FINAL, CONSOLIDATED SCREENING
FOR
APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT REPORT

FOR

PROPOSED VARIATION NO. 3
TO THE
LIMERICK DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022-2028
(AS VARIED)

THIS REPORT IS AN UPDATED VERSION OF THE ORIGINAL SCREENING FOR AA REPORT THAT WAS PLACED ON PUBLIC DISPLAY ALONGSIDE THE PROPOSED VARIATION

for: Limerick City and County Council

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Section 1 Introduction

1.1 Background

This Screening for AA report has been prepared for Proposed Variation No. 3[1] to be made to the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028, as varied, ("the Proposed Variation") 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 Proposed Variation, and will be considered, alongside other documentation prepared as part of this process, at adoption of the Proposed Variation. This report is an updated version of the original Screening for AA Report that was placed on public display alongside the Proposed Variation. It has been prepared taking into account both the Proposed Variation and any modification/alteration considered by the AA screening process.

1.2 Legislative Context

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

AA is required under articles 6(3) and 6(4) of 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 Acts 2000 and 2024 (as amended). AA is an assessment of the potential for adverse effects of a plan or project, in combination with other plans or projects, on the integrity of a European site, in view of the conservation objectives. European sites are either SACs and SPAs and provide for the protection and long-term survival of Europe's most valuable species and habitats.

1.3 The AA Process

The initial test in the AA process is to ascertain whether the Plan (or in this case, Proposed Variation to the Plan) is directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites. If the Plan (or Variation) is not directly connected with or necessary for the management of European sites, then it will proceed to the first stage of the AA process. Subsequently, 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 identified impact and their effects 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 in view of 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

[1] Incorporating the Proposed Variation and any modification/alteration considered by the AA screening process

European sites, then the process may end at this stage. However, if the likelihood of significant impacts remains, then the process must proceed to Stage Three.

Stage Three: Assessment of Alternative Solutions
The process that examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoids adverse impacts on the integrity of the European site.
Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain
An assessment of compensatory measures where, in the light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), it is deemed that the project or plan should proceed.

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

1.3.1 Is the Proposed Variation Necessary to the Management of European Sites?

The primary purpose of the Proposed Variation is not the nature conservation management of the sites, but to amend the Development Plan to implement housing requirements as per the National Planning Framework Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements Guidelines for Planning Authorities, issued under Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). These Guidelines place a statutory obligation on planning authorities to ensure that the necessary planning framework is in place including sufficient residential zoned land to facilitate the achievement of housing growth requirements over the plan period. Therefore, the Proposed Variation is not considered to be directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites and must proceed to Stage 1 AA - Screening for Appropriate Assessment.

1.4 Methods

1.4.1 Ecological desktop study

This Screening for AA is based on best scientific knowledge and ecological expertise, and is supported by desktop research on national databases including the National Biodiversity Data Centre[2], the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)[3] and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)[4] mapping websites, including the most recent Article 17[5] conservation status reporting cycle, 2025 for European sites, where required.

The ecological desktop study completed for this Screening for AA of the Proposed Variation, comprised the following elements:

- Identification of European sites within 15 km of Limerick (the area to which the Proposed Variation relates).
- Examination of European sites hydrologically linked (via direct surface water connection or shared groundwater body) or other ecological links beyond 15 km of Limerick.
- Examination of the NPWS Qualifying Interests (for SACs), Special Conservation Interests (for SPAs) and Conservation Objectives for the above identified sites with potential pathways to Limerick.
- Examination of available additional information on protected and or designated species as relevant/necessary.

[2] Available at: https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/
[3] Available at: https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites and https://dahg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=8f7060450de3485fa1c1085536d477ba
[4] Available at: https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/
[5] NPWS (2025). The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Volumes 1, 2 and 3.
[5] Available from the NPWS here.

1.4.2 Source-pathway-receptor model and potential effects

The examination of the Proposed Variation for potential effects on European sites is conducted following a standard source-pathway-receptor model, where in order for a potential for effect to be identified, all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. Examples of a source, a pathway and a receptor are:

- Source(s) – e.g., pollutant run-off from subject development.
- Pathway(s) – e.g., groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats.
- Receptor(s) – e.g., qualifying habitats and species of European sites.

As per the above examples, a source is any identifiable element of the Proposed Variation that may interact with ecological processes of European sites. A pathway is any connection between the source and the receptor. A receptor is a Qualifying Interest or Special Conservation Interests of the European site being examined, or an ecological feature that is known to be utilised by, or provide support to, the Qualifying Interests or Special Conservation Interests of a European site.

When all three elements of the model are in place, a potential effect is identified. The potential effect is then examined further to determine whether or not it presents a *likelihood of significant effect*[6,7] on a European site. This is carried out by assessing objective information such as: the nature of the source; the nature of the pathway; the distances involved; the QIs/SCIs involved and their threats, pressures and sensitivities; and, consulting best scientific evidence/literature when required. As such, the presence of all three elements and the identification of a potential effect, does not automatically constitute the likelihood of significant effect to a European site, and is context dependent. However, the absence or removal of one of the elements of the mechanism is sufficient to conclude that there is no potential effect(s) and thus no likelihood for significant effects. The Proposed Variation is also examined in-combination with other plans and programmes to assess whether there are sources for in-combination effects as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Variation.

Where a likelihood for significant effects to any European site is deemed to be present following the application of this model, then the Proposed Variation must proceed to Stage Two AA i.e., the production of a Natura Impact Report (NIR) with accompanying mitigation measures addressing the significant effects identified at screening, in order to prevent adverse effects to the QIs/SCIs of the European sites identified. This evaluation has been made in view of the Conservation Objectives of the habitats or species, for which the relevant European sites have been designated.

1.4.3 Identification of European sites

This is conducted via the application of the source-pathway-receptor (SPR) model (described in Section 1.4.2) to identify the European sites with potential for effects. The use of an initial 15 km buffer zone can also aid in the scoping stages, when applying the SPR model.

Upon application of the SPR model, any additional European sites with ecological connectivity to the Proposed Variation area that identified beyond that 15 km initial buffer (i.e., downstream connectivity), are also included for assessment. Subsequently, the "Qualifying Interests" (QIs) (i.e., habitats and species of conservation concern for which Special Areas of Conservation are designated), and/or "Special Conservation Interests" (SCIs), (i.e., bird species of conservation concern for which Special Areas of Conservation are designated) of each European site identified are examined, and their respective "'Conservation Objectives" (COs) consulted.

The COs focus on maintaining the favourable conservation condition of the QIs/SCIs of each European site and form the basis for the assessment of significant effects. The threats to the ecological/environmental conditions that are required to support the QIs and SCIs are also considered as part of the assessment. Supporting information on QIs, SCIs, site-specific sensitivities and information on Ireland's Article 17 Reports to the European Commission[8] of the European sites considered are provided in Appendix I of this report. Additional supporting information for each

[6] "Likely" defied by the OPR Practice Note PN01 on Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management (2021) as the: "*risk or possibility of effects occurring that cannot be ruled out based on objective information.*"
[7] With regard to Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive
[8] NPWS (2025). The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Volumes 1, 2 and 3.

European site, such as site synopses and Natura 2000 standard data forms[9], are considered where required.

The following NPWS First Order Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) have been considered in the screening where relevant:

- 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, SSCOs that have been designed to define favourable conservation status for a specific habitat or species have been examined (see Section 3 below). A complete dataset of the QIs and SCIs, and their respective threats and pressures[9], of the European sites assessed in this report is included in Appendix I and was utilised throughout this report.

1.4.4 Assessment of potential significant effects

All policies and objectives within the Proposed Variation are considered in the assessment with respect to potential sources for significant effects on the QIs and SCIs of European sites. This is carried out by considering the sensitivities and threats and pressures of each of the QIs and SCIs in relation to all potential sources for effects, and potential pathways for such effects identified from the SPR model. Subsequently, where sources and pathways for effects are identified, potential significant effects will be assessed in relation to the COs, and thereafter any likelihood for significant effects[10], or absence thereof, is identified.

1.4.5 Characterising Potential Significant Effects

The following parameters and descriptors can be used when describing impacts and characterising resulting significant effects to European sites (in view of their Conservation Objectives)[11]:

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.

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.

1.4.6 Relevant guidance

This report has been prepared by also taking into account the following guidance documents:

- 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 in relation to Natura 2000 sites – Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, European Commission Notice, Journal of the European Union, 2021, and,
- Practice Note PN01: Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management, Office of the Planning Regulator, 2021.

[9] Sourced from the NPWS. Available here.
[10] With regard to Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive, and the precautionary principle (C127/02 Waddenzee)
[11] These descriptions are informed by relevant guidelines including: Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2018) Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland. Version 1.2; 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.

Section 2 Description of the Proposed Variation

The purpose of Proposed Variation No. 3 is to accelerate housing delivery and respond to recent changes in National planning policy, namely the publication of the National Planning Framework (NPF) First Revision and the publication of the following Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines:

- NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements, Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2025);
- Planning Design Standards for Apartments, Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2025); and
- Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2024).

In addressing the housing growth requirements and other changes to National planning policy, the Proposed Variation proposes changes to the Volume 1, Written Statement and appendices, Volume 2a, Level 1 Limerick City and Suburbs (in Limerick) Mungret and Annacotty, Maps and Settlement Capacity Audit, Volume 6, Housing Strategy and Housing Need Demand Assessment , and the Building Height Strategy for Limerick City of the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 to address specific immediate updates that are needed to implement national policy.

Variation No. 3 proposes changes as follows:

- Volume 1, written statement and appendices as follows,

Chapter	**Amendment**
Chapter 1 Introduction, Vision and Strategic Overview	- Section 1.1 Introduction - Text Amendment - Section 1.5.1 Planning Legislation – new paragraph text inserted
Chapter 2 Core Strategy	- Section 2.1 Introduction – Text Amendment - Section 2.2 National and Regional Policy Context – Insertion of new text - Section 2.3 Core Strategy Methodology – Text amendment - Section 2.3.1 Population Projections – Text, tables and figures amendments - Section 2.3.2 Household Projections for 2022-2028 – Text and tables amendments - Section 2.3.3 Settlement Hierarchy – Text and table amendment - Section 2.3.4 Population/Household Distribution – Deletion of text and associated table - Section 2.3.5.1 Proposed Housing Allocation – Text amendment - Section 2.3.5.2 Density – Amend text, update associated table and insertion of new map 2.1 - Section 2.3.5.4 Potential Housing Yield on Town Centre/Mixed Use Zoned Land – Text deletion - Section 2.4 Core Strategy Statement – Text update - Section 2.5 Local Area Plans – Text amendment - Section 2.7 Core Strategy Policies and Objectives – Text deletion - Section 2.8 Core Strategy Maps – Amendment of map legend and renumbering of maps - Section 2.9 Core Strategy Table – Amendment of text, table and associated footnotes
Chapter 3 Spatial Strategy	- Section 3.2.1 National Planning Framework – Text amendment - Section 3.4.2 Introduction to Level 1 Limerick City and Suburbs (in Limerick) Mungret and Annacotty – Text amendment - Section 3.4.2.1 Developing a Spatial Strategy – Text amendment - Section 3.4.2.4 Building Height Strategy – Objective amendment - Section 3.4.2.5 Urban Character Area Objectives – Table and objective amendment - Section 3.4.3.5 World Class Waterfront – Amendment to text and Objective CRQ O1 Cleeves Riverside Quarter - Section 3.4.3.5 World Class Waterfront – Amendment to Objective ULCC O1 UL City Campus - Section 3.4.3.8 Mungret Framework – Update to section name, text, map 3.8 and objective - Section 3.4.5.3 Parkway Valley – Text and objective amendment - Section 3.4.5.5 Towlerton – Amendment to text and objective - Section 3.4.6.5 Moyross – Amendment to text and objective - Section 3.4.6.7 Ballinacurra Weston – Amendment to objective - Section 3.4.6.8 Southill – Amendment to objective - Section 3.4.5.6 (New subsection) – Insertion new section 'Crossagalla' with associated objective - Section 3.4.5.7 (New subsection) – Insertion new section 'Rosbrien' with associated objective
Chapter 4 Housing	- Section 4.2.1 Introduction – Amendment to text - Section 4.2.2 National Policy – Insertion of new text and objective amendment - Section 4.2.4 Residential Density – Amendment to Objective - Section 4.2.8 Build-to-Rent Accommodation – Deletion of text and objective - Section 4.2.9 Shared Accommodation/Co-living Developments – Section deletion and replacement with new text, new objective and updated section and objective numbering
Chapter 5 A Strong Economy	- Section 5.8.2 Strategic Employment Locations Limerick City and Suburbs (in Limerick), Mungret and Annacotty – Objective amendment

Chapter	**Amendment**
Chapter 6 Environment, Heritage, Landscape and Green Infrastructure	No amendments
Chapter 7 Sustainable Mobility and Transport	- Section 7.5.10 Car Clubs/Car Sharing and Car Pooling – Text Amendment - Section 7.10.4 Car Parking – Text and objective Amendment
Chapter 8 Infrastructure	- Section 8.5.3 Public Waste Water Treatment – Objective amendment - Section 8.5.4 Private Waste Water Treatment Systems, Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (DWWTS) including Septic Tanks – Amendment to text
Chapter 9 Climate Action, Flood Risk and Transition to Low Carbon Economy	Remove Part e) in Objective CAF O21 Identified Flood Risk (under Chapter 12)
Chapter 10 Sustainable Communities and Social Infrastructure	No amendments
Chapter 11 Development Management Standard	- Section 11.1.3 Building Heights – Amend section text and deletion of text in Table DM 1 Limerick City Building Height Objectives - Section 11.2.1 Design Criteria – Text amendment - Section 11.3.6 Open Space Requirements – Text amendment - Section 11.3.7 Private Open Space – Text amendment - Section 11.4.1 Apartment Development – Text amendment - Section 11.4.1.1 Minimum Apartment Floor Areas – Text and table amendment - Section 11.4.1.2 Dual Aspect Design – Text amendment - Section 11.4.1 Apartment Development – Insertion new subsection 'Floor to Ceiling Height' - Section 11.4.1 Apartment Development – Insertion new subsection 'Lift and Stair Cores' - Section 11.4.1 Apartment Development – Insertion new subsection 'Apartments and the Development Management Process' - Section 11.4.1 Apartment Development – Insertion new subsection 'Communal, Community and Cultural Facilities' - Section 11.4.1 Apartment Development – Insertion new subsection 'Purpose-Built Student Accommodation' - Section 11.4.1.4 Internal Storage and External Storage - Text Amendment - Section 11.4.2.1 Separation Distances between Residential Units – Text amendment - Section 11.4.2.2 Floor Areas – Amendment to text - Section 11.4.4.1.1 Front Extensions – Text deletion - Section 11.4.4.8 Short-Term Letting – Text amendment - Section 11.4.4.9 Build-to-Rent Accommodation – delete subsection on Build to Rent Accommodation - Section 11.4.4.10 Amendments to Approved Residential Developments – Text deletion - Section 11.8.3 Car and Bicycle Parking Standards – Text amendment - Section 11.8.3 Car and Bicycle Parking Standards – Replace with updates text Table DM 9(a) with Table DM 9 (a1) Car Parking and Bicycle Car Parking Standards for Residential Development in Limerick City and Suburbs (in Limerick), Mungret and Annacotty, Newcastle West and all other settlements - Section 11.8.3 Car and Bicycle Parking Standards - Insert new text in Section 11.8.3 relating to car parking standards and insert a new Map 11.1 Parking Zones - Section 11.8.3 Car and Bicycle Parking Standards - Table DM 9a to be split into two separate tables (a1 and a2). Table DM 9 (a1) Car Park and Bicycle Car Parking Standards for Residential Development in Limerick City and Suburbs (in Limerick), Mungret and Annacotty, Newcastle West and all other settlements; Table DM 9 (a2) Car Parking and Bicycle Parking Standards for all other development classes in Limerick City and Suburbs (in Limerick), Mungret and Annacotty. - Section 11.8.3 Car and Bicycle Parking Standards – Text amendment - Section 11.8.3 Car and Bicycle Parking Standards – new text re parking provision above maximum standards
Chapter 12 Land Use Zoning Strategy	- Section 12.3 Land Use Zoning Objectives Data Cantre – Text deletion - Section 12.4 Amendment to Land Use Zoning Matrix Table
Chapter 13 Implementation and Monitoring	- Section 13.2 Local Area Plans – Amendment to text
Appendix 1: Section 28 Guidelines Compliance	- Table A1 Ministerial Planning Guidelines issued under Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and other relevant sources of planning guidance and associated compliance within the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 – Update table to reflect new National Guidelines and LDP Compliance

- Volume 2a Maps and Settlement Capacity Audit,
  - Proposed amendments to land use zoning for a number of identified lands to facilitate residential uses and for strategic planned projects within the boundary of Limerick City and Suburbs including Mungret and Annacotty.
  - Proposed amendments to land use zoning to reflect developments that have occurred since the adoption of the Plan and to capture the current land use context within the boundary of Limerick City and Suburbs, including Mungret and Annacotty.
  - Proposed amendments to the Settlement Capacity Audit maps and tables for Limerick City and Suburbs reflective of zoning changes and the Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2024).

