applied by the Commission. • Increasing annual energy savings from 0.8% (at present) to 1.3% (2024-2025), then 1.5% (2026-2027) and 1.9% from 2028 onwards. That's an average of 1.49% of new annual savings for the period from 2024-2030. • Obliging Member States to prioritise vulnerable customers and social housing within the scope of their energy savings measures.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Introducing an annual energy consumption reduction target of 1.9% for the public sector as a whole. • Extending the annual 3% buildings renovation obligation to all the levels of public administration. • Introducing a different approach, based on energy consumption, for business to have an energy management system or to carry out an energy audits. • Bringing in a new obligation to monitor the energy performance of data centres, with an EU-level database collecting and publishing data. • Promoting local heating & cooling plans in larger municipalities. • Progressively increasing the efficient energy consumption in heat or cold supply, also in district heating.	
EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)	This Directive lays down rules for the prevention of major accidents which involve dangerous substances, and the limitation of their consequences for human health and the environment, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection throughout the Union in a consistent and effective manner.	• 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: • 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 Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
EU Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (2014/89/EU)	This Directive establishes a framework for maritime spatial planning aimed at promoting the sustainable growth of maritime economies, the sustainable development of marine areas and the sustainable use of marine resources.	• Each Member State shall establish and implement maritime spatial planning. • In doing so, Member States shall take into account land-sea interactions. • The resulting plan or plans shall be developed and produced in accordance with the institutional and governance levels determined by Member States. This Directive shall not interfere with Member States' competence to design and determine the format and content of that plan or those plans. • Maritime spatial planning shall aim to contribute to the objectives listed in Article 5 and fulfil the requirements laid down in Articles 6 and 8. • When establishing maritime spatial planning, Member States shall have due regard to the particularities of the marine regions, relevant existing and future activities and uses and their impacts on the environment, as well as to natural resources, and shall also take into account land-sea interactions. • Member States may include or build on existing national policies, regulations or mechanisms that have been or are being established before the entry into force of this Directive, provided they are in conformity with the requirements of this Directive.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009	• Aims to provide the legal mechanism to help ensure clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas by putting in place a new system for improved management and protection of the marine and coastal environment.	The Marine Act comprises eight key elements: • Marine Management Organisation (MMO) • Strategic Marine Planning System • Streamlined Marine Licensing System • Marine Nature Conservation • Fisheries Management and Marine Enforcement	Implementation of the Climate Action 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

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Migratory and Freshwater Fisheries • Coastal Access • Coastal and Estuarine Management	framework for environmental protection and management.
Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 - Bringing nature back into our lives (European Commission, 2020)	The EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030 is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan to protect nature and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. The strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030, and contains specific actions and commitments.	The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including: • Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at • sea, building upon existing Natura 2000 areas, with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value. • An EU Nature Restoration Plan - a series of concrete commitments and actions to restore degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, and manage them sustainably, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss. • A set of measures to enable the necessary transformative change: setting in motion a new, strengthened governance framework to ensure better implementation and track progress, improving knowledge, financing and investments and better respecting nature in public and business decision making. • Measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge, demonstrating that the EU is ready to lead by example towards the successful adoption of an ambitious global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
EU Green Infrastructure Strategy	Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.	• 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 Climate Action 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 Cultural and Natural Heritage	• links concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties; and • recognizes the way in which people interact with nature, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two.	• sets out the duties of States Parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them; • each country pledges to conserve not only the World Heritage sites situated on its territory, but also to protect its national heritage; • encourages to integrate the protection of the cultural and natural heritage into regional planning programmes, set up staff and services at their sites, undertake scientific and technical conservation research and adopt measures which give this heritage a function in the day-to-day life of the community.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action 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) The Convention on Biological Diversity	An overall objective is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	The Convention has three main goals: • 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.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
			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.	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.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action 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)	The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. 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. At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal.	• 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 Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	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.		
EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package	• 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.	Four pieces of complimentary legislation: • 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 Climate Action 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	• 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.	• To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030: • 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 Climate Action 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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The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC) (EU Air Framework Directive) **Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)**	• The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive). • Sets new air quality objectives for PM2.5 (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives. • Accounts for the possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values. • Allows the possibility for time extensions of three years (PM_{10}) or up to five years (NO_2, 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.	• Sets objectives for ambient air quality designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole. • 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	The Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source.	The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to: • 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	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise. 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.	
Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)	• 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	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	• 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.	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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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	• Promote sustainable water usage. • The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: • The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive • Sampling Drinking Water Directive • Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive • Shellfish Directive • Freshwater Fish Directive • Groundwater Directive • Dangerous Substances Directive	• Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas. • Recover costs for water services.	
Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)	• Protect, control and conserve groundwater. • Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater. • Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals.	• Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive. • Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Drinking Water Directive (2020/2184)	• The recast Drinking Water Directive is the EU's main law on drinking water. It concerns the access to and the quality of water intended for human consumption to protect human health.	Key features of the revised Directive are: • reinforced water quality standards, in line or, in some cases, even more stringent than the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommendations • tackling emerging pollutants, such as endocrine disruptors and PFAs, as well as microplastics	Implementation of the Climate Action 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

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	• The EU adopted the recast Drinking Water Directive in December 2020 and the Directive entered into force in January 2021. Member States have to transpose the Directive into national law and comply with its provisions by 12 January 2023. The recast Drinking Water Directive will further protect human health thanks to updated water quality standards, tackling pollutants of concern, such as endocrine disruptors and microplastics, and leading to even cleaner water from the tap for all.	• a preventive approach favouring actions to reduce pollution at source by introducing the risk-based approach • measures to ensure better access to water, particularly for vulnerable and marginalised groups • measures to promote tap water, including in public spaces and restaurants, to reduce (plastic) bottle consumption • harmonisation of the quality standards for materials and products in contact with water • measures to reduce water leakages and to increase transparency of the sector	the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)	• 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.	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC and Directive 2013/30/EU	Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage.	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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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		• Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures. • Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7. • The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive. • The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator. • The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met. • The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives that are not of significant relevance to the SEA for the Guidelines. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing • knowledge and new needs.	

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Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC), as amended	The aim of the European Union's ambitious Marine Strategy Framework Directive is to protect more effectively the marine environment across Europe.	The Directive provides various requirements, including: • Completion of an initial assessment of Irish marine waters; • Establishment of establish environmental targets and indicators; • Establishment of a monitoring programme; • Establishment of a programme of measures; and • Implementation of the programme of measures and monitoring programme. Implementation of the Directive is contributed towards by a set of detailed criteria and methodological standards that were revised in 2017 leading to a Commission Decision on "laying down criteria and methodological standards on good environmental status of marine waters and specifications and standardised methods for monitoring and assessment, and repealing Decision 2010/477/EU". Annex III "Indicative lists of characteristics, pressures and impacts" of the Directive was amended in 2017.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)	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.	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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		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.	
Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)	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.	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes ('Dublin Principles')	It is aimed to assist in the documentation, protection, conservation and appreciation of industrial heritage as part of the heritage of human societies around the World.	• (I) Document and understand industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes and their values; • (II) Ensure effective protection and conservation of the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; • (III) Conserve and maintain the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; and • (IV) Present and communicate the heritage dimensions and values of industrial structures, sites, areas and landscapes to raise public and corporate awareness, and support training and research.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action 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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Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro 2005)	• 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.	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Landscape Convention 2000	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.	• Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. • Organise European co-operation on landscape issues.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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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The Seventh Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community (2013-2020)	It identifies three key objectives: • 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	Four so called "enablers" will help Europe deliver on these objectives (goals): • 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. • Two additional horizontal priority objectives complete the programme: • To make the Union's cities more sustainable. • To help the Union address international environmental and climate challenges more effectively.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats)	The convention has three main aims: • 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	The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also: • 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 Caucus. • 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest.	
Cancun Agreements (2010)	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: • Mitigation • Transparency of actions • Technology • Finance • Adaptation • Forests • Capacity building	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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Doha Climate Gateway (2012)	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.	• The following actions were committed to by governments at this conference: • 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
EU Common Agricultural Policy	• 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.	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006)(as amended)	Aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances.	The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely: • Registration, • Evaluation, • Authorisation; and • Restriction of chemicals. REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Stockholm Convention	The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.	• 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	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• 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	
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: • 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 Climate Action 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.
