

**Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) Determination
for the
Draft Limerick City and County Tourism Plan 2025-2030**

This determination whether the Draft Limerick City and County Tourism Plan 2025-2030, also referred to as the referred to as “the Draft Plan” and “the Plan”, to be adopted, would or would not necessitate the undertaking of Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment (AA) under Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended).


An accompanying Screening for AA Report has been prepared to inform this determination. As identified in that report:

- Following the source-pathway-receptor model, the QIs, SCIs and Conservation Objectives of the relevant European sites were assessed in the context of the provisions of the Draft Plan. As part of the screening assessment, all plans and projects within the area to which the Draft Plan relates and receiving environment have been considered in combination with any and all lower tier plans and projects, including those that may arise due to the implementation of the Draft Plan. No source(s) for likely significant effect on any European site assessed were identified to result from the implementation of the Draft Plan.
- The Plan is situated alongside the hierarchy of statutory documents that forms the decision-making and consent-granting framework, including the First Revision of the National Planning Framework, the Southern Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and associated Limerick-Shannon Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan and the Limerick Development Plan, all of which have been subject to legislative requirements relating to public consultation and environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment. As such, the Plan is wholly subject to the requirements of the provisions set out in these documents throughout the implementation of the Plan, including provisions relating to sustainable development, environmental protection, and environmental management that have been integrated into these documents, and does not introduce any alterations or additions to those provisions. Implementation of the Plan will comply with measures from the Development Plan and from Fáilte Ireland's Regional Development Strategies for the Wild Atlantic Way and Ireland's Hidden Heartlands.
- The Plan compiles measures that are already integrated into the existing decision-making and consent-granting framework and have already been subject to environmental assessment. Detail or measures that go beyond existing measures should be regarded either as context-setting text or as suggestions that may or may not be considered for integration into the relevant level of the decision-making and consent-granting framework – namely the Development Plan. The Plan does not provide consent or establish a framework for granting consent and does not contribute towards a framework for granting consent. The Plan is not binding on consent-related decisions. The Plan does not introduce rules, limits, or other criteria to be used in development management.
- In order to be realised, the types of projects referred to in the Plan will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier environmental assessment and other licensing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework.
- Thus, it is concluded in this Screening for AA Report to inform the competent authorities carrying out the AA Screening, that the Draft Plan is not foreseen to have any likelihood for any significant effect on any European site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects – and any likelihood for significant effect to any European site as a result of implementing Draft Plan can be ruled out.
- This evaluation is made in view of the Conservation Objectives of the QIs and SCIs for which these sites have been designated. Consequently, Stage Two AA (including the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement) is not required.

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above and in the “Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report”. The undersigned hereby determines that the Draft Limerick City and County Tourism Plan 2025-2030 to be adopted is not likely to result in significant effects on European sites, alone or in combination with any other plans, programmes, and projects etc. Consequently, Stage Two AA (including the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement) is not required.

Signatory:

Date:


5th September, 2025