- Volume 6, Supporting Strategies
  - Updated Housing Strategy and Housing Need Demand Assessment, to inform policy for the remaining period of the Limerick Development Plan to 2028 and beyond.
  - Proposed amendments to Policy in the Building Height Strategy and subsequent changes to Development Plan objectives in so far as it relates to building height.

The proposed variation is also responding to Pillar 1: Activating Supply as set out in the Government Action Plan on Housing Supply and Targeting Homelessness" Delivering Homes, Building Communities, 2025-2030 (November 2025) The zoning of sufficient land is seen as a key enabler to delivery.

For the purposes of clarity and the avoidance of doubt, the Proposed Variation has taken due account of the relevant National Planning Policy Guidance, noting that under section 27 of the Planning and Development Act 2024, section 28 guidelines under the 2000 Act are deemed to be National Planning Policy Guidance until a National Planning Statement is issued.

Zoning in this variation relates to lands within the settlement boundary of Limerick City and Suburbs including Annacotty and Mungret only. Further variations will be progressed concentrating on accelerating housing in zoned settlements across the county as appropriate and in due course. A full review of the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 will take place subsequently, in accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2024, as introduced in the recently commenced sections of the Planning and Development Act, 2024 (as amended). It should be noted that this variation does not constitute a comprehensive review of all relevant policies, objectives, or guidance of the Limerick Development Plan.

Section 3 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

3.1 Introduction

This stage of the AA process identifies any likely significant effects to European sites resulting from a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, in the absence of any mitigation measures intended to reduce or prevent effects.

3.2 Potential Effects of the Proposed Variation

The Proposed Variation's provisions are examined for the presence of any potential effects, and whether these may then result in a likelihood of significant effects with respect to the relevant guidelines and utilising the source-pathway-receptor model (as described in Section 1.4.2).

As outlined in the European Commission Environment DG document *"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*"[12] outlines the types of effects that may occur at European sites. These include effects from the following:

- Land take
- Resource Requirements (Drinking Water Abstraction Etc.)
- Emissions (Disposal to Land, Water or Air)
- Excavation Requirements
- Transportation Requirements
- Duration of Construction, Operation, Decommissioning

The above are considered when identifying potential sources for effects, in the context of ecological connectivity and relationship of the Proposed Variation to European sites.

The primary intention of the Proposed Variation is to amend the zonings of lands within the adopted Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028, following the publication of new planning guidelines to facilitate additional zoning in support of accelerated housing delivery.

The Proposed Variation also responds to recent changes in National planning policy, namely the publication of the National Planning Framework (NPF) First Revision and the publication of the following Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines:

- NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements, Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2025);
- Planning Design Standards for Apartments, Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2025); and
- Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2024).

More information on the content of the Proposed Variation is provided in Section 2.

Considering the above and the description provided in Section 2, the Proposed Variation elements that present potential sources with pathways for potential effects to European sites are:

- The Plan's provisions and objectives regarding housing which require various services such as social and communication services infrastructure, transport, wastewater connections to local waste water treatment plants and treatment, mains water facilities, surface water drainage, and sustainable transport – all of which introduce sources for potential effects through construction phase such as habitat loss, air and noise pollution, disturbance effects and hydrological changes through channel realignment and/or pollution through connectivity with riverine / wetland habitats and groundwater.
- Loading pressures from the construction phases of developments or projects – these sources could result in habitat loss/fragmentation, air and/or noise pollution, light pollution, interactions with water quality (surface and/or groundwater), and disturbance effects.
- Increases in visitor numbers to ecologically sensitive areas during the operational phase of housing developments, which have potential to introduce sources for significant effects such as disturbance.

[12] Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, European Commission Notice, Journal of the European Union, 2021.

- Increases in connectivity and proximity of human inhabited areas to ecologically sensitive areas due to the proposed increase in the number of residential / populated areas, which may increase visitor numbers.

The Plan is situated underneath a hierarchy of statutory documents that were subject to environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment and Appropriate Assessment and form the decision-making and consent-granting framework, such as the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region 2020-2032 and the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028.

3.3 Identification of Relevant European Sites

Utilising the methodology described in Section 1.4, the SACs and/SPAs that occur within 15 km of pimerick, and/or have surface hydrological connectivity[13], and/or occur within the same groundwater body[14] as Limerick were identified. The resultant European sites are shown in Figure 3.1, Figure 3.2, Figure 3.3, and Figure 3.4 respectively.

A list of the European sites that have been identified for assessment in this report is provided below:

Site Code	Site Name
002279	Askeaton Fen Complex SAC
002036	Ballyhoura Mountains SAC
000432	Barrigone SAC
002170	Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC
002037	Carrigeenamronety Hill SAC
000930	Clare Glen SAC
000174	Curraghchase Woods SAC
000646	Galtee Mountains SAC
001430	Glen Bog SAC
001432	Glenstal Wood SAC
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA
004161	Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA
000439	Tory Hill SAC
002257	Moanour Mountain SAC
002137	Lower River Suir SAC
001847	Philipston Marsh SAC
002351	Moanveanlagh Bog SAC
001013	Glenomra Wood SAC
001197	Keeper Hill SAC
002125	Anglesey Road SAC
004095	Kilcolman Bog SPA
002312	Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA
002258	Silvermines Mountains West SAC
000051	Lough Gash Turlough SAC
002124	Bolingbrook Hill SAC
002316	Ratty River Cave SAC
000939	Silvermine Mountains SAC
000030	Danes Hole, Poulnalecka SAC
002319	Kilkishen House SAC
002318	Knockanira House SAC
004094	Blackwater Callows SPA
000064	Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC
002091	Newhall and Edenvale Complex SAC
004168	Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA
000308	Loughatorick South Bog SAC
001912	Glendree Bog SAC
004189	Kerry Head SPA
002126	Pollagoona Bog SAC
004119	Loop Head SPA
004028	Blackwater Estuary SPA
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC

[13] Source: EPA datasets on waterways in Ireland. Available here.
[14] Special Areas of Conservation and/or Special Protection Areas with groundwater sensitive habitats or species

The following Conservation Objective documents for each of the above European sites listed above were considered throughout this report:

NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Moanour Mountain SAC [IE0002257] Version 1.
NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Lower River Suir SAC [IE0002137] Version 1.
NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Danes Hole, Poulnalecka SAC [IE0000030] Version 1.
NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Kilkishen House SAC [IE0002319] Version 1.
NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Knockanira House SAC [IE0002318] Version 1.
NPWS (2024) Conservation Objectives for Blackwater Callows SPA [IE0004094] Version 1.
NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC [IE0000064] Version 1.
NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Newhall and Edenvale Complex SAC [IE0002091] Version 1.
NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA [IE0004168] Version 1.
NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Loughatorick South Bog SAC [IE0000308] Version 1.
NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Glendree Bog SAC [IE0001912] Version 1.
NPWS (2025) Conservation Objectives for Kerry Head SPA [IE0004189] Version 1.
NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Pollagoona Bog SAC [IE0002126] Version 1.
NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Philipston Marsh SAC [IE0001847] Version 1.
NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Moanveanlagh Bog SAC [IE0002351] Version 1.
NPWS (2025) Conservation Objectives for Loop Head SPA [IE0004119] Version 1.
NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for Blackwater Estuary SPA [IE0004028] 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 (2025) Conservation Objectives for River Barrow and River Nore SAC [IE0002162] Version 2.
NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Anglesey Road SAC [IE0002125] Version 1.
NPWS (2025) Conservation Objectives for Kilcolman Bog SPA [IE0004095] Version 1.
NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC [IE0002312] Version 1.
NPWS (2024) Conservation Objectives for Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA [IE0004058] Version 1.
NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Silvermines Mountains West SAC [IE0002258] Version 1.
NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Lough Gash Turlough SAC [IE0000051] Version 1.
NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Bolingbrook Hill SAC [IE0002124] Version 1.
NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Ratty River Cave SAC [IE0002316] Version 1.
NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Silvermine Mountains SAC [IE0000939] Version 1.
NPWS (2023) Conservation Objectives for Curraghchase Woods SAC [IE0000174] Version 2.
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 (2017) Conservation Objectives for Glen Bog SAC [IE0001430] Version 1.
NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Glenstal Wood SAC [IE0001432] 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 (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 (2018) Conservation Objectives for Askeaton Fen Complex SAC [IE0002279] Version 1.
NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA [IE0004077] Version 1.
NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA [IE0004161] Version 1.
NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA [IE0004165] Version 1.

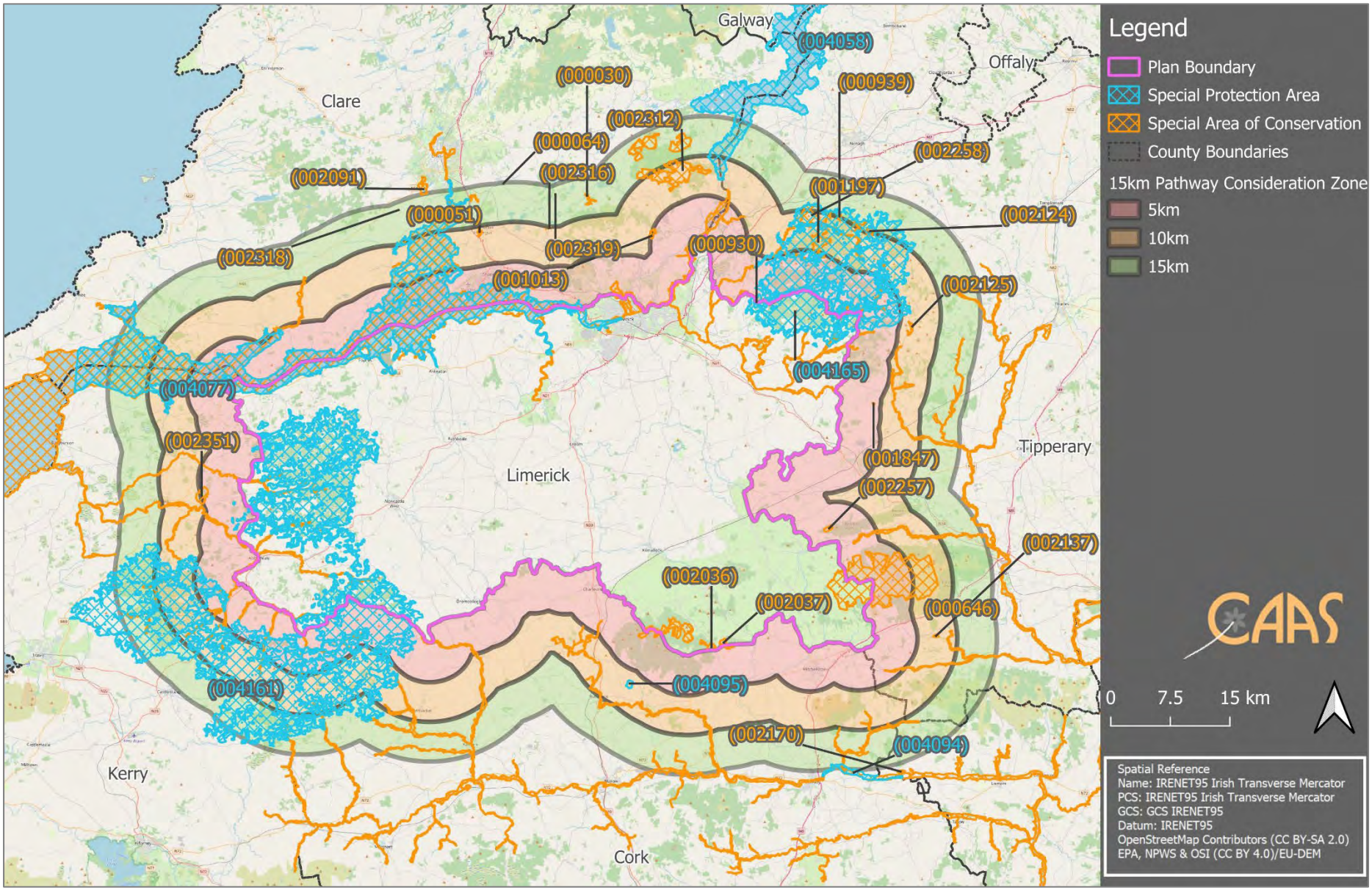


Figure 3.1 European sites within a 15 km buffer zone of Limerick[15]

[15] Source: NPWS Protected Sites datasets

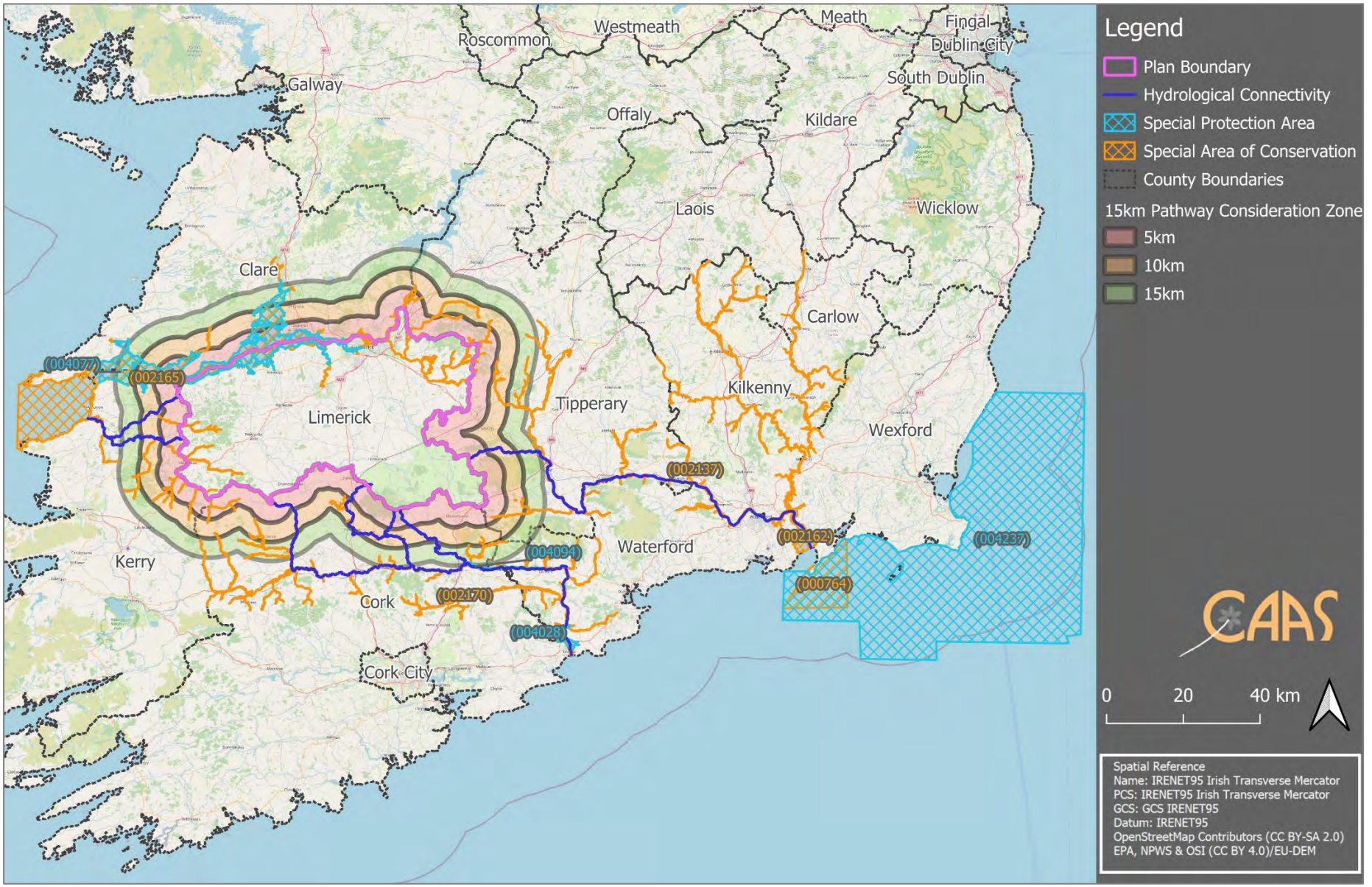


Figure 3.2 European sites with surface hydrological connectivity to Limerick[16]

[16] Source: NPWS Protected Sites datasets and EPA datasets.