OSPAR Convention	The mission of OSPAR is to conserve marine ecosystems and safeguard human health in the North-East Atlantic by preventing and eliminating pollution; by protecting the marine environment from the adverse effects of human activities; and by contributing to the sustainable use of the seas.	OSPAR's work is organised under six strategies: • Biodiversity and Ecosystem Strategy • Eutrophication Strategy • Hazardous Substances Strategy • Offshore Industry Strategy • Radioactive Substances Strategy • Strategy for the Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme These six strategies fit together to underpin the ecosystem approach. For each strategy a programme of work is designed and implemented annually.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
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: • 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: 1. 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed; 2. 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D; 3. the "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right); 4. the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree; 5. 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.	• 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	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action 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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EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package	Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU.	The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030, and contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Commission's Communication on the energy transition of the fisheries and aquaculture sector as part of its Fisheries Policy Package	The main objectives of the measures defined in this communication are to promote the use of cleaner energy sources and reduce dependency on fossil fuels in the fisheries and aquaculture sector, in line with one of the ambitions of the European Green Deal to reach climate neutrality in the EU by 2050.	The communication defines various measures to support the sector in accelerating its energy transition, by improving fuel efficiency and switching to renewable, low-carbon power sources. A summary of the measures broadly proposed by the communication is presented below: • Creation of an Energy Transition Partnership for EU Fisheries and Aquaculture for the purpose of promoting collaboration and stakeholder engagement • Promotion of new innovative technologies and ways of operating • Improving energy efficiency Moving to renewable and zero or low-carbon energy sources (e.g. use of alternative fuels).	The communication noted the current dependency of the sector on fossil fuel based energy (e.g., marine diesel). It defines a vision for climate-neutral fisheries and aquaculture.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
National Level			
Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, the National Planning Framework, and the National Development Plan (2021 - 2030)	• The National Planning Framework is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of to the year 2040. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for people, and to protect and enhance the environment - from villages to cities, and everything around and in between. • The National Development Plan sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the successful implementation of the new National Planning Framework. This will guide national, regional and local planning and investment decisions in Ireland over the next two decades, to cater for an expected population increase of over 1 million people.	The National Planning Framework published alongside the National Development Plan yields ten National Strategic Outcomes as follows: 1. Compact Growth 2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility 3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities 4. Sustainable Mobility 5. A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills 6. High-Quality International Connectivity 7. Enhanced Amenity and Heritage 8. Transition to a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Society 9. Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources 10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040 [In Preparation]	The PLUTO will take account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies and will: • Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term; • Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and,	In preparation.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	• Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040.		
Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)	The core principal objectives of this Act are to amend the Planning Acts of 2000 – 2022 with specific regard given to supporting economic renewal and sustainable development.	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011	• The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.	• 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).	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011, as amended)	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.	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Waste Management Act 1996, as amended	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.	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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009 (S.I 296 of 2009)	The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels	Actions: • Set environmental quality objectives for the habitats of the freshwater pearl mussel populations named in the First Schedule to these Regulations that are within the boundaries of a site notified in a candidate list of European sites, or designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 94/1997). • Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of measures to achieve these objectives. • Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2016 (S.I. No. 366 of 2016)	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.	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. • 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	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• 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	
S.I. No. 113/2022 - European Union (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2022	The purpose of the Regulations is to provide a basic set of measures to ensure the protection of waters, including drinking water sources, against pollution caused by nitrogen and phosphorus from agricultural sources, with the primary emphasis on the management of livestock manures and other fertilisers. The set of measures also provide some basic safeguards against possible harmful impacts on water quality arising from agricultural expansion. This basic set of measures has been strengthened over the last two reviews and this new programme provides a further strengthened set of measures to help reduce nitrogen and phosphorus losses from agriculture and contribute to improvements in water quality.	The Regulations include measures such as: • 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 legislation transport the Industrial Emissions Directive: • Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992, amended by the Protection of the Environment Act 2003; and	The purpose of this Directive is lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection. This legislation transposes the provision of the Directive	The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors: • energy; • metal production and processing; • minerals; • chemicals; • waste management;	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
• Environmental Protection Agency (Integrated Pollution Control) (Licensing) Regulations 2013. • European Union (Environmental Impact Assessment)(Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992)(Amendment) Regulations 2020 • Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 2020. • European Union (Industrial Emissions) Regulations 2013 • Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing)Regulations 2013. • Environmental Protection Agency (Licensing Fees) Regulations 2013		• and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs. All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.	