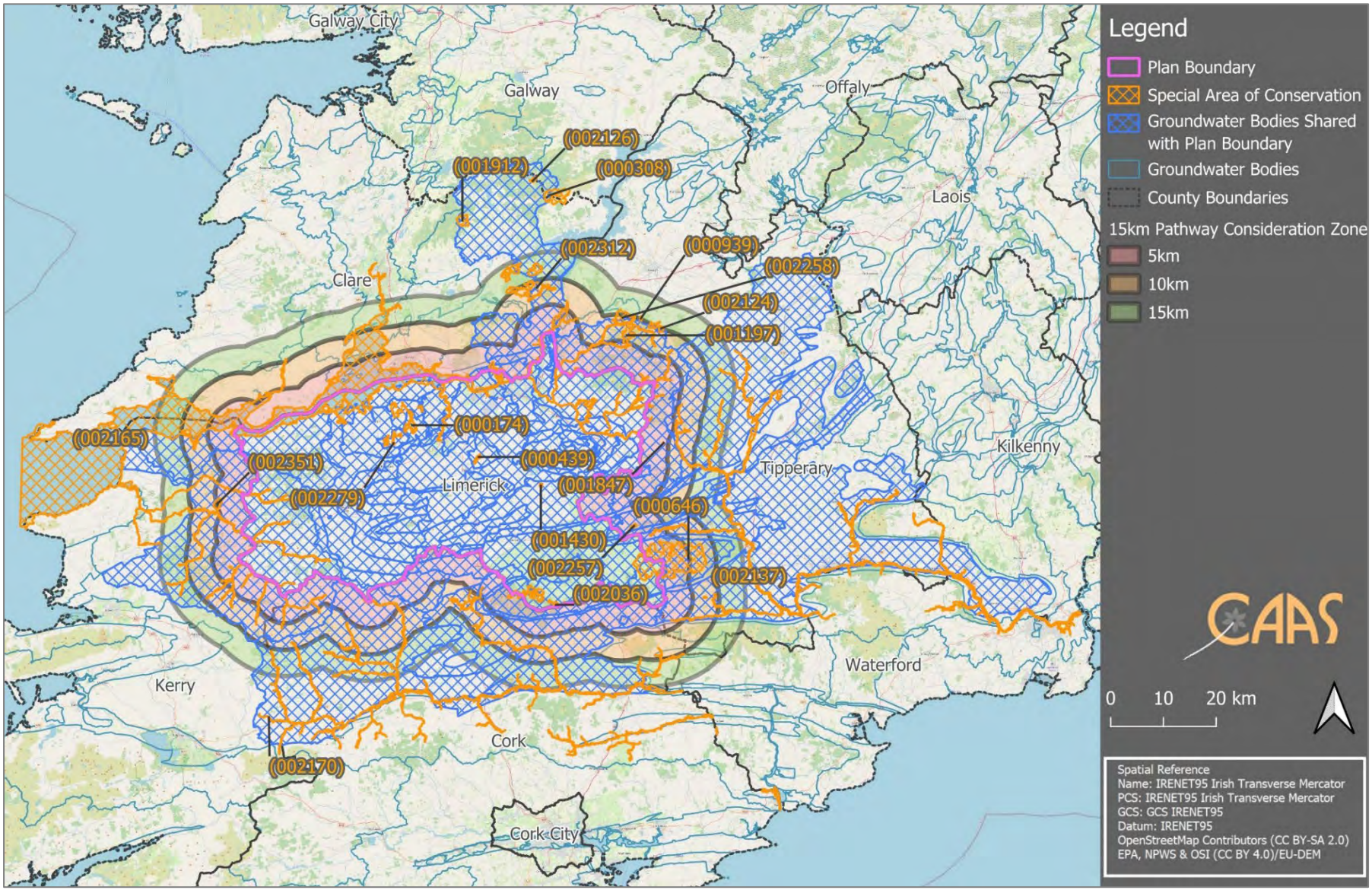


Figure 3.3 Groundwater sensitive European sites that share groundwater bodies with Limerick[17]

[17] Source: NPWS Protected Sites datasets and GSI datasets

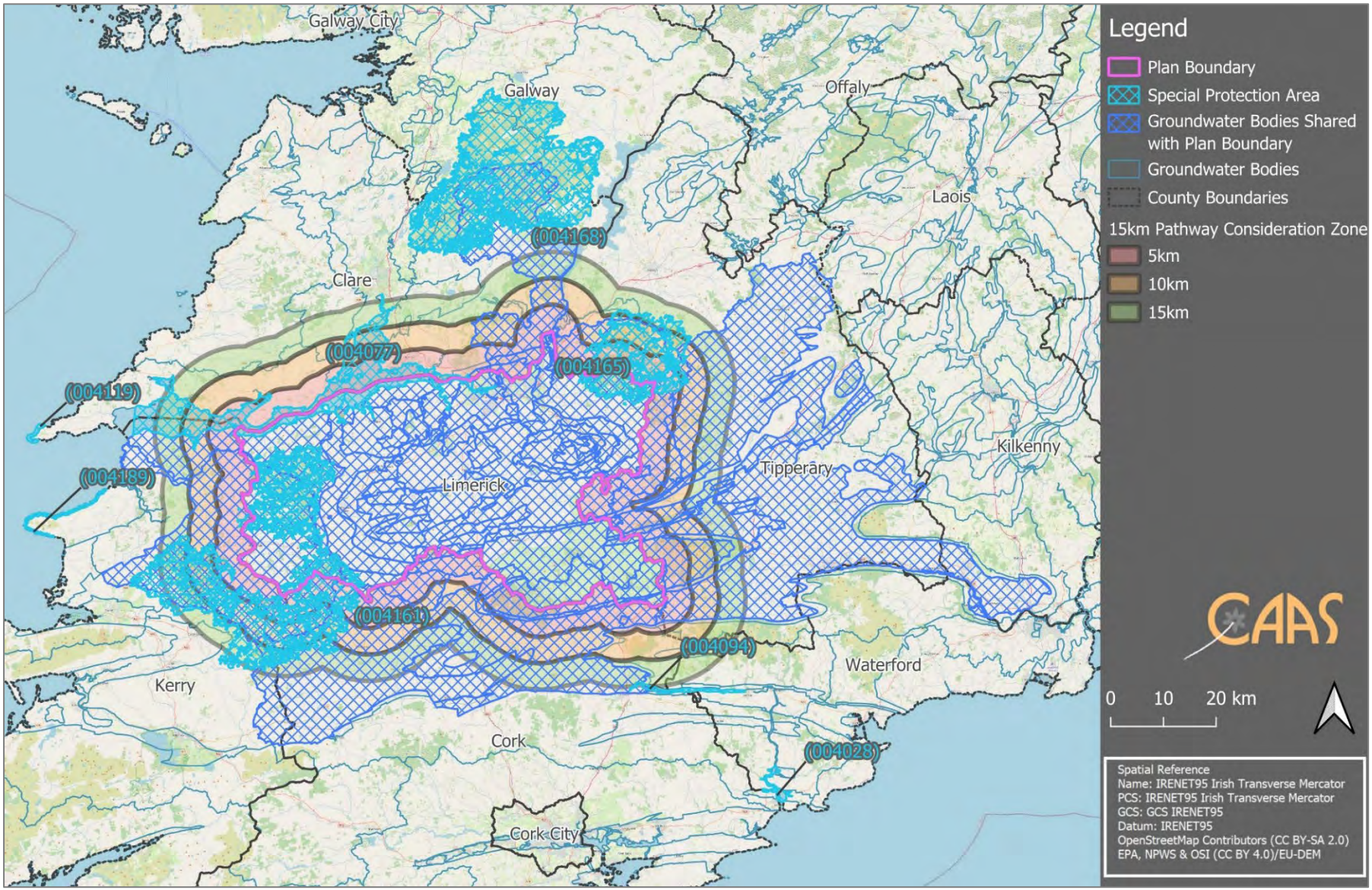


Figure 3.4 Groundwater sensitive European sites that share groundwater bodies with Limerick[18]

[18] Source: NPWS Protected Sites datasets and GSI datasets

3.4 Screening of European sites for AA

The European sites identified for consideration in this screening for AA report are analysed individually in Table 3.1 in order to establish whether, considering the sources for potential effects identified (Section 3.2), the QIs, SCIs of the European sites considered (Appendix I) in view of their Conservation Objectives (Section 3.3); there is a likelihood for significant effects[6,7] on any European sites as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Variation. All Proposed Variation provisions are considered for potential sources for effect with respect to the receptors and pathways identified.

Table 3.1 Screening of European Sites

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature[19]	Analysis for Likely Significant Effects	Likelihood of Significant Effects
002279	Askeaton Fen Complex SAC	Within	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Alkaline fens [7230]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
002036	Ballyhoura Mountains SAC	Within	European dry heaths [4030], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
000432	Barrigone SAC	Within	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates *(Festuco-Brometalia)* *	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan.	No

[19] Term encompasses both SCIs of SPAs and QIs of SACs

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature[19]	Analysis for Likely Significant Effects	Likelihood of Significant Effects
			important orchid sites [6210], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Marsh Fritillary *(Euphydryas aurinia)* [1065], Limestone pavements [8240]	The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	
002170	Blackwater River (Cork/ Waterford) SAC	Within	Estuaries [1130], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior *(Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)* [91E0], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Otter *(Lutra lutra)* [1355], Atlantic salt meadows *(Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)* [1330], Brook lamprey *(Lampetra planeri)* [1096], Twaite shad *(Alosa fallax)* [1103], Killarney fern *(Trichomanes speciosum)* [1421], Freshwater pearl mussel *(Margaritifera margaritifera)* [1029], Mediterranean salt meadows *(Juncetalia maritimi)* [1410], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Sea lamprey *(Petromyzon marinus)* [1095], White-clawed crayfish *(Austropotamobius pallipes)* [1092], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], River lamprey *(Lampetra fluviatilis)* [1099], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Atlantic salmon *(Salmo salar)* [1106]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
002037	Carrigeena mronety Hill SAC	Within	European dry heaths [4030], Killarney fern *(Trichomanes speciosum)* [1421]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects.	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature[19]	Analysis for Likely Significant Effects	Likelihood of Significant Effects
				Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	
000930	Clare Glen SAC	Within	Killarney fern *(Trichomanes speciosum)* [1421], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
000174	Curraghchase Woods SAC	Within	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior *(Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)* [91E0], Lesser horseshoe bat *(Rhinolophus hipposideros)* [1303], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Desmoulin`s whorl snail *(Vertigo moulinsiana)* [1016]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
000646	Galtee Mountains SAC	Within	Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects.	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature[19]	Analysis for Likely Significant Effects	Likelihood of Significant Effects
			substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230], European dry heaths [4030], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels *(Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)* [8110], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]	Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	
001430	Glen Bog SAC	Within	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior *(Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)* [91E0]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
001432	Glenstal Wood SAC	Within	Killarney fern *(Trichomanes speciosum)* [1421]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	Within	Estuaries [1130], Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time [1110], Atlantic salt meadows *(Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)* [1330], Otter *(Lutra lutra)* [1355], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects.	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature[19]	Analysis for Likely Significant Effects	Likelihood of Significant Effects
			coasts [1230], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils *(Molinion caeruleae)* [6410], River lamprey *(Lampetra fluviatilis)* [1099], Bottlenose dolphin *(Tursiops truncatus)* [1349], Mediterranean salt meadows *(Juncetalia maritimi)* [1410], Atlantic salmon *(Salmo salar)* [1106], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior *(Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)* [91E0], Freshwater pearl mussel *(Margaritifera margaritifera)* [1029], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Sea lamprey *(Petromyzon marinus)* [1095], Reefs [1170], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Brook lamprey *(Lampetra planeri)* [1096], Coastal lagoons [1150]	Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	Within	Pintail *(Anas acuta)* [A054], Bar-tailed Godwit *(Limosa lapponica)* [A157], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Shoveler *(Anas clypeata)* [A056], Black-headed Gull *(Chroicocephalus ridibundus)* [A179], Black-tailed Godwit *(Limosa limosa)* [A156], Teal *(Anas crecca)* [A052], Grey Plover *(Pluvialis squatarola)* [A141], Redshank *(Tringa totanus)* [A162], Lapwing *(Vanellus vanellus)* [A142], Light-bellied Brent Goose *(Branta bernicla hrota)* [A046], Greenshank *(Tringa nebularia)* [A164], Wigeon *(Anas penelope)* [A050], Dunlin *(Calidris alpina)* [A149], Cormorant *(Phalacrocorax carbo)* [A017], Whooper Swan *(Cygnus cygnus)* [A038], Scaup *(Aythya marila)* [A062], Curlew *(Numenius arquata)* [A160], Ringed Plover *(Charadrius hiaticula)* [A137], Golden Plover *(Pluvialis apricaria)* [A140], Knot *(Calidris canutus)* [A143], Shelduck *(Tadorna tadorna)* [A048]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature[19]	Analysis for Likely Significant Effects	Likelihood of Significant Effects
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	Within	Hen harrier *(Circus cyaneus)* [A082]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
004161	Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA	Within	Hen harrier *(Circus cyaneus)* [A082]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
000439	Tory Hill SAC	Within	Alkaline fens [7230], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates *(Festuco-Brometalia)* * important orchid sites [6210]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No

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002257	Moanour Mountain SAC	1.34	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
002137	Lower River Suir SAC	1.72	Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Sea lamprey *(Petromyzon marinus)* [1095], 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], Freshwater pearl mussel *(Margaritifera margaritifera)* [1029], White-clawed crayfish *(Austropotamobius pallipes)* [1092], River lamprey *(Lampetra fluviatilis)* [1099], Brook lamprey *(Lampetra planeri)* [1096], Otter *(Lutra lutra)* [1355], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Atlantic salt meadows *(Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)* [1330], Atlantic salmon *(Salmo salar)* [1106], Twaite shad *(Alosa fallax)* [1103]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
001847	Philipston Marsh SAC	3.9	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of	No

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002351	Moanveanlagh Bog SAC	3.97	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
001013	Glenomra Wood SAC	4.45	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
001197	Keeper Hill SAC	4.65	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of	No

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002125	Anglesey Road SAC	5.98	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
004095	Kilcolman Bog SPA	6.22	Teal *(Anas crecca)* [A052], Shoveler *(Anas clypeata)* [A056], Whooper Swan *(Cygnus cygnus)* [A038], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
002312	Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC	6.74	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], European dry heaths [4030]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of	No