Bathing Water Quality Regulations 2008 (S.I. 79 of 2008)	These Regulations provide for transposition of the EU Bathing Water Directive 2006 (Directive 2006/7/EC of 15 February 2006) which aims: • To improve health protection for bathers	• The Regulations establish a new classification system for bathing water quality based on four classifications "poor", "sufficient", "good" and "excellent" and generally require that a classification of at least "sufficient" be achieved by 2015 for all bathing waters.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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

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	• To establish a more pro-active approach to management of bathing waters, and • To promote increased public involvement and dissemination of information to the public.	• Local authorities must take appropriate measures with a view to improving waters which are classified as "poor" and increasing the number of bathing waters classified as "good" or "excellent". • A permanent advice against bathing must be issued in a case where a bathing water is classified as "poor" for five consecutive years. • Local authorities are required annually to identify bathing waters, establish a monitoring calendar, carry out the specified monitoring, report the results to the EPA, carry out appropriate management measures where necessary and provide information to the public. • There must be public participation in the identification of waters and the general implementation of the Regulations. • The EPA is required by the Regulations to classify bathing waters, generally on the basis of the monitoring results for the four preceding bathing seasons, and to publish an annual report in relation to bathing water quality. • Monitoring by local authorities is to commence not later than 2011 with a view to ensuring that a classification is assigned to bathing waters not later than 2015. • Private controllers of access lands may be required to contribute towards the costs incurred by a local authority or the EPA.	the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Bathing Water Quality (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (S.I 351 of 2011)	This Regulation defines further the minimum number of bathing water samples required to carry out a bathing water quality assessment.	Further defines the minimum number of bathing water samples required to carry out a bathing water quality assessment.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021	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.	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: • 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Climate Action Plan 2023	The Climate Action Plan 2023 provides a detailed plan for taking decisive action to achieve a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and setting Ireland on a path to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Programme for Government and set out in the Climate Act 2021.	The Plan lists the actions needed to deliver on our climate targets and sets indicative ranges of emissions reductions for each sector of the economy. It will be updated annually, to ensure alignment with Ireland's legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral ceilings	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Ireland's Second National Implementation Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals (2022 - 2024)	• National Implementation Plan 2022 - 2024 is in direct response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a whole-of-government approach to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). • The first version of the Plan (2018 – 2020) provided a 'SDG Matrix' which identifies the responsible Government Departments for each of the 169 targets. It also included a 'SDG Policy Map' indicating the relevant national policies for each of the targets.	The Plan identifies five strategic objectives to guide implementation: • To embed the SDG framework into the work of Government Departments to achieve greater Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development; • To integrate the SDGs into Local Authority work to better support the localisation of the SDGs; • Greater partnerships for the Goals; • To further incorporate the principle of Leave No One Behind into Ireland's Agenda 2030 implementation and reporting mechanisms; and • Strong reporting mechanisms	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Clean Air Strategy for Ireland (2023)	The Clean Air Strategy provides the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives.	• Through this document Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation. • The Strategy should also help tackle climate change. • The Strategy considers a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture. • In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people's health is paramount, this is a strong theme of the Strategy.	Implementation of the Guidelines 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.
EirGrid 's Grid25 Strategy and associated Grid25 Implementation Programme 2017 - 2022	• EirGrid 's mission is to develop, maintain and operate a safe, secure, reliable, economical and efficient transmission system for Ireland. • "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."	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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018)	• 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.	• 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,	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	• 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.	• domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity; • Greenways that provide a substantially segregated offroad experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; • Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and • Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice.	
National Water Resources Plan (2021)	• 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.	The key objectives of the plan are to: • 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	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Draft National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Development 2030 [Awaiting publication]	This multi-annual National Strategic Plan Sustainable Aquaculture Development (2022 – 2030) (NSPSA) overlaps with the EU's new 'Strategic guidelines for a more sustainable and competitive EU aquaculture for the period 2021 to 2030', as well as the programming period (2021 to 2027) of the European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF). As such, this plan provides the strategic vision and framework for funding under EMFAF, as well as other EU and national initiatives.	• Develop 'Designated Marine Area Plans' (DMAPs) for aquaculture to ensure that the sector is championed in Ireland's Marine Spatial Plan to facilitate investment in different forms of sustainable aquaculture. • More vigilant and responsive monitoring if aquatic diseases and food safety risks. • Develop a comprehensive human capacity plan for Irish aquaculture to promote the sector as an attractive career option, develop leadership, management and business capacity in the sector and provide the necessary skills required over the strategy time period. • Provide coordinated messaging on the sustainable, low carbon nature of Irish aquaculture production, supported by independent certification and open dialogue.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector	• Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry. • The Strategy aims both to increase the capacity of the sector to create and maintain jobs, and to deliver a sustainable sector, operating at an appropriate level. It seeks to learn the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated.	This Strategy therefore addresses issues including: • A strategic approach to the provision of housing, based on real and measured needs, with mechanisms in place to detect and act when things are going wrong; • Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements; • The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects; • Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms; • Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety;	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• 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.	