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				Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	7.18	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Common tern *(Sterna hirundo)* [A193], Goldeneye *(Bucephala clangula)* [A067], Tufted Duck *(Aythya fuligula)* [A061], Cormorant *(Phalacrocorax carbo)* [A017]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
002258	Silvermines Mountains West SAC	8.24	European dry heaths [4030], Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
000051	Lough Gash Turlough SAC	8.7	Turloughs [3180], Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of	No

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002124	Bolingbrook Hill SAC	9.28	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]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
002316	Ratty River Cave SAC	9.63	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat *(Rhinolophus hipposideros)* [1303]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
000939	Silvermine Mountains SAC	9.7	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]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of	No

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				Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	
000030	Danes Hole, Poulnalecka SAC	11.49	Caves not open to the public [8310], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Lesser horseshoe bat *(Rhinolophus hipposideros)* [1303]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
002319	Kilkishen House SAC	13.84	Lesser horseshoe bat *(Rhinolophus hipposideros)* [1303]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
002318	Knockanira House SAC	13.99	Lesser horseshoe bat *(Rhinolophus hipposideros)* [1303]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of	No

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004094	Blackwater Callows SPA	14.43	Teal *(Anas crecca)* [A052], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Black-tailed Godwit *(Limosa limosa)* [A156], Whooper Swan *(Cygnus cygnus)* [A038], Wigeon *(Anas penelope)* [A050]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
000064	Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC	14.91	Lesser horseshoe bat *(Rhinolophus hipposideros)* [1303], Caves not open to the public [8310]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
002091	Newhall and Edenvale Complex SAC	14.96	Lesser horseshoe bat *(Rhinolophus hipposideros)* [1303], Caves not open to the public [8310]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of	No

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004168	Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA	19.63	Merlin *(Falco columbarius)* [A098], Hen harrier *(Circus cyaneus)* [A082]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
000308	Loughatoric k South Bog SAC	23.94	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
001912	Glendree Bog SAC	25.07	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature[19]	Analysis for Likely Significant Effects	Likelihood of Significant Effects
				Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	
004189	Kerry Head SPA	25.65	Fulmar *(Fulmarus glacialis)* [A009], Chough *(Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax)* [A346]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
002126	Pollagoona Bog SAC	28.41	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
004119	Loop Head SPA	35.86	Kittiwake *(Rissa tridactyla)* [A188], Guillemot *(Uria aalge)* [A199]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature[19]	Analysis for Likely Significant Effects	Likelihood of Significant Effects
				Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	
004028	Blackwater Estuary SPA	37.21	Bar-tailed Godwit *(Limosa lapponica)* [A157], Wigeon *(Anas penelope)* [A050], Dunlin *(Calidris alpina)* [A149], Golden Plover *(Pluvialis apricaria)* [A140], Redshank *(Tringa totanus)* [A162], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Lapwing *(Vanellus vanellus)* [A142], Black-tailed Godwit *(Limosa limosa)* [A156], Curlew *(Numenius arquata)* [A160]	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	43.78	Killarney fern *(Trichomanes speciosum)* [1421], Petrifying springs with tufa formation *(Cratoneurion)* [7220], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], European dry heaths [4030], Mediterranean salt meadows *(Juncetalia maritimi)* [1410], Reefs [1170], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], 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], Desmoulin`s whorl snail *(Vertigo moulinsiana)* [1016], Freshwater pearl mussel *(Margaritifera margaritifera)* [1029], White-clawed crayfish *(Austropotamobius pallipes)* [1092], Sea lamprey *(Petromyzon marinus)* [1095], Brook lamprey *(Lampetra planeri)* [1096], River lamprey *(Lampetra fluviatilis)*	The Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. Proposed Variation No. 3 (for more detail, refer to Section 2 and Section 3.2 above) proposes changes to the existing Plan. The existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 has already been subject to Stage 2 AA, which concluded that the Plan is not foreseen to give rise to any adverse effect on the integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Considering the location of this site, the qualifying features of this European site in view of their Conservation Objectives and known threats and pressures, and the nature and content of the Proposed Variation No. 3, the Proposed Variation does not present any additional source for any likely significant effect on to this site that was not already considered as a result of existing Plan provisions relating to the development of Limerick City and County as part of the Stage 2 AA (including AA NIR) conducted for the existing Plan. The tailored mitigation measures integrated into the existing Development Plan account for all uses and activities under the changes proposed and their potential effects. All lower tier plans/projects proposed within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan, including these mitigation measures ensuring the appropriate protection of European sites. Therefore, the Proposed Variation No. 3 to the existing Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 does not pose any sources with pathways for likely significant effects to this European site and no further assessment is required.	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature[19]	Analysis for Likely Significant Effects	Likelihood of Significant Effects
			[1099], Twaite shad *(Alosa fallax)* [1103], Atlantic salmon *(Salmo salar)* [1106], Estuaries [1130], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Atlantic salt meadows *(Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)* [1330], Otter *(Lutra lutra)* [1355]		

3.5 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 variation thereof) or project, have the likelihood for significant effects on European sites.

Appendix II outlines a selection of plans or projects that may interact with the Proposed Variation to cause in-combination effects on European sites. All plans and projects within Limerick and receiving environment have been considered in combination with any and all lower tier plans and projects that may arise due to the implementation of the Proposed Variation.

However, given the uncertainties that exist with regard to the scale and location of infrastructure and developments facilitated by the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028, it is recognised that the identification of in-combination effects is limited and that the assessment of in-combination effects will also need to be undertaken in a more comprehensive manner at the project-level.

Section 4 Screening for AA Conclusion

This Screening for Appropriate Assessment report informs the competent authority carrying out the AA screening determination for Proposed Variation No. 3[20] to be made to the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028, as varied, and demonstrates that the implementation of the Proposed Variation does not have a likelihood to result in significant effects to any European site.

The source-pathway-receptor model was applied, i.e. the Proposed Variation to be made was examined for sources for potential effects, alongside an examination of pathways for effects of any sources presented in the Proposed Variation to be made to the Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests (i.e., receptors), in view of their Conservation Objectives, of each European site assessed. In applying this model, it was found that no potential sources for significant effects to any European site considered would arise from the implementation of the Proposed Variation to be made that have not already been considered by the Stage 2 AA undertaken for the existing the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (the findings of which are provided in the Natura Impact Report accompanying the Plan).

As such, the risks to the safeguarding of the Conservation Objectives of the Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests of the European sites have been addressed through existing, already in-force policies and objectives within the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 - with which all lower tier plans/projects must comply. In addition, any future projects, plans etc. that may arise will themselves be subject to AA/screening for AA when further details of design and location are known.

Therefore , it is concluded in this Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report , that any likelihood of Proposed Variation No. 3[21] to be made to the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028, as varied, having any significant effect on any European site (either individually or in combination with any other plan or project), can be excluded in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats and species for which these sites have been designated. Consequently, a Stage Two AA (Natura Impact Report) is not required.

[20] Incorporating the Proposed Variation and any modification/alteration considered by the AA screening process
[21] Incorporating the Proposed Variation and any modification/alteration considered by the AA screening process

Appendix I Supporting information on European Sites assessed

List of European Sites considered by the screening assessment; including the Qualifying features (Qualifying Interests or Special Conservation Interests) and Site Vulnerability/Sensitivity

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature[22]	Pressure 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, M02.03, B01.01, A10.01, D05	Grazing in forests or woodland, decline or extinction of species, forest planting on open ground (native trees), removal of hedges and copses or scrub, improved access to site
000051	Lough Gash Turlough SAC	Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270], Turloughs [3180]	H01.08, E01, A08, A04, F03.01, A10.01, D01.02	Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, urbanised areas, human habitation, fertilisation, grazing, hunting, removal of hedges and copses or scrub, roads, motorways
000064	Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat *(Rhinolophus hipposideros)* [1303]	A10.01, G01.04.03, A04, E01, G05.04	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, recreational cave visits, grazing, urbanised areas, human habitation, vandalism
000174	Curraghchase Woods SAC	Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Lesser horseshoe bat *(Rhinolophus hipposideros)* [1303], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior *(Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)* [91E0], Desmoulin`s whorl snail *(Vertigo moulinsiana)* [1016]	J02.02.01, G01, G05.04, B02.01.01, B02	Dredging or removal of limnic sediments, outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, vandalism, forest replanting (native trees), forest and plantation management & use
000308	Loughatorick South Bog SAC	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	B01, G01.02, C01.03.02, A04, F03.01, B02, H05.01, J01, G01.03.02, C01.01.01, X, A05.02	Forest planting on open ground, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, mechanical removal of peat, grazing, hunting, forest and plantation management & use, garbage and solid waste, fire and fire suppression, off-road motorized driving, sand and gravel quarries, no threats or pressures, stock feeding
000432	Barrigone SAC	Limestone pavements [8240], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates *(Festuco-Brometalia)* * important orchid sites [6210], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Marsh Fritillary *(Euphydryas aurinia)* [1065]	X, K02.01, A04.03	No threats or pressures, species composition change (succession), abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing
000439	Tory Hill SAC	Alkaline fens [7230], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates *(Festuco-Brometalia)* * important orchid sites [6210]	X, J02, J02.01.03, A04.02.04	No threats or pressures, human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, non-intensive goat grazing
000646	Galtee Mountains SAC	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels *(Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)* [8110], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230]	A10.01, X, G01.04.01, G01.02, J01, J02.11, G01.03.02, A04.01.02	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, no threats or pressures, mountaineering & rock climbing, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, fire and fire suppression, siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, off-road motorized driving, intensive sheep grazing
000930	Clare Glen SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Killarney fern *(Trichomanes speciosum)* [1421]	B02.02, I01, G01, X, B02.04, J02.11	Forestry clearance, invasive non-native species, outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, no threats or pressures, removal of dead and dying trees, siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits
000939	Silvermine Mountains SAC	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]	M02.01, A04.02.01, A04.01	Habitat shifting and alteration, non-intensive cattle grazing, intensive grazing
001013	Glenomra Wood SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	G05.06, B06, D05, A10.01, B02, D02.01, E01.03	Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees, grazing in forests or woodland, improved access to site, removal of hedges and copses or scrub, forest and plantation management & use, electricity and phone lines, dispersed habitation
001197	Keeper Hill SAC	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	D01.01, G01.03.01, K01.01, G01.03.02, X, D02.03	Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, regular motorized driving, erosion, off-road motorized driving, no threats or pressures, communication masts and antennas
001430	Glen Bog SAC	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior *(Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)* [91E0]	X, J02, F05.05	No threats or pressures, human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, shooting

[22] Term encompasses both SCIs of SPAs and QIs of SACs

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature[22]	Pressure Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
001432	Glenstal Wood SAC	Killarney fern *(Trichomanes speciosum)* [1421]	I01, B02.03, K02.01	Invasive non-native species, removal of forest undergrowth, species composition change (succession)
001847	Philipston Marsh SAC	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	B, X, A04, A08	Sylviculture, forestry, no threats or pressures, grazing, fertilisation
001912	Glendree Bog SAC	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	B01, B07, A04, J01, G01.03.02, D01.01, C01.03, K01.01, A01, B	Forest planting on open ground, forestry activities not referred to above, grazing, fire and fire suppression, off-road motorized driving, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, peat extraction, erosion, cultivation, sylviculture, forestry
002036	Ballyhoura Mountains SAC	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	G01, G01.03.02, D05, C03.03, J01, C01.03, B01.02, X	Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, off-road motorized driving, improved access to site, wind energy production, fire and fire suppression, peat extraction, artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), no threats or pressures
002037	Carrigeenamronety 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, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, no threats or pressures
002091	Newhall and Edenvale Complex SAC	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat *(Rhinolophus hipposideros)* [1303]	A04, G05.04	Grazing, vandalism
002124	Bolingbrook Hill 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], European dry heaths [4030]	A10.01, D01.01, X, B02, G05.07, J01	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, no threats or pressures, forest and plantation management & use, missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, fire and fire suppression
002125	Anglesey Road SAC	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230]	X, B, A08, A02	No threats or pressures, sylviculture, forestry, fertilisation, modification of cultivation practices
002126	Pollagoona Bog SAC	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	B02.02, J02, L10, J01.01	Forestry clearance, human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, other natural catastrophes, burning down
002137	Lower River Suir SAC	Atlantic salt meadows *(Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)* [1330], Atlantic salmon *(Salmo salar)* [1106], Twaite shad *(Alosa fallax)* [1103], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Sea lamprey *(Petromyzon marinus)* [1095], 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], Freshwater pearl mussel *(Margaritifera margaritifera)* [1029], White-clawed crayfish *(Austropotamobius pallipes)* [1092], River lamprey *(Lampetra fluviatilis)* [1099], Brook lamprey *(Lampetra planeri)* [1096], Otter *(Lutra lutra)* [1355], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430]	A01, J02.01, B, E03, E01, A08, I01, H01, J02.12.02, X, D03.01, J02.01.02	Cultivation, landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, sylviculture, forestry, discharges, urbanised areas, human habitation, fertilisation, invasive non-native species, pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), dykes and flooding defence in inland water systems, no threats or pressures, port areas, reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	European dry heaths [4030], Twaite shad *(Alosa fallax)* [1103], Atlantic salmon *(Salmo salar)* [1106], Mediterranean salt meadows *(Juncetalia maritimi)* [1410], Desmoulin`s whorl snail *(Vertigo moulinsiana)* [1016], Freshwater pearl mussel *(Margaritifera margaritifera)* [1029], White-clawed crayfish *(Austropotamobius pallipes)* [1092], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Estuaries [1130], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Petrifying springs with tufa formation *(Cratoneurion)* [7220], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Otter *(Lutra lutra)* [1355], Brook lamprey *(Lampetra planeri)* [1096], River lamprey *(Lampetra fluviatilis)* [1099], Killarney fern *(Trichomanes speciosum)* [1421], Sea lamprey *(Petromyzon marinus)* [1095], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior *(Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)* [91E0], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Atlantic salt meadows *(Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)* [1330], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Reefs [1170]	C01.03, H01, C01.01.01, J02.02.01, F02.03, J02.06, F02, A02.01, B02, E02, J02.12.02, F01.01, A04.01.01, B02.01.01, K01.01, M01, J02.05.02, D03.01, B07, F02.01.02, B05, J02, A10.01, I01, J03.02.01	Peat extraction, pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), sand and gravel quarries, dredging or removal of limnic sediments, leisure fishing, water abstractions from surface waters, fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, agricultural intensification, forest and plantation management & use, industrial or commercial areas, dykes and flooding defence in inland water systems, intensive fish farming, intensification, intensive cattle grazing, forest replanting (native trees), erosion, changes in abiotic conditions, modifying structures of inland water courses, port areas, forestry activities not referred to above, netting, use of fertilizers (forestry), human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, removal of hedges and copses or scrub, invasive non-native species, reduction in migration or migration barriers
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	Atlantic salt meadows *(Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)* [1330], Otter *(Lutra lutra)* [1355], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], River lamprey *(Lampetra fluviatilis)* [1099], Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time [1110], Estuaries [1130], Sea lamprey *(Petromyzon marinus)* [1095], Coastal lagoons [1150], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Atlantic salmon *(Salmo salar)* [1106], Bottlenose dolphin *(Tursiops truncatus)* [1349], Mediterranean salt meadows *(Juncetalia maritimi)* [1410], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils *(Molinion caeruleae)* [6410], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior *(Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)* [91E0], Freshwater pearl mussel *(Margaritifera margaritifera)* [1029], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and	F01, E03, E01, F02.03, D01.01, A08, B, K02.03, J02.10, H04, G01.01, F03.01, J02.01.01, C01.01.02, C01.03.01, A04, J02.01.02, I01, J02.12.01	Marine and freshwater aquaculture, discharges, urbanised areas, human habitation, leisure fishing, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, fertilisation, sylviculture, forestry, eutrophication (natural), management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, air pollution, air-borne pollutants, nautical sports, hunting, polderisation, removal of beach materials, hand cutting of peat, grazing, reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, invasive non-native species, sea defence or coast protection works, tidal barrages

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature[22]	Pressure Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		sand [1310], Reefs [1170], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Brook lamprey *(Lampetra planeri)* [1096]		
002170	Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC	Mediterranean salt meadows *(Juncetalia maritimi)* [1410], Twaite shad *(Alosa fallax)* [1103], Estuaries [1130], Freshwater pearl mussel *(Margaritifera margaritifera)* [1029], Sea lamprey *(Petromyzon marinus)* [1095], Otter *(Lutra lutra)* [1355], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], 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], Atlantic salt meadows *(Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)* [1330], Atlantic salmon *(Salmo salar)* [1106], Killarney fern *(Trichomanes speciosum)* [1421], White-clawed crayfish *(Austropotamobius pallipes)* [1092], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], River lamprey *(Lampetra fluviatilis)* [1099], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Brook lamprey *(Lampetra planeri)* [1096]	I01, A08, A04, F02.03, J02.01, E01, B, D01.04, E02, K01.01, C01.01, D01.02, G01.01, G02, A03, E03.01	Invasive non-native species, fertilisation, grazing, leisure fishing, landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, urbanised areas, human habitation, sylviculture, forestry, railway lines, tgv, industrial or commercial areas, erosion, sand and gravel extraction, roads, motorways, nautical sports, sport and leisure structures, mowing or cutting of grassland, disposal of household or recreational facility waste
002257	Moanour Mountain SAC	European dry heaths [4030], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]	A04, G01.02, B	Grazing, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, sylviculture, forestry
002258	Silvermines Mountains West SAC	European dry heaths [4030], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130]	D01.01, A04.02.03, G01.03, G01.02, A04.02.04, C01.04, J01, X	Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, non-intensive horse grazing, motorised vehicles, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, non-intensive goat grazing, mines, fire and fire suppression, no threats or pressures
002279	Askeaton Fen Complex SAC	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Alkaline fens [7230]	A10.01, J02.01.02, A08, H02, J01, X, E01.03	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, fertilisation, pollution to groundwater (point sources and diffuse sources), fire and fire suppression, no threats or pressures, 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]	C01.03.02, D01.01, G01.02, C01.01, J01, A04, J02.01, A04.03, G01.03.02, G05.01, B02	Mechanical removal of peat, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, sand and gravel extraction, fire and fire suppression, grazing, landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, off-road motorized driving, trampling, overuse, forest and plantation management & use
002316	Ratty River Cave SAC	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat *(Rhinolophus hipposideros)* [1303]	A10.01, E06.01, A04	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, demolishment of buildings & human structures, grazing
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	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	I01, A04, A01, C01.03, J02.01, D01.01, X, E03.01, J01	Invasive non-native species, grazing, cultivation, peat extraction, landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, no threats or pressures, disposal of household or recreational facility waste, fire and fire suppression
004028	Blackwater Estuary SPA	Curlew *(Numenius arquata)* [A160], Dunlin *(Calidris alpina)* [A149], Wigeon *(Anas penelope)* [A050], Golden Plover *(Pluvialis apricaria)* [A140], Redshank *(Tringa totanus)* [A162], Black-tailed Godwit *(Limosa limosa)* [A156], Lapwing *(Vanellus vanellus)* [A142], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Bar-tailed Godwit *(Limosa lapponica)* [A157]	E01, A08, G01.01, A04, F03.01, D01.02, F02.03	Urbanised areas, human habitation, fertilisation, nautical sports, grazing, hunting, roads, motorways, leisure fishing
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	Tufted Duck *(Aythya fuligula)* [A061], Common tern *(Sterna hirundo)* [A193], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Cormorant *(Phalacrocorax carbo)* [A017], Goldeneye *(Bucephala clangula)* [A067]	F02.03, G01.01, A08, F03.01	Leisure fishing, nautical sports, fertilisation, hunting
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	Scaup *(Aythya marila)* [A062], Dunlin *(Calidris alpina)* [A149], Shelduck *(Tadorna tadorna)* [A048], Teal *(Anas crecca)* [A052], Redshank *(Tringa totanus)* [A162], Curlew *(Numenius arquata)* [A160], Ringed Plover *(Charadrius hiaticula)* [A137], Cormorant *(Phalacrocorax carbo)* [A017], Whooper Swan *(Cygnus cygnus)* [A038], Grey Plover *(Pluvialis squatarola)* [A141], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Golden Plover *(Pluvialis apricaria)* [A140], Black-tailed Godwit *(Limosa limosa)* [A156], Wigeon *(Anas penelope)* [A050], Knot *(Calidris canutus)* [A143], Light-bellied Brent Goose *(Branta bernicla hrota)* [A046], Greenshank *(Tringa nebularia)* [A164], Bar-tailed Godwit *(Limosa lapponica)* [A157], Shoveler *(Anas clypeata)* [A056], Pintail *(Anas acuta)* [A054], Black-headed Gull *(Chroicocephalus ridibundus)* [A179], Lapwing *(Vanellus vanellus)* [A142]	F01, E02, G01.01, A08, E01, E03, D03.02	Marine and freshwater aquaculture, industrial or commercial areas, nautical sports, fertilisation, urbanised areas, human habitation, discharges, shipping lanes
004094	Blackwater Callows SPA	Teal *(Anas crecca)* [A052], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Black-tailed Godwit *(Limosa limosa)* [A156], Whooper Swan *(Cygnus cygnus)* [A038], Wigeon *(Anas penelope)* [A050]	F02.03, A04, A08, E01	Leisure fishing, grazing, fertilisation, urbanised areas, human habitation

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature[22]	Pressure Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004095	Kilcolman Bog SPA	Teal *(Anas crecca)* [A052], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Whooper Swan *(Cygnus cygnus)* [A038], Shoveler *(Anas clypeata)* [A056]	J02.05, K01.03, A08, G03	Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, drying out, fertilisation, interpretative centres
004119	Loop Head SPA	Guillemot *(Uria aalge)* [A199], Kittiwake *(Rissa tridactyla)* [A188]	A04, G01.02	Grazing, walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles
004161	Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA	Hen harrier *(Circus cyaneus)* [A082]	C01.03, B, D01.02, A09, E01.03, D01.01	Peat extraction, sylviculture, forestry, roads, motorways, irrigation, dispersed habitation, paths, tracks, cycling tracks
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	Hen harrier *(Circus cyaneus)* [A082]	D01.02, B, D01.01, E01.03, A04, C01.03	Roads, motorways, sylviculture, forestry, paths, tracks, cycling tracks, dispersed habitation, grazing, peat extraction
004168	Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA	Merlin *(Falco columbarius)* [A098], Hen harrier *(Circus cyaneus)* [A082]	D01.01, C01.03, D01.02, B, E01.03, A04	Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, peat extraction, roads, motorways, sylviculture, forestry, dispersed habitation, grazing
004189	Kerry Head SPA	Chough *(Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax)* [A346], Fulmar *(Fulmarus glacialis)* [A009]	A07, A04.03, A02, A04, E05, A01, E04.01	Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, modification of cultivation practices, grazing, storage of materials, cultivation, agricultural structures, buildings in the landscape

Qualifying Interests of SACs that have been considered by the screening assessment[23]

EU Code	Qualifying Interests	Article 17 Report Summary - Threats and Pressures	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
[1016]	Desmoulin's Whorl Snail *(Vertigo moulinsiana)*	The main pressures are associated with natural succession resulting in species composition change and drying out of the habitat.	A07, A10, L01, L02	Abandonment of management/use of other agricultural and agroforestry systems (all except grassland), extensive grazing or under grazing by livestock, abiotic natural processes (e.g., erosion, silting up, drying out, submersion, salinization), natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices)	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
[1029]	Freshwater Pearl Mussel *(Margaritifera margaritifera)*	The pressures facing this species come from a wide variety of sources (e.g. pollution from urban wastewater, development activities, farming and forestry), often quite removed from the species' habitat. Flow changes, caused by land drainage are also a significant pressure facing the species.	A26, A31, B23, B27, C05, D02, F12, F28, F31, F33	Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters, drainage for use as agricultural land, forestry activities generating pollution to surface or ground waters, modification of hydrological conditions, or physical alteration of water bodies and drainage for forestry (including dams), peat extraction, hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water, modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development, other modification of hydrological conditions for residential or recreational development, abstraction of ground and surface waters (including marine) for public water supply and recreational use	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
[1065]	Marsh Fritillary *(Euphydryas aurinia)*	The pressures facing this species are associated with conversion of land into agricultural land or forestry, under-grazing and abandonment of land.	A01, A07, A10, B01	Conversion into agricultural land (excluding drainage and burning), abandonment of management/use of other agricultural and agroforestry systems (all except grassland), extensive grazing or under grazing by livestock, conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage)	Habitat management; land use change and drainage.
[1092]	White-clawed Crayfish *(Austropotamobius pallipes)*	The main pressures facing this species is related to the non-indigenous crayfish species (NICS) and Crayfish Plaque, a waterborne disease specific to freshwater crayfish.	I01, I05	Invasive alien species of union concern, plant and animal diseases, pathogens and pests	Invasive species, disease, surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
[1095]	Sea Lamprey *(Petromyzon marinus)*	Most of the pressures on Sea Lampreys are associated with hydropower infrastructure, reduction of prey populations due to overharvesting, drainage and the use of both natural and synthetic fertilisers. Changes in rainfall due to climate change is also considered a significant pressure on the species.	A19, A20, A31, D02, G01, N01, N02, N03, Xo	Application of natural fertilisers on agricultural land, application of synthetic (mineral) fertilisers on agricultural land, drainage for use as agricultural land, hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, marine fishing and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, temperature changes (e.g., rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, increases or changes in precipitation due to climate change, threats and pressures from outside the member state	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity.

[23] Including Summaries of Current Threats and Sensitivity to Effects

EU Code	Qualifying Interests	Article 17 Report Summary - Threats and Pressures	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
[1096]	Brook Lamprey *(Lampetra planeri)*	Most of the pressures on Brook Lampreys are associated with drainage for agriculture, the use of both natural and synthetic fertilisers, tree removal. Infrastructure related to hydropower along with pollution to ground and surface water and the discharge of waste water are also considered pressures.	A19, A20, A31, B09, D02, F11, F12, N01, N02	Application of natural fertilisers on agricultural land, application of synthetic (mineral) fertilisers on agricultural land, drainage for use as agricultural land, clear-cutting, removal of all trees, hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, pollution to surface or ground water due to urban runoffs, discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water, temperature changes (e.g., rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
[1099]	River Lamprey *(Lampetra fluviatilis)*	The main pressures on River Lampreys are associated with hydropower infrastructure and changes in rainfall due to climate change. The use of synthetic and natural fertilisers, drainage and also infrastructure related to shipping are also considered to be pressures on the species.	A19, A20, A31, D02, E03, N01, N02, N03	Application of natural fertilisers on agricultural land, application of synthetic (mineral) fertilisers on agricultural land, drainage for use as agricultural land, hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, shipping lanes, ferry lanes and anchorage infrastructure (e.g., canalisation, dredging), temperature changes (e.g., rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, increases or changes in precipitation due to climate change	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
[1103]	Twaite Shad *(Alosa fallax fallax)*	There are a number of pressures related to this species, mainly relating to pollution, alteration of flow patterns, and habitat disturbance/	A19, A20, D02, E03, G01, G06, G12, I02, N01, N03	Application of natural fertilisers on agricultural land, application of synthetic (mineral) fertilisers on agricultural land, hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, shipping lanes, ferry lanes and anchorage infrastructure (e.g., canalisation, dredging), marine fishing and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, freshwater fish and shellfish harvesting (recreational), bycatch and incidental killing (due to fishing and hunting activities), other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), temperature changes (e.g., rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, increases or changes in precipitation due to climate change	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
[1106]	Salmon *(Salmo salar)*	Known pressures include exploitation at sea in commercial fisheries, interceptor fisheries in coastal waters, aquaculture and predation. In addition, the negative influence of climate change on prey structure as well as alterations in habitat and water quality are also pressures on the species.	A25, A26, B23, D02, F12, F28, G11, G19, G20, I02, J01, K05, L06, N01	Agricultural activities generating point source pollution to surface or ground waters, agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters, forestry activities generating pollution to surface or ground waters, hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water, modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development, illegal harvesting, collecting and taking, other impacts from marine aquaculture, including infrastructure, abstraction of water, flow diversion, dams and other modifications of hydrological conditions for freshwater aquaculture, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial), physical alteration of water bodies, interspecific relations (competition, predation, parasitism, pathogens), temperature changes (e.g., rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Disease, parasites and barriers to movement.
[1110]	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	No significant pressures were identified acting on this habitat.	Xxp, Xxt	No pressures, no threats	None identified.
[1130]	Estuaries	Most of the pressures on estuaries come from various sources of pollution, including domestic wastewater, agriculture and marine aquaculture. Alien invasive species such as the naturalised Pacific oyster *(Magalana gigas)* are also recognised as a significant pressure	A28, F20, G16, I02, XU	Agricultural activities generating marine pollution, residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine pollution (excl. marine macro- and micro- particular pollution, marine aquaculture generating marine pollution, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), unknown pressure	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity
[1140]	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Pressures on mudflats and sandflats are partly caused by pollution from agricultural, forestry and wastewater sources, as well as impacts associated with marine aquaculture, particularly the Pacific oyster *(Magallana gigas)*.	A28, F20, G16	Agricultural activities generating marine pollution, residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine pollution (excl. marine macro- and micro- particular pollution, marine aquaculture generating marine pollution	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.
[1150]	Coastal lagoons	Several high-ranking pressures were identified acting on this habitat: eutrophication, modification of hydrological flow, and drainage. Other pressures noted include erosion and silting up,	C12, J02, K02, K04, L01, L03, N04	Extraction activities generating marine pollution, mixed source marine water pollution (marine and coastal), drainage, modification of hydrological flow, abiotic natural processes (e.g., erosion, silting up, drying out, submersion,	Erosion and silting up. Accumulation of seaweed. Land