National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and **National Landscape Character Assessment**	• The National Landscape Strategy will be used to ensure compliance with the European Landscape Convention and to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change. It will provide a high level policy framework to achieve balance between the protection, management and planning of the landscape by way of supporting actions. • Landscape Strategy Vision: "Our landscape reflects and embodies our cultural values and our shared natural heritage and contributes to the well-being of our society, environment and economy. We have an obligation to ourselves and to future generations to promote its sustainable protection, management and planning."	The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to: • 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2021 - 2027	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. 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: • 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.	The revised Plan makes 20 recommendations under the following topics: • Policy and Regulation • Prevention • Collection and Treatment • Implementation	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
National Ports Policy 2013	The core objective of National Ports Policy is to facilitate a competitive and effective market for maritime transport services.	National Ports Policy introduces clear categorisation of the ports sector into Ports of National Significance (Tier 1), Ports of National Significance (Tier 2) and Ports of Regional Significance.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Aviation Policy 2015	Specifically, the principal goals of this National Aviation Policy are: • To enhance Ireland's connectivity by ensuring safe, secure and competitive access responsive to the needs of business, tourism and consumers; • To foster the growth of aviation enterprise in Ireland to support job creation and position Ireland as a recognised global leader in aviation; and • To maximise the contribution of the aviation sector to Ireland's economic growth and development.	The National Aviation Policy commits to: • Maintaining safety as the number one priority in Irish aviation and ensuring that safety regulation is robust, effective and efficient; • Creating conditions to encourage the development of new routes and services, particularly to new and emerging markets; • Ensuring a high level of competition among airlines operating in the Irish market; • Optimising the operation of the Irish airport network to ensure maximum connectivity to the rest of the world; • Ensuring that the regulatory framework for aviation reflects best international practice and that economic regulation facilitates continued investment in aviation infrastructure at Irish airports to support traffic growth; • Supporting the aircraft leasing and aviation finance sectors to maintain Ireland's leading global position in these spheres; and • Maintaining a safe and innovative general aviation sector to support Ireland's broader aviation industry	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines	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.	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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025	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."	These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive: • 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	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Marine Planning Framework 2021	The NMPF is a key consideration for decision makers on all marine authorisations. The NMPF creates the overarching framework for decision making that is consistent, evidence based, and secures a sustainable future for the maritime area.	The National Marine Planning Framework is a succinct strategic document that will deal with, inter alia, the following environmental, social and economic issues: • Key marine activities such as fisheries, tourism, transport, offshore renewable energy generation, oil and gas exploration and production, aquaculture, and how they interact; • Climate change and related impacts; • Communities and health; • Cultural heritage; • Marine environment and biodiversity;	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Transboundary interactions with other jurisdictions.	
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: • 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.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Strategy for Northern Ireland: 10 Year Plan	• This Strategy will be published in 2024. • The plan sets out a 10-year plan for the growth of the tourism sector in Northern Ireland., with an aim to increase the value of tourism to the economy by 50-75% compared to 2019. • Vision is to "Establish Northern Ireland as a year-round world class destination which is renowned for its authentic experiences, landscape, heritage and culture and which benefits communities, the economy and the environment, with sustainability at its core."	The strategic goals and core themes of the Strategy are: • Innovative • Inclusive • Sustainable • Attractive • Collaborative The document identifies the key challenges and drivers for growth.	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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
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.	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 Climate Action 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 Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) 2021	• NIFTI is the Department of Transport's framework for prioritising future investment in the land transport network to support the delivery of the National Strategic Outcomes. • The NIFTI will guide transport investment in the years ahead to enable the National Planning Framework, support the Climate Action Plan, and promote social, environmental and economic outcomes throughout Ireland.	The four investment priorities stated in NIFTI are: • Mobility of people and goods in urban areas. • Protection and renewal. • Enhanced regional and rural connectivity. • Decarbonisation.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans (including transport)	NAF specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities in their administrative areas in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur	• Adaptation under this Framework should seek to minimise costs and maximise the opportunities arising from climate change. • Adaptation actions range from building adaptive capacity (e.g. increasing awareness, sharing information and targeted training) through to policy and finance based actions. • Adaptation actions must be risk based, informed by existing vulnerabilities of our society and systems and an understanding of projected climate change.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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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		• Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance	
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: • 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 Climate Action 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**	The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna.	• 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 Climate Action 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	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.	• 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 ecosystems services. • To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider countryside.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• 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.	
National Broadband Plan (2012)	Sets out the strategy to deliver high speed broadband throughout Ireland.	The Plan sets out: • A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High Speed Broadband. • Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered. • The strategy and interventions that will underpin the successful implementation of these targets. • A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009)	• Sets out comprehensive mechanisms for the incorporation of flood risk identification, assessment and management into the planning process. • Ensures flood risk is a key consideration in preparing land use plans and in the assessment of planning applications. • Implementation of the Guidelines is through actions at national, regional, local authority and site-specific levels. • Planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are required to have regard to the Guidelines in carrying out their functions under the Planning Acts.	• Avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding. • Avoid new developments increasing flood risk elsewhere, including that which may arise from surface water run-off. • Ensure effective management of residual risks for development permitted in floodplains. • Avoid unnecessary restriction of national, regional or local economic and social growth. • Improve the understanding of flood risk among relevant stakeholders.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Ensure that the requirements of EU and national law in relation to the natural environment and nature conservation • are complied with at all stages of flood risk management. The 2009 Flood Risk Management Guidelines were amended by Circular PL 2/2014 (Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government) that provides advice on the use of OPW flood mapping in assessing planning applications and clarifies some advice from the 2009 Guidelines.	
European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of 2003) **European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014)** **European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009)(as amended)**	• 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.	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality.	
Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 to 1990	The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division.	The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to: • 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Water Services Act 2007 **Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012** **Water Services Act (No. 2) 2013** **Water Services Act 2017**	• Provides the water services infrastructure. • Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services. • Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and wastewater supply.	Key strategic objectives include: • Ensuring Irish Water delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector. • Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services. • Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards	Implementation of the Guidelines 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	• 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.	• Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary wastewater treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive. • Promoting water conservation through Irish Water's Capital Investment Plan, the Rural Water Programme and other measures. • Monitoring the on-going implementation of septic tanks inspection regime and the National Inspection Plan for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems. • Ensuring a fair funding model to deliver water services. • Overseeing the establishment of an economic regulation function under the CER.	
Irish Water's (now known as Uisce Eireann) Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and associated Proposed Capital Investment Plan (2020 - 2024)	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: • 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 Climate Action 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 2017 - 2022	Aims to meet nature conservation obligations while having regard to national and local economic, social and cultural needs	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• 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.	
Food Harvest 2020	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.	Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Climate Action 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)**	• 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.	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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

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Green, Low-Carbon, Agri- environment Scheme (GLAS)		• Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans. • Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage.	framework for environmental protection and management.
National Rural Development Programme	The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas	At a more detailed level, the programme also: • 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 Climate Action 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.
Forestry Programme 2023 – 2027	The new Forestry Programme 2023-2027 came into force in 2023, as soon as State Aid approval by the European Commission has been received. The new Programme sets out increased support for a number of schemes.	The proposed Forestry Programme 2023-2027 contains a series of eight different interventions: • Forest creation; • Agroforestry; • Infrastructure and technology investments; • Sustainable forest management; • Developing skills and empowering the forest sector for sustainable forest management; • Open forests - social, cultural and heritage forests; • Climate resilient reforestation; • Reconstruction.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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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River Basin Management Plan	River Basin Management Plans set out the measures planned to maintain and improve the status of waters.	• 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)	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.	Objectives of the Strategy: • 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 responsible. • 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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		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.	
Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme	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.	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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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) 2016	Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2018/2001: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.	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.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 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	Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: • AFV forecasts • Electricity targets • Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets • Hydrogen targets	Implementation of the Climate Action 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

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	alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.	• Biofuels targets • LPG targets • Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets	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: • 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 Climate Action 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	• This National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport represents the first step in communicating our longer term national vision for decarbonising transport by 2050, the cornerstone of which is our ambition that by 2030 all new cars and vans sold in Ireland will be zero-emissions capable. • By 2030 it is envisaged that the movement in Ireland to electrically-fuelled cars and commuter rail will be well underway, with natural gas and biofuels developing as major alternatives in the freight and bus sectors.	This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport: • Reduce overall travel demand • Maximise the efficiency of the transport network • Reduce reliance on fossil fuels • Reduce transport emissions • Improve accessibility to transport These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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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National Coastal Change Management Strategy	The Government has adopted a policy to assess and manage coastal flood risk with regard to both existing risk and the potential impacts of climate change. This strategy will: • Provide a framework to determine the key decisions to be taken on how Ireland could best manage its coast, being aware of the future risks and the associated planning requirements. • Provide a framework to best inform both where and how decisions regarding appropriate development / projects along the coast should be taken in the future, in coordination with investment in flood risk management.	Recommendations: • Enhancing governance and capacity building (a dual approach of both mitigation and adaptation measures) • Understanding the risk and identifying potential risk management options Developing management (a dual approach of both mitigation (tackling the cause) and adaptation measures) to coastal change	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.
Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage (2019)	• Heritage in Ireland ranges from private homes, commercial and public buildings, national monuments, underwater and buried archaeology and the physical and cultural settings of all of these. • This plan considers not only those structures and sites that have been statutorily listed, but all man-made assets that have historical, aesthetic and cultural value, but does not consider natural heritage.	The five adaptation goals for built and archaeological heritage in Ireland are: 1. To improve understanding of each heritage resource and its vulnerability to climate change 2. To develop and mainstream sustainable policies and plans for climate-change adaptation of built and archaeological heritage 3. To conserve Ireland's heritage for future generations 4. To communicate and transfer knowledge To exploit the opportunities for built and archaeological heritage to demonstrate value and secure resources	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

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	Aims to: • Build adaptive capacity within the sector • Reduce the vulnerability of built and archaeological heritage to climate change • Identify and capitalise on the various potential opportunities for the sector		
Heritage related legislation: • National Monuments Act 1930 as amended; • Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999; and • The Heritage Act 2018.	• Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the LACAPs. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage.	Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the LACAPs. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Regional/ County/Local Level			
Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies	The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies provide a long-term regional level strategic planning and economic framework in support of the implementation of the National Planning Framework.	The Eastern and Midland Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its 12 constituent local authorities: Fingal County Council; Dublin City Council; South Dublin County Council; Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council; Louth County Council; Kildare County Council; Meath County Council; Wicklow County Council;	Implementation of the Climate Action 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

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		Longford County Council; Laois County Council; Offaly County Council; and Westmeath County Council. The Southern Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its nine constituent local authorities: Waterford City and County Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Tipperary County Council, Wexford County Council, Kerry County Council, Clare County Council, Limerick City and County Council, Kilkenny County Council and Carlow County Council. The Northern and Western Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy includes provisions for its eight constituent local authorities: Donegal County Council, Leitrim County Council, Sligo County Council, Cavan County Council, Monaghan County Council, Mayo County Council, Roscommon County Council, and Galway County Council.	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: • 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	• 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 Climate Action 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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Groundwater Protection Schemes	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.	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 Climate Action 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.
Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028, and Local Area Plans (Abbeyfeale, Adare, Askeaton, Caherconlish, Castleconnell, Croom, Killmallock, Newcastle West, Patrickwell, Rathkeale)	• Outlines planning objectives for land use development (including transport objectives). • Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies. • Sets out the policies and proposals to guide development in the specific Local Authority area.	• Identifies future infrastructure, development and zoning required. • Protects and enhances amenities and environment. • Guides planning authority in assessing proposals. • Aims to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development. • Aims to promote sustainable development. • Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
County Landscape Character Assessments	Characterises the geographical dimension of the landscape.	• Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area. • Guides strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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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Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub- Basin Management Plans	• Identifies the current status of the species and the reason for loss or decline. • Identifies measure required to improve or restore current status.	• Identifies pressures on Freshwater Pearl Mussels for each of the designated populations in Ireland. • Outlines restoration measures required to ensure favourable conservation status.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Shellfish Pollution Reduction Programmes	Aims to improve water quality and ensure the protection or improvement of designated shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth and contribute to the high quality of shellfish products directly edible by man.	• Identifies key and secondary pressures on water quality in designated shellfish areas. • Outlines specific measures to address identified key and secondary pressures on water quality. • Addresses the specific pressures acting on water quality in each area.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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 Waste Management Plans	These plans (for the Connacht-Ulster, Southern, and Eastern-Midlands regions) 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 Climate Action 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.