EU Code	Qualifying Interests	Article 17 Report Summary - Threats and Pressures	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
		accumulation of seaweed, and sedimentation from peat related to turf cutting and/or forestry.		salinization), accumulation of organic material, sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change	use management resulting in hydrological interactions.
[1160]	Large shallow inlets and bays	Pressures on the habitat include nutrient enrichment, dredging and invasive alien species.	A28, B23, F20, G01, G16, I02	Agricultural activities generating marine pollution, forestry activities generating pollution to surface or ground waters, residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine pollution (excl. marine macro- and micro-particular pollution, marine fishing and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, marine aquaculture generating marine pollution, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern)	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity, surface water runoff, discharge etc. On site management activities.
[1170]	Reefs	The main pressures on reefs come from fishing methods that damage the seafloor.	G01, G03	Marine fishing and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) activities causing physical loss and disturbance of seafloor habitats	Sensitive to disturbance and pollution.
[1220]	Perennial vegetation of stony banks	The main pressures on this habitat are associated with coastal defences (which can interfere with sediment dynamics), recreation and shingle removal.	C01, E01, F07, F08, F09, I02	Extraction of minerals (e.g., rock, metal ores, gravel, sand, shell), roads, paths, railroads and related infrastructure (e.g., bridges, viaducts, tunnels), sports, tourism and leisure activities, modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defence or coast protection works and infrastructures), deposition and treatment of waste/garbage from household/recreational facilities, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern)	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity and gravel removal.
[1230]	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	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.	C01, E01, F07, F08, I02, N03, N04	Extraction of minerals (e.g., rock, metal ores, gravel, sand, shell), roads, paths, railroads and related infrastructure (e.g., bridges, viaducts, tunnels), sports, tourism and leisure activities, modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defence or coast protection works and infrastructures), other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), increases or changes in precipitation due to climate change, sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change	Land use activities such as tourism and/or agricultural practices. Direct alteration to the habitat or effects such as burning or drainage.
[1303]	Lesser horseshoe bat *(Rhinolophus hipposideros)*	The pressures facing Lesser Horseshoe Bats are associated with human disturbance (e.g. noise, light and heat pollution, construction or conversion of urban and recreational areas, including the removal of small landscape features and trees).	A05, A14, B09, F01, F02, F24, H08, L06, M08	Removal of small landscape features for agricultural land parcel consolidation, livestock farming (without grazing), clear-cutting, removal of all trees, conversion from other land uses to housing, settlement or recreational areas (excluding drainage and modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions), construction or modification (e.g., of housing and settlements) in existing urban or recreational areas, residential or recreational activities and structures generating noise, light, heat or other forms of pollution, other human intrusions and disturbance not mentioned above (dumping, accidental and deliberate disturbance of bat roosts (e.g., caving)), interspecific relations (competition, predation, parasitism, pathogens), flooding (natural processes)	Temperature fluctuations in their roosts. Resource availability. Habitat connectivity. Lighting and noise effects. Urbanisation.
[1310]	Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	Pressures on Salicornia mud are caused by alien species and overgrazing by livestock	A09, I02	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern)	Marine water dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Infilling, reclamation, invasive species.
[1330]	Atlantic salt meadows *(Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)*	The main pressures on Atlantic salt meadows are from agriculture, including ecologically unstable grazing regimes and land reclamation, and the invasive non-native species common cord-grass (*Spartina anglica*).	A09, A33, A36, F07, F08, I02	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, modification of hydrological flow or physical alternation of water bodies for agriculture (excluding development and operation of dams), agriculture activities not referred to above, sports, tourism and leisure activities, modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defence or coast protection works and infrastructures), other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern)	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Overgrazing, erosion and accretion.
[1349]	Bottlenose Dolphin *(Tursiops truncatus)*	Pressures on this species in Irish waters mainly involve commercial vessel-based activities such as impacts arising	C09, G01	Geotechnical surveying, marine fishing and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species	Large vessel movement effecting distributions. Prey availability,

EU Code	Qualifying Interests	Article 17 Report Summary - Threats and Pressures	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
		from geophysical seismic exploration or from local/regional prey removal by fisheries.			reduction in available habitat and water quality.
[1355]	Otter *(Lutra lutra)*	There are no pressures facing this species	Xxp, Xxt	No pressures, no threats	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Sensitivity to pollution.
[1410]	Mediterranean salt meadows *(Juncetalia maritimi)*	Most of the pressures on Mediterranean salt meadows are associated with agriculture, including overgrazing, under-grazing and land reclamation.	A09, A10, A33, A36	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, extensive grazing or under grazing by livestock, modification of hydrological flow or physical alternation of water bodies for agriculture (excluding development and operation of dams), agriculture activities not referred to above	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development and reclamation.
[1421]	Killarney Fern *(Trichomanes speciosum)*	There are no pressures facing this species.	Xxp, Xxt	No pressures, no threats	Land use management and direct impacts.
[3180]	Turloughs	The main pressures associated with this habitat are related to drainage, groundwater pollution and ecologically unsuitable grazing.	A09, A26, A31	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters, drainage for use as agricultural land	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
[3260]	Water courses of plain to montane levels with vegetation *(Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion)*	The majority of pressures on this habitat are caused by damage through hydrological and morphological change, eutrophication and other water pollution.	A25, A26, B23, C05, F11, F12, F13, K01, K04, K05	Agricultural activities generating point source pollution to surface or ground waters, agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters, forestry activities generating pollution to surface or ground waters, peat extraction, pollution to surface or ground water due to urban runoffs, discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water, plants, contaminated or abandoned industrial sites generating pollution to surface or ground water, abstraction from groundwater, surface water or mixed water, modification of hydrological flow, physical alteration of water bodies	Surface water dependent Highly sensitive to hydrological change and direct physical interactions.
[3270]	Rivers with muddy banks with vegetation *(Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p.)*	The only significant pressure on this habitat is a result of intensive grazing resulting in poaching.	A09, I02	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern)	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.
[4010]	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	Overgrazing, burning, wind farm development and erosion are the main pressures associated with this habitat, along with nitrogen deposition from agricultural activities that generate air pollution.	A09, A11, A27, B01, D01, L01, N01, N02	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, burning for agriculture, agricultural activities generating air pollution, conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, abiotic natural processes (e.g., erosion, silting up, drying out, submersion, salinization), temperature changes (e.g., rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
[4030]	European dry heaths	A number of significant pressures were recorded for this habitat in the current reporting period, particularly overgrazing by sheep and burning for agriculture with afforestation and wind farms also being recognised as pressures.	A09, A11, B01, D01, N01, N02	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, burning for agriculture, conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, temperature changes (e.g., rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
[4060]	Alpine and Boreal heaths	Overgrazing by livestock, tourism (hill walking) and agricultural activities that cause air pollution are considered significant pressures for this habitat.	A09, A27, F07, N01, N02	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, agricultural activities generating air pollution, sports, tourism and leisure activities, temperature changes (e.g., rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
[5130]	Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	The pressures associated with this habitat are associated with overgrazing, erosion and scrub removal.	Xxp, Xxt	No pressures, no threats	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
[6130]	Calaminarian grasslands of the Murawy galmanowa *(Violetalia calaminariae)*	Pressures on this habitat are associated with abiotic natural processes (leaching of metals) and succession, as well as impacts from recreational activities (walking/hiking).	F07, L01, L02	Sports, tourism and leisure activities, abiotic natural processes (e.g., erosion, silting up, drying out, submersion, salinization), natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices)	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes

EU Code	Qualifying Interests	Article 17 Report Summary - Threats and Pressures	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
					to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
[6210]	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates *(Festuco-Brometalia)* * important orchid sites)	The significant pressures related to this habitat are mainly associated with agricultural intensification causing loss of species-rich communities, or abandonment of farmland resulting in succession to scrub.	A02, A09, A10, C01, I02, I04	Conversion from one type of agricultural land use to another (excluding drainage and burning), intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, extensive grazing or under grazing by livestock, extraction of minerals (e.g., rock, metal ores, gravel, sand, shell), other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), problematic native species	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
[6230]	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas *(and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)*	The main pressures on this habitat are due to bracken encroachment and succession.	I04, L02	Problematic native species, natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices)	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
[6410]	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils *(Molinion caeruleae)*	The main pressures on the habitat are associated with agricultural intensification (e.g. land drainage, fertiliser application), under-grazing and forestry.	A02, A06, A10, A14, A31, B01	Conversion from one type of agricultural land use to another (excluding drainage and burning), abandonment of grassland management (e.g., cessation of grazing or of mowing), extensive grazing or under grazing by livestock, livestock farming (without grazing), drainage for use as agricultural land, conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage)	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
[6430]	Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	Pressures on the habitat include invasive species; and agricultural intensification and drainage in the lowlands.	A09, A31, I01, I02	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, drainage for use as agricultural land, invasive alien species of union concern, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern)	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
[7110]	Active raised bogs	The main pressures on active raised bog are peat extraction, drainage, afforestation and burning.	A11, B01, C05, K02, N01	Burning for agriculture, conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), peat extraction, drainage, temperature changes (e.g., rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
[7120]	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	The main pressure on degraded bogs come from peat extraction, drainage, afforestation and burning.	A11, B01, C05, K02, N01	Burning for agriculture, conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), peat extraction, drainage, temperature changes (e.g., rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
[7130]	Blanket bogs *(* if active bog)*	The main pressures on blanket bogs are overgrazing, burning, afforestation, peat extraction, and agricultural activities causing nitrogen deposition. Erosion, drainage and wind farm construction are also pressures relating to this habitat.	A09, A11, A27, B01, C05, D01, K02, L01, N01, N02	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, burning for agriculture, agricultural activities generating air pollution, conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), peat extraction, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, drainage, abiotic natural processes (e.g., erosion, silting up, drying out, submersion, salinization), temperature changes (e.g., rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Surface water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
[7140]	Transition mires and quaking bogs	The main pressures facing transition mires in Ireland are afforestation, water pollution, drainage and hydrological changes with grazing/agricultural management also being a pressure.	A06, A09, B01, C05, J01, K01, K02, K04, L02	Abandonment of grassland management (e.g., cessation of grazing or of mowing), intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), peat extraction, mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial), abstraction from groundwater, surface water or mixed water, drainage, modification of hydrological flow, natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices)	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
[7150]	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	The main pressures on the habitat are associated with impacts on the supporting bog habitats, especially overgrazing, burning, peat extraction, drainage and conversion to forestry.	A09, A11, B01, C05, K02, N01	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, burning for agriculture, conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), peat extraction, drainage, temperature changes (e.g., rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Surface and ground water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
[7210]	Calcareous fens with species of mariscus sedge and bog cotton *(Cladium mariscus and Caricion davallianae)*	Overgrazing, groundwater pollution, abandonment of grassland management and drainage are pressures associated with this habitat.	A06, A09, C05, J01, K01, K02, K04	Abandonment of grassland management (e.g., cessation of grazing or of mowing), intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, peat extraction, mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial), abstraction from groundwater, surface water or mixed water, drainage, modification of hydrological flow	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.

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[7220]	Petrifying springs with tufa formation *(Cratoneurion)*	Pressures related to this habitat are associated with drainage, pollution to ground and surface waters, recreational activities, infrastructure, overgrazing and abandonment of grassland management.	A06, A10, E01, F07, H08, J01, K02, K04, L02	Abandonment of grassland management (e.g., cessation of grazing or of mowing), extensive grazing or under grazing by livestock, roads, paths, railroads and related infrastructure (e.g., bridges, viaducts, tunnels), sports, tourism and leisure activities, other human intrusions and disturbance not mentioned above (dumping, accidental and deliberate disturbance of bat roosts (e.g., caving)), mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial), drainage, modification of hydrological flow, natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices)	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
[7230]	Alkaline fens	The main pressures facing this habitat are land abandonment (and associated succession), overgrazing, drainage and pollution.	A06, A09, A26, J01, K01, K02, K04, L02, N02, N03	Abandonment of grassland management (e.g., cessation of grazing or of mowing), intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters, mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial), abstraction from groundwater, surface water or mixed water, drainage, modification of hydrological flow, natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices), temperature changes (e.g., rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, increases or changes in precipitation due to climate change	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
[8110]	Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels *(Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)*	The main pressures on siliceous scree come from overgrazing, under-grazing and succession.	A09, A10, L02	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, extensive grazing or under grazing by livestock, natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices)	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
[8210]	Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	The majority of pressures related to this habitat are associated with overgrazing and the non-native invasive species New Zealand willowherb *(Epilobium brunnescens)*.	A09, A27, I02	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, agricultural activities generating air pollution, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern)	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
[8220]	Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	Pressure on this habitat is associated with the non-native invasive species New Zealand willowherb *(Epilobium brunnescens)*.	I02	Other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern)	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
[8240]	Limestone pavements	The main pressures facing this habitat are associated with conversion to agricultural land and housing construction, as well as scrub encroachment caused by under-grazing.	A01, A10, C01, F01, I02	Conversion into agricultural land (excluding drainage and burning), extensive grazing or under grazing by livestock, extraction of minerals (e.g., rock, metal ores, gravel, sand, shell), conversion from other land uses to housing, settlement or recreational areas (excluding drainage and modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions), other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern)	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
[8310]	Caves not open to the public	There are no pressures facing this habitat.	Xxp, Xxt	No pressures, no threats	None identified.
[91A0]	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	The significant pressure facing this habitat are associated with invasive non-native species such as *Rhododendron ponticum*, cherry laurel *(Prunus laurocerasus)* and beech *(Fagus sylvatica)* and overgrazing by deer.	A09, B09, I02, I04, M07	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, clear-cutting, removal of all trees, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), problematic native species, storm, cyclone	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.
[91E0]	Alluvial forests with Alder and Ash *(Alnus glutinosa, Fraxinus excelsior, Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)*	Many of the pressures facing this habitat include invasive species, particularly sycamore *(Acer pseudoplatanus)*, beech *(Fagus sylvatica)*, Indian balsam *(Impatiens glandulifera)* and currant species *(Ribes nigrum and R. rubrum)* as well as some native species such as brambles *(Rubus fruticoses agg.)* and common nettle, along with over felling.	B09, I02, I04, I05	Clear-cutting, removal of all trees, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), problematic native species, plant and animal diseases, pathogens and pests	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Changes in management.
[91J0]	Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	Pressures facing this habitat are mainly linked to the presence of alien species such as sycamore *(Acer psedoplatanus)*, beech *(Fagus sylvatica)*, cherry laurel *(Prunus laurocerasus)* and traveller's joy *(Clematis vitalba)*, with overgrazing by deer also posing a pressure to the habitat.	A09, I02, I05	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), plant and animal diseases, pathogens and pests	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.

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

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A009	Fulmar	*Fulmarus glacialis*	I02, N06, N07, F22, F23, G12, D01, G01	Other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), desynchronisation of biological / ecological processes due to climate change, decline or extinction of related species (e.g. food source / prey, predator / parasite, symbiote, etc.) due to climate change, residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine macro- and micro-particulate pollution (e.g. plastic bags, styrofoam), industrial or commercial activities and structures generating marine macro- and micro- particulate pollution (e.g. plastic bags, styrofoam), bycatch and incidental killing (due to fishing and hunting activities), wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species
A017	Cormorant	*Phalacrocorax carbo carbo*	G12, D01, F07, G10, J02, N06, N07, N01	Bycatch and incidental killing (due to fishing and hunting activities), wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, sports, tourism and leisure activities, illegal shooting/killing, mixed source marine water pollution (marine and coastal), desynchronisation of biological / ecological processes due to climate change, decline or extinction of related species (e.g. food source / prey, predator / parasite, symbiote, etc.) due to climate change, temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change
A038	Whooper Swan	*Cygnus cygnus*	D01, D06, F07, F28	Wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, transmission of electricity and communications (cables), sports, tourism and leisure activities, modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development
A046	Light-bellied Brent Goose	*Branta bernicla hrota*	F07, D06, F01, F08, G01	Sports, tourism and leisure activities, transmission of electricity and communications (cables), conversion from other land uses to housing, settlement or recreational areas (excluding drainage and modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions), modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defences or coastal protection works and infrastructures), marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species
A048	Shelduck	*Tadorna tadorna*	F07, G19, N01, D01, N04	Sports, tourism and leisure activities, other impacts from marine aquaculture, including infrastructure, temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change
A050	Wigeon	*Mareca penelope*	F07, G07, N01, D01, F08, F28	Sports, tourism and leisure activities, hunting, temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defences or coastal protection works and infrastructures), modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development
A052	Teal	*Anas crecca*	G07, F07, D01, F28	Hunting, sports, tourism and leisure activities, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development
A054	Pintail	*Anas acuta*	F07, G07, N01, D01, F28	Sports, tourism and leisure activities, hunting, temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development
A056	Shoveler	*Spatula clypeata*	I02, I05, F07, G07, N01, D01, F28	Other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), plant and animal diseases, pathogens and pests, sports, tourism and leisure activities, hunting, temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development
A061	Tufted Duck	*Aythya fuligula*	F28, F07, G07, J01, N01, D01	Modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development, sports, tourism and leisure activities, hunting, mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial), temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure
A062	Scaup	*Aythya marila*	F07, G07, G19, J01, D01	Sports, tourism and leisure activities, hunting, other impacts from marine aquaculture, including infrastructure, mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial), wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure
A067	Goldeneye	*Bucephala clangula*	F07, G07, J01, N01, N04, D01, F28	Sports, tourism and leisure activities, hunting, mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial), temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development
A082	Hen Harrier	*Circus cyaneus*	B01, B03, A05, D01, A13, A02, B16, A11, A07, I04, A03, A31, A21, A15	Conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), replanting with or introducing non-native or non-typical species (including new species and gmos), removal of small landscape features for agricultural land parcel consolidation (hedges, stone walls, rushes, open ditches, springs, solitary trees, etc.), wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, reseeding of grasslands and other semi-natural habitats, conversion from one type of agricultural land use to another (excluding drainage and burning), wood transport, burning for agriculture, abandonment of management/use of other agricultural and agroforestry systems (all except grassland), problematic native species, conversion from mixed farming and agroforestry systems to specialised (e.g. single crop) production, drainage for use as agricultural land, use of plant protection chemicals in agriculture, tillage practices (e.g. ploughing) in agriculture
A098	Merlin	*Falco columbarius*	B03, B09, A01, C05, D01	Replanting with or introducing non-native or non-typical species (including new species and gmos), clear-cutting, removal of all trees, conversion into agricultural land (excluding drainage and burning), peat extraction, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure
A137	Ringed Plover	*Charadrius hiaticula*	F07, G19, D01, F08, N04	Sports, tourism and leisure activities, other impacts from marine aquaculture, including infrastructure, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defences or coastal protection works and infrastructures), sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change
A140	Golden Plover	*Pluvialis apricaria*	B01, I04, I02, A02, A11, A09, D01, H04, A31, G07, N01, F07, F28	Conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), problematic native species, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), conversion from one type of agricultural land use to another (excluding drainage and burning), burning for agriculture, intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, vandalism or arson, drainage for use as agricultural land, hunting, temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, sports, tourism and leisure activities, modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development
A141	Grey Plover	*Pluvialis squatarola*	F07, G01, G19, D01, N04	Sports, tourism and leisure activities, marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, other impacts from marine aquaculture, including infrastructure, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A142	Lapwing	*Vanellus vanellus*	A08, A21, B01, I04, I02, A02, C05, D01, A06, A31, N01, F07, F28	Mowing or cutting of grasslands, use of plant protection chemicals in agriculture, conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), problematic native species, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), conversion from one type of agricultural land use to another (excluding drainage and burning), peat extraction, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, abandonment of grassland management (e.g. cessation of grazing or mowing), drainage for use as agricultural land, temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, sports, tourism and leisure activities, modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development
A143	Knot	*Calidris canutus*	F07, G01, G19, D01, F08, N04	Sports, tourism and leisure activities, marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, other impacts from marine aquaculture, including infrastructure, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defences or coastal protection works and infrastructures), sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change
A149	Dunlin	*Calidris alpina*	G01, G19, D01, F08, N04, F07	Marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, other impacts from marine aquaculture, including infrastructure, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defences or coastal protection works and infrastructures), sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change, sports, tourism and leisure activities
A156	Black-tailed Godwit	*Limosa limosa*	F07, G19, D01, F08, N04	Sports, tourism and leisure activities, other impacts from marine aquaculture, including infrastructure, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defences or coastal protection works and infrastructures), sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change
A157	Bar-tailed Godwit	*Limosa lapponica*	F07, G19, G01, F08, D01, N04	Sports, tourism and leisure activities, other impacts from marine aquaculture, including infrastructure, marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defences or coastal protection works and infrastructures), wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change
A160	Curlew	*Numenius arquata*	A08, B01, I04, I02, A31, A02, C05, D01, A06, A11, F07, G01, G19, F08	Mowing or cutting of grasslands, conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), problematic native species, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), drainage for use as agricultural land, conversion from one type of agricultural land use to another (excluding drainage and burning), peat extraction, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, abandonment of grassland management (e.g. cessation of grazing or mowing), burning for agriculture, sports, tourism and leisure activities, marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, other impacts from marine aquaculture, including infrastructure, modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defences or coastal protection works and infrastructures)
A162	Redshank	*Tringa totanus*	A08, A09, B01, I04, I02, A02, C05, D01, A06, A31, F07, F08, N04	Mowing or cutting of grasslands, intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), problematic native species, other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), conversion from one type of agricultural land use to another (excluding drainage and burning), peat extraction, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, abandonment of grassland management (e.g. cessation of grazing or mowing), drainage for use as agricultural land, sports, tourism and leisure activities, modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defences or coastal protection works and infrastructures), sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change
A164	Greenshank	*Tringa nebularia*	F07, D01, F08, N04	Sports, tourism and leisure activities, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defences or coastal protection works and infrastructures), sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change
A179	Black-headed Gull	*Larus ridibundus*	F22, F23, I02, I04, D01, M08	Residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine macro- and micro- particulate pollution (e.g. plastic bags, styrofoam), industrial or commercial activities and structures generating marine macro- and micro- particulate pollution (e.g. plastic bags, styrofoam), other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), problematic native species, wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, flooding (natural processes)
A188	Kittiwake	*Rissa tridactyla*	F22, F23, G12, D01, G01, L06, N06, N07	Residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine macro- and micro- particulate pollution (e.g. plastic bags, styrofoam), industrial or commercial activities and structures generating marine macro- and micro- particulate pollution (e.g. plastic bags, styrofoam), bycatch and incidental killing (due to fishing and hunting activities), wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, interspecific relations (competition, predation, parasitism, pathogens), desynchronisation of biological / ecological processes due to climate change, decline or extinction of related species (e.g. food source / prey, predator / parasite, symbiote, etc.) due to climate change
A193	Common Tern	*Sterna hirundo*	A09, G12, I02, I04, J02, L06, M08, D01, F07, G01, N06, N07	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, bycatch and incidental killing (due to fishing and hunting activities), other invasive alien species (other than species of union concern), problematic native species, mixed source marine water pollution (marine and coastal), interspecific relations (competition, predation, parasitism, pathogens), flooding (natural processes), wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, sports, tourism and leisure activities, marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, desynchronisation of biological / ecological processes due to climate change, decline or extinction of related species (e.g. food source / prey, predator / parasite, symbiote, etc.) due to climate change
A199	Guillemot	*Uria aalge*	F22, F23, G12, D01, J02, N06, N07	Residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine macro- and micro- particulate pollution (e.g. plastic bags, styrofoam), industrial or commercial activities and structures generating marine macro- and micro- particulate pollution (e.g. plastic bags, styrofoam), bycatch and incidental killing (due to fishing and hunting activities), wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, mixed source marine water pollution (marine and coastal), desynchronisation of biological / ecological processes due to climate change, decline or extinction of related species (e.g. food source / prey, predator / parasite, symbiote, etc.) due to climate change
A346	Chough	*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*	A03, A02, A06, A21	Conversion from mixed farming and agroforestry systems to specialised (e.g. single crop) production, conversion from one type of agricultural land use to another (excluding drainage and burning), abandonment of grassland management (e.g. cessation of grazing or mowing), use of plant protection chemicals in agriculture

Appendix II Relationship with Other Plans and Programmes

This appendix is not intended to be a full and comprehensive review of 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 Directive, Regulation, Plan or Programme to become familiar with the full details of each.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim / purpose / objective	Additional information / lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
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 and 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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. • 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.	• All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA. • For projects listed in Annex II, a "screening procedure" is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account Annex III. • The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor. • Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)	It aims to reduce water pollution from nitrates used for agricultural purposes and prevent any further pollution. It forms an integral part of the water framework directive (Directive 2000/60/EC) of the European Union and is closely linked to other EU policies that address air quality, climate change and agriculture.	EU Member States must do the following: • Designate as vulnerable zones all those draining into waters that are or could be affected by high nitrate levels and eutrophication. The designation is reviewed and possibly revised at least every 4 years to take account of any changes that have occurred. • Establish mandatory action programmes for these areas, taking into account available scientific and technical data and overall environmental conditions. • Monitor the effectiveness of the action programmes. • Test the nitrate concentration in fresh ground and surface water at sampling stations, at least monthly and more frequently during flooding. • Carry out a comprehensive monitoring programme and submit – every 4 years – a detailed report on the directive's implementation. The report includes information on nitrate-vulnerable zones, results of water monitoring and a summary of the relevant aspects of codes of good agricultural practices and action programmes. • Draw up a code of good agricultural practices, which farmers apply on a voluntary basis. It sets out various good practices, such as when fertiliser use is inappropriate. • Provide training and information for farmers, where appropriate. The European Commission provides a report every 4 years on the basis of the national information it has received.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Environmental Quality Standards Directive (EQSD) (2008/105/EC)	It sets out environmental quality standards (EQSs) for the presence in surface water of certain substances or groups of substances identified as priority pollutants because of the significant risk they pose to or via the aquatic environment. These standards are in line with the strategy and objectives of the European Union (EU)'s water framework directive (Directive 2000/60/EC). It repeals Directives 82/176/EEC, 83/513/EEC, 84/156/EEC, 84/491/EEC and 86/280/EEC with effect from 22 December 2012.	The directive sets EQSs for priority substances and eight other pollutants. These substances include: the metals cadmium, lead, mercury and nickel, and their compounds; benzene; polyaromatic hydrocarbons; and several pesticides. Several of these priority substances are classed as hazardous. The EQSs in Directive 2008/105/EC are limits on the concentration of the priority substances and eight other pollutants in water (or biota), i.e. thresholds which must not be exceeded if a good chemical status is to be met. There are two types of water standard. A threshold for the average concentration of the substance concerned calculated from measurements over a 1-year period. The purpose of this standard is to ensure protection against long-term exposure to pollutants in the aquatic environment. A maximum allowable concentration of the substance concerned, i.e. the maximum for any single measurement. The purpose of this standard is to ensure protection against short-term exposure, i.e. pollution peaks. The EQSs are different for: • inland surface waters (rivers and lakes); • other surface waters (transitional, coastal and territorial waters). • EU Member States must ensure compliance with the EQSs. They must also take measures to ensure that the concentrations of substances that tend to accumulate in sediment and/or biota do not increase significantly.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Industrial Emissions (Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control) – IED Directive (2010/75/EU)	It is aimed at achieving significant benefits to the environment and human health by reducing harmful industrial emissions across the EU, in particular through better application of Best Available Techniques (BAT). The IED is based on the following principles: • an integrated approach (focusing on the installation being permitted rather than separately on different environmental media such as air, water or soil); • best available techniques; • flexibility; • inspections; • public participation. The IED combines seven separate existing Directives related to industrial emissions: With effect from 7 January 2014: • Directive 78/176/EEC of 20 February 1978 on waste from the titanium dioxide industry; • Directive 82/883/EEC on the surveillance and monitoring of titanium dioxide waste; • Directive 92/112/EEC on the reduction of titanium dioxide industrial waste; • Directive 1999/13/EC on reducing emissions of volatile organic compounds; • Directive 2000/76/EC on waste incineration (Waste Incineration Directive); • Directive 2008/1/EC concerning integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC Directive); With effect from 1st January 2016: • Directive 2001/80/EC on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants from large combustion plants (LCP Directive).	• The IED aspires to reduce and, as far as possible, eliminate pollution arising from industrial activities. It seeks to achieve this by providing a general framework for the control of the industries with the highest pollution potential in order to prevent the shifting of pollution from one environmental medium (or industry) to another. The overall intention is to provide an integrated approach to the prevention and control of emissions into the various environmental media such as, air, water and soil while striking a commercial balance for businesses. • The IED aims to increase the effectiveness of the legislation by supporting Member States in implementing BAT-based permitting. The IED aims to improve and clarify the concept and use of BAT and increases transparency by requiring that the use of flexibility must be justified and documented leading to a more coherent and EU-wide application of BAT. • The IED also strengthens existing minimum requirements in certain sectors (such as large combustion plants, waste incineration, etc.) so as to ensure the achievement of objectives of the Commission's Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution. • The IED aims to further increase the effectiveness of the legislation by strengthening provisions on environmental improvement and enforcement, while stimulating innovation. The IED introduces minimum requirements as regards the environmental inspections of installations, the review and update of permits, and reporting on compliance. It also provides incentives for the development and promotion of environment-friendly technologies. • The IED aims to cut all identified unnecessary administrative burdens and simplify current legislation. The IED tackles the shortcomings of current EU legislation on industrial emissions by overhauling the seven existing pieces of legislation on industrial emissions. This has improved the clarity and coherence of the legislation and should reduce the administrative burden through combined requirements on granting permits and streamlined reporting.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC	The 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.	This Directive is limited to the essential requirements with which machinery for pesticide application must comply before being placed on the market and/or put into service, while the European standardisation organisations are responsible for drawing up harmonised standards providing detailed specifications for the various categories of such machinery in order to enable manufacturers to comply with those requirements.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Renewable Energy Directive (RED) 2023/2413 **- amending Directive (EU) 2018/2001, Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 and Directive 98/70/EC as regards the promotion of energy from renewable sources, and repealing Council Directive (EU) 2015/652**	The Renewable Energy Directive is the legal framework for the development of clean energy across all sectors of the EU economy, supporting cooperation between EU countries towards this goal. The revised Directive introduces stronger measures to ensure that all possibilities for the further development and uptake of renewables are fully utilised. This will be key to achieving the EU's objective of climate neutrality by 2050 and to strengthen Europe's security of energy supply. In addition to double the existing share of renewable energy sources, a strong policy framework will facilitate electrification in different sectors, with new increased sector-specific targets for renewables in heating and cooling, transport, industry, buildings and district heating/cooling, but also with a framework promoting electric vehicles and smart recharging.	The revised Directive sets an overall renewable energy target of at least 42.5% binding at EU level by 2030 - but aiming for 45%. The amended RED contains revised targets for renewable energy consumption in transport, of 29% energy share (known as the 'RES-T') or a 14.5% GHG reduction by 2030.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Indirect Land Use Change Directive (2012/0288 (COD))	• Article 3(4) of Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (3) requires Member States to ensure that the share of energy from renewable energy sources in all forms of transport in 2020 is at least 10 % of their final energy consumption. • The blending of biofuels is one of the methods available for Member States to meet this target, and is expected to be the main contributor. • Other methods available to meet the target are the reduction of energy consumption, which is imperative because a mandatory percentage target for energy from renewable sources is likely to become increasingly difficult to achieve sustainably if overall demand for energy for transport continues to rise, and the use of electricity from renewable energy sources.	• Limit the contribution that conventional biofuels (with a risk of ILUC emissions) make towards attainment of the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive; • Improve the greenhouse gas performance of biofuel production processes (reducing associated emissions) by raising the greenhouse gas saving threshold for new installations subject to protecting installations already in operation on 1st July 2014; • Encourage a greater market penetration of advanced (low-ILUC) biofuels by allowing such fuels to contribute more to the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive than conventional biofuels; • Improve the reporting of greenhouse gas emissions by obliging Member States and fuel suppliers to report the estimated indirect land-use change emissions of biofuels.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Regulation (AFIR) - **(Regulation (EU) 2023/1804 on the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure, and repealing Directive 2014/94/EU)**	The regulation sets mandatory national targets for European Union Member States to deploy publicly accessible alternative fuels infrastructure (in particular for electricity and hydrogen) for road vehicles, vessels moored at the quayside and stationary aircraft, with a specific focus on the trans-European networks. The regulation also includes: • common rules for user information, data provision and payment requirements; • a mandate for the Commission to adopt delegated acts to ensure interoperability of infrastructure by mandating technical specifications on the basis of European standards; and • planning and reporting requirements for Member States.	Recharging infrastructure for electric cars and vans: • Member States must ensure that publicly accessible recharging stations are set up in proportion to the number of registered vehicles, as follows: • for each registered electric vehicle, a total power output of at least 1.3 kilowatts (kW); for each registered plug-in hybrid vehicle, a total power output of at least 0.80 kW. • Member States must also ensure the deployment of publicly accessible recharging stations along the trans-European transport network (TEN-T) road network. Recharging infrastructure for electric heavy-duty vehicles: • Member States must ensure a minimum coverage of recharging points for heavy-duty electric vehicles. Hydrogen infrastructure for road vehicles: • By 31 December 2030, Member States must ensure that publicly accessible hydrogen refuelling stations with a total capacity of at least 1 tonne per day are deployed at least every 200 km along the TEN-T core network. At least one refuelling station must be deployed in each urban node. Liquefied methane for road transport: • Until 31 December 2024, Member States must ensure that an appropriate number of publicly accessible refuelling points for liquefied methane are set up, at least along the TEN-T core network, where there is demand, unless the costs are disproportionate to the benefits, including environmental benefits. Electricity supply in maritime ports: • By 31 December 2029, there must be sufficient shoreside electricity for ships moored at the quayside at TEN-T core and TEN-T comprehensive maritime ports to serve at least 90% of all container and passenger vessels above 5,000 gross tonnage. Electricity for stationary aircraft: • By 31 December 2024, all airports of the TEN-T core and comprehensive network must provide electricity to stationary aircraft used for commercial air transport operations at aircraft contact stands, and by 31 December 2029 at all remote stands. Railway infrastructure: • Member States must assess the development of alternative fuel technologies and propulsion systems (including hydrogen and battery power) for rail infrastructure that cannot be fully electrified for technical or cost-efficiency reasons. Payment: • Users of electric and hydrogen vehicles must be able to pay easily at recharging and hydrogen refuelling points (with payment cards and without subscriptions). Prices, including all of their components and specific to the recharging session, must be communicated clearly to end users before the start of a recharging session.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU)	• Establishes a set of binding measures to help the EU reach its 20% energy efficiency target by 2020. • Under the Directive, all EU countries are required to use energy more efficiently at all stages of the energy chain, from production to final consumption.	• Energy distributors or retail energy sales companies have to achieve 1.5% energy savings per year through the implementation of energy efficiency measures • EU countries can opt to achieve the same level of savings through other means, such as improving the efficiency of heating systems, installing double glazed windows or insulating roofs • The public sector in EU countries should purchase energy efficient buildings, products and services • Every year, governments in EU countries must carry out energy efficient renovations on at least 3% (by floor area) of the buildings they own and occupy • Energy consumers should be empowered to better manage consumption. This includes easy and free access to data on consumption through individual metering • National incentives for SMEs to undergo energy audits • Large companies will make audits of their energy consumption to help them identify ways to reduce it • Monitoring efficiency levels in new energy generation capacities.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