Limerick City Council Biodiversity Plan	• Overall aim is "to maintain, protect and enhance the biodiversity of Limerick City for future generations and to educate and promote the importance of Limerick City's biodiversity for all"	The main objectives of the Plan are: • Reduce the use of chemical pesticides and herbicides to a practicable minimum in green areas and open spaces.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Reduce the use of chemical fertilizers to a practicable minimum. • Introduce indigenous planting schemes in parks and open spaces. • Prioritizing species which provide foods for a variety of mammals, birds and insects. • Introduce a seed saving programme for indigenous planting schemes within the City. • Introduce grass cutting regimes that enhance local biodiversity e.g. infrequently mow along edges connecting to shrubs. • Develop an awareness campaign to prevent the dumping of general and garden waste. • Recognise that even in areas with existing low maintenance regimes that some intervention may be required to maintain and enhance the biodiversity of the area. • Create additional wildflower meadows in appropriate locations	and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Limerick Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2028	The Limerick Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) is a 6-year plan for local economic development and local community development across Limerick. It is about working to achieve the sustainable development of communities in Limerick.	The document presents a Socio-Economic Statement for the LECP for Limerick. This sets out: • Statistical and other information on the social and economic profile of Limerick. • High-Level Goals of the Plan and a Vision Statement of what we want to achieve for Limerick. • Sustainable Economic Development Objectives. • Sustainable Community Development Objectives. • Sustainable Integrated Objectives – which bring together both economic and community objectives.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		The statement of objectives includes examples of types of action that could be taken and asks questions about what the priorities could be.	
Limerick Heritage Plan 2017-2030	Purpose of the Plan is to ensure that the Local Authority and the wider community focus on the need to ensure that limerick's heritage continues to be unique and diverse, while being accessible to all.	The main aims include: • To raise the awareness of appreciation for and enjoyment of Limerick City and County's heritage. • To acquire knowledge through survey and research on heritage in Limerick City and County and to make it available to the wider public in a user-friendly manner. • To promote best practice and encourage heritage conservation and management. • To support the local economy and strengthen tourism.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Limerick | Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy 2040	This Strategy sets out the framework for the delivery of the transport system required to further the development of the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area as a hub of cultural and social development and regeneration; as the economic core for the Mid-West; as an environmentally sustainable and unified metropolitan unit; as a place where people of all ages can travel conveniently and safely; and a place that attracts people, jobs and activity from all over Ireland and beyond.	The Strategic Transport Objectives of the LSMATS are as follows: 1. To prioritise investment in sustainable transport in order to reduce the reliance on the private car; 2. To provide a high level of public transport connectivity to key destinations; 3. To facilitate higher density housing a part of Transit-Oriented Developments at key points of high public transport accessibility; 4. To deliver a fully accessible and inclusive transport system; 5. To identify and protect key strategic routes for the movement of freight traffic and to improve access to Shannon-Foynes Port and Shannon Airport; 6. To improve road safety, public health and personal security; and,	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		7. To minimise the impact of motorised traffic in urban centres.	
Flood Relief Scheme for Limerick City & Environs	The objective of the scheme is to alleviate the risk of flooding to the Community of Limerick City and environs by providing a scheme that is technically, socially, environmentally and economically acceptable.	The development of the Public Realm is a major component of the Flood Relief Scheme. Where feasible, greenways and pedestrian/cycle routes will be developed in conjunction with the flood defence and where appropriate, nature-based solutions and green infrastructure will be incorporated into the scheme.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.
Limerick City and Environs Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy	The Limerick Development Plan (LDP) has established an ambitious and collective vision for Limerick in its transition to a carbon neutral society, with the aim to become "a Green City Region on the Shannon Estuary connected through people and places". This Strategy is key for delivering on this Vision.	The Strategy identifies GBI Priority Actions, underpinned by the Strategic Vision and Key Ambitions outlined within the LDP. These aim to deliver a host of multi-functional benefits and improvements to the GBI network. These are as follows: 1. Embed GBI in the implementation of Public and Private Projects. 2. Enhance existing open space provision within the Strategy Area. 3. Create new formal parks and natural & semi-natural parks to improve accessibility for a growing population. 4. Protect, value and enhance amenity green space by applying an appropriate management approach. 5. Enhance, protect and develop the network of blueways. 6. Integrate GBI in the delivery of the network of active travel routes. 7. Enhance recreational access to the River Shannon and tributaries.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		8. Develop Tree and Biodiversity Strategies for the Strategy Area. 9. Promote community engagement and raise public awareness in the development of GBI. 10. Incorporate smart mechanisms of connecting GBI initiatives with the public.	
Limerick Noise Action Plan 2018 - 2023	The 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 the Noise Action Plan is to: • 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 Climate Action 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.
Limerick Metropolitan Cycle Network Study	The purpose of this document is to promote the expansion of cycling and pedestrian infrastructure in Limerick.	The purpose of this document is to promote the expansion of cycling and pedestrian infrastructure in Limerick. A cycling network totalling 184km is proposed for the metropolitan areas, of which 103km will be cycle tracks and greenways that are fully segregated from traffic.	Implementation of the Climate Action 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.

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