EU Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR) 2018 (as amended in 2023)	The ESR establishes binding annual greenhouse gas emission targets for Member States from 2021 to 2030. It is part of a set of policies and measures to reduce the EU's emissions by at least 55% by 2030, compared to 1990 levels. This is a crucial milestone to deliver the European Green Deal and achieve climate neutrality by 2050. The ESR is also part of the Energy Union strategy and the EU's implementation of the Paris Agreement.	The national targets concern emissions from the following sectors: domestic transport (excluding aviation), buildings, agriculture, small industry, and waste. These sectors account for almost 60% of emissions in the EU. The ESR assigns each Member State with an emission reduction target for 2030, a set of annual emission allocations for each year from 2021 to 2030, and flexibilities to deal with annual fluctuations in greenhouse gas emissions due to weather or economic conditions. The amended legislation increases the emissions reduction target for the targeted sectors including transport, from 29% to 40% by 2030, compared to 2005 levels.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Energy Union Strategy (COM/2015/080) (2015) and the EU "Clean energy for all Europeans" package (2019)	The Energy Union Strategy aims at building an energy union that gives EU consumers - households and businesses - secure, sustainable, competitive and affordable energy. Since its launch in 2015, the EC has published several packages of measures and regular progress reports, which monitor the implementation of this key priority, to ensure that the energy union strategy is achieved. The package aims to help to decarbonise EU's energy system in line with the European Green Deal objectives. The ESR transforms the targets of the Clean Energy Package into binding annual climate targets for each Member State for the period 2021–2030. The "Clean energy for all Europeans" package – marked a significant step towards implementing the Energy Union Strategy.	The Energy Union Strategy builds five closely related and mutually reinforcing dimensions: • Security, solidarity and trust - diversifying Europe's sources of energy and ensuring energy security through solidarity and cooperation between EU countries. • A fully integrated internal energy market - enabling the free flow of energy through the EU through adequate infrastructure and without technical or regulatory barriers. • Energy efficiency - improved energy efficiency will reduce dependence on energy imports, lower emissions, and drive jobs and growth. • Climate action, decarbonising the economy - the EU is committed to a quick ratification of the Paris Agreement and to retaining its leadership in the area of renewable energy. • Research, innovation and competitiveness - supporting breakthroughs in low-carbon and clean energy technologies by prioritising research and innovation to drive the energy transition and improve competitiveness. Based on Commission proposals published in 2016, the Clean Energy package consists of 8 new laws. Following political agreement by the EU Council and the European Parliament (finalised in May 2019) and the entry into force of the different EU rules, EU countries have 1-2 years to convert the new directives into national law.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Directive on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe 2024/EC **recast: Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe Directive 2008/50/EC and Fourth Daughter Directive 2004/107/EC**	This new directive simplifies EU rules on ambient air quality by merging the two existing EU directives into one. Its goal is to bring quality standards in line with the World Health Organization (WHO) recommendations. The new directive introduces stricter limits on key air pollutants, aligning EU standards more closely with World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines.	Air quality is assessed using common methods and criteria across the EU, and the revised directive brings further improvements to air quality monitoring and modelling. The revised directive will also ensure early action, with air quality roadmaps that need to be prepared ahead of 2030 if there is a risk that the new standards will not be attained by that date. The air quality standards will be reviewed regularly in line with latest scientific evidence to assess whether they continue to be appropriate. The revised directive prioritises the health of EU citizens: it sets new air quality standards for pollutants to be reached by 2030 which are more closely aligned with the WHO air quality guidelines. Those pollutants include, among others, particulate matter PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide, all known to cause respiratory problems. Member states may request that the 2030 deadline be postponed if specific conditions are met.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Emissions Ceilings (NEC) Directive 2016/2284/EU on the reduction of certain atmospheric pollutants	It aims to reduce the health risks and environmental impact of air pollution by establishing national emission reduction commitments. The Directive also aligns emission reduction commitments under EU law with international commitments (following the revision of the Gothenburg Protocol in 2012). The legislation was proposed as part of the EU's 2013 Clean Air Policy Package, which included a Clean Air Programme for Europe.	The Directive covers 5 air pollutants: • sulphur dioxide; • nitrogen oxides; • non-methane volatile organic compounds; • ammonia; and • fine particulate matter. The Directive sets emission reduction commitments per pollutant for each EU country to be attained by 2020 and 2030. The emission reduction commitments for each pollutant that will apply each year from 2020 to 2029 are the same as those which the EU countries are already committed to under the revised Gothenburg protocol. New stricter reductions have been agreed from 2030 onwards.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (1979)	The first international treaty to deal with air pollution on a broad regional basis. The Convention entered into force in 1983, laying down the general principles of international cooperation for air pollution abatement and setting up an institutional framework which has since brought together research and policy.	The Convention has substantially contributed to the development of international environmental law and has created the essential framework for controlling and reducing the damage to human health and the environment caused by transboundary 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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Directive on arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and PAH in ambient air (2004/107/EC), as amended	Directive 2004/107/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2004 relating to arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air.	The objective of this Directive is to establish a target value for the concentration of arsenic, cadmium, nickel and benzo(a)pyrene in ambient air so as to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects of arsenic, cadmium, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons on human health and the environment as a whole. It determines common methods and criteria for the assessment of concentrations of arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air as well as of the deposition of such substances.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Medium Combustion Plants (MCP) Directive (2015/2193)	Directive (EU) 2015/2193 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants.	This Directive lays down rules to control emissions of sulphur dioxide (SO_2), nitrogen oxides (NOx) and dust into the air from medium combustion plants, as well as to monitor emissions of carbon monoxide (CO). The aim is to reduce emissions to air and the potential risks to human health and the environment from such emissions. As regards the scope, Article 2 identifies the types of combustion plants to which these rules apply. Emission limits values are set out in Annex II.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Energy Efficiency Directive 2023/1791 on energy efficiency and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/955 (recast)	The revised Energy Efficiency Directive significantly raises the EU's ambition on energy efficiency. It establishes 'energy efficiency first' as a fundamental principle of EU energy policy, giving it legal-standing for the first time. The Commission has published a series of recommendations, including guidelines for EU countries related to the revised directive, to help countries transpose its different elements into national law.	The revised Directive: • raises the EU energy efficiency target, making it binding for EU countries to collectively ensure an additional 11.7% reduction in energy consumption by 2030, compared to the projections of the EU reference scenario 2020; • more than doubles the annual energy savings obligation (Article 8) by 2028, this is one of the key policy instruments of the directive to meet the headline target and to drive energy savings in end-use sectors, such as buildings, industry and transport; • puts a stronger focus on alleviating energy poverty, it aims at empowering consumers through stronger requirements for EU countries to raise awareness and provide information on energy efficiency; • it includes improved regulations to identify and remove barriers related to split incentives for energy efficiency renovations between tenants and owners or among multiple owners; • introduces an obligation for the monitoring and reporting of the energy performance of data centres; • expands the scope of energy audit obligations to include all those companies, regardless of their size, which are consuming energy above a certain threshold; • mandates EU countries to report on energy efficiency investments, including energy performance contracts, as part of the Governance Regulation, ensuring transparency and accountability; • establishes project development assistance mechanisms at national, regional, and local levels to support energy efficiency investments and facilitate the attainment of the EU's ambitious energy efficiency targets.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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 • 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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. • Promote sustainable water usage. • The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: o The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive o Sampling Drinking Water Directive o Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive o Shellfish Directive o Freshwater Fish Directive o Groundwater (Dangerous Substances) Directive o Dangerous Substances Directive	• Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive. • Achieve "good status" for all waters. • Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts. • Involve the public and streamline legislation. • Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas. • Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas. • Recover costs for water services.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Drinking Water Directive **- Directive (EU) 2020/2184 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2020 on the quality of water intended for human consumption (recast)**	• Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean, and to improve access to water intended for human consumption.	For purposes of the Directive, 'water intended for human consumption' means: a) all water, either in its original state or after treatment, intended for drinking, cooking, food preparation or other domestic purposes in both public and private premises, regardless of its origin and whether it is supplied from a distribution network, supplied from a tanker or put into bottles or containers, including spring waters; b) all water used in any food business for the manufacture, processing, preservation or marketing of products or substances intended for human consumption.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive **- Directive (EU) 2024/3019 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2024 concerning urban wastewater treatment (recast)**	• Protect the environment and human health from adverse effects of urban wastewater discharges while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving energy efficiency in the sector.	The Directive establishes a detailed framework covering: • Requirements for collection and treatment of urban wastewater in agglomerations above 1,000 population equivalent (p.e.) • Standards for secondary, tertiary and new quaternary treatment of wastewater • Extended producer responsibility for pharmaceutical and cosmetic companies to cover costs of removing micropollutants • Energy neutrality targets for treatment plants • Requirements for monitoring, reporting and public access to information	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Reuse Regulation (2020/741)	The purpose of this Regulation is to facilitate the uptake of water reuse whenever it is appropriate and cost-efficient, thereby creating an enabling framework for those Member States who wish or need to practise water reuse.	• Regulation (EU) 2020/741 of the European Parliament and of the Council on minimum requirements for water reuse. This Regulation lays down minimum requirements for water quality and monitoring and provisions on risk management, for the safe use of reclaimed water in the context of integrated water management.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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	The overall aim of the ELD is to prevent and fully remedy damaged natural resources and their services to the condition that would have existed if no damage had occurred.	• Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent. • Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures. • Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7. • The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive. • The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator. • The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met. • The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing knowledge and new needs.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Sewage Sludge Directive **(Council Directive 86/278/EEC of 12 June 1986 on the protection of the environment, and in particular of the soil, when sewage sludge is used in agriculture)**	The purpose of this Directive is to regulate the use of sewage sludge in agriculture in such a way as to prevent harmful effects on soil, vegetation, animals and man, thereby encouraging the correct use of such sewage sludge. Member States shall prohibit the use of sludge where the concentration of one or more heavy metals in the soil exceeds the limit values which they lay down in accordance with Annex I A and shall take the necessary steps to ensure that those limit values are not exceeded as a result of the use of sludge. The aims of the Sewage Sludge Directive are • to protect humans, animals, plants and the environment by ensuring that heavy metals in soil and sludge do not exceed set limits • to increase the amount of sewage sludge used in agriculture	The Directive also: • sets limits for the concentration of seven heavy metals in sewage sludge intended for agricultural use and in sludge-treated soils (cadmium, copper, nickel, lead, zinc, mercury, chromium) • bans the use of sewage sludge that results in concentrations of these heavy metals in soil exceeding these limit values	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Bathing Waters Directive **(Directive 2006/7/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC)**	With a view to preserving, protecting and improving human health and the environment, within the legal framework of Directive 2000/60/EC, the present Directive establishes provisions for: (a) the monitoring and classification of bathing water quality; (b) the management of bathing water quality; and (c) the provision of information to the public on bathing water quality. Member States are required to annually identify all bathing waters and define the length of the bathing season. The EU aims to protect the environment and the health of Europeans by attaining good bathing water quality throughout the EU. More specifically, it aims to: • provide better and earlier information to citizens about the quality of their bathing waters, including logos • move from simple sampling and monitoring of bathing waters to bathing quality management • integrate into other EU measures protecting the quality of all our waters (rivers, lakes, ground waters and coastal waters) through the Water Framework Directive	The Bathing Water Directive requires Member States to monitor and assess bathing water. It ensures timely information is given to the public during the bathing season and requires Member States to disseminate information on bathing water quality actively and promptly. In particular, notices banning or advising against bathing should be rapidly and easily identifiable. The Directive applies to all surface waters that can be used for bathing, except for swimming pools and spa pools, confined waters subject to treatment or used for therapeutic purposes and confined waters artificially separated from surface water and groundwater. Decision establishing a symbol for information to the public on bathing water classification and any bathing prohibition. View the symbols for informing the public on bathing water prohibition, advice against bathing and bathing water classification. The implementation of the Bathing Water Directive is supported by a broad EU framework of water legislation, including the Water Framework Directive, the Environmental Quality Standards Directive, the Groundwater Directive, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (2009/128/EC) **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the sustainable use of plant protection products and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2115**	The Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (SUD) establishes a framework for European Community action to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides by setting minimum rules to reduce the risks to human health and the environment that are associated with pesticide use. The Directive aims to achieve a sustainable use of pesticides in the EU by reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment and promoting the use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and of alternative approaches or techniques, such as non-chemical alternatives to pesticides. EU countries have drawn up National Action Plans to implement the range of actions set out in the Directive.	The main actions relate to training of users, advisors and distributors of pesticides, inspection of pesticide application equipment, the prohibition of aerial spraying, limitation of pesticide use in sensitive areas, and information and awareness raising about pesticide risks. EU countries must also promote Integrated Pest Management, for which, general principles are laid down in Annex III to the Directive. The European Commission has adopted a proposal for a new Regulation on the Sustainable Use of Plant Protection Products, including EU wide targets to reduce by 50% the use and risk of chemical pesticides by 2030, in line with the EU's Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies. The proposal, adopted on 22 June 2022, is part of a package of measures to reduce the environmental footprint of the EU's food system and help mitigate the economic losses that we are already suffering due to climate change and biodiversity loss. The proposal transforms the existing Directive into a Regulation which will be directly binding and uniformly applicable to all Member States. It overhauls the existing rules on the Sustainable Use of Pesticides (see Directive 2009/128/EC) to bring them in line with the ambitions set in the EU Green Deal, Biodiversity and Farm to Fork strategies. The proposals must be approved by Member States in the Council and the European Parliament, under the normal legislative procedure.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) (1962) **CAP 2023-2027**	The CAP is a partnership between society and agriculture that ensures a stable supply of food, safeguards farmers' income, protects the environment and keeps rural areas vibrant. It aims to: • support farmers and improve agricultural productivity, ensuring a stable supply of affordable food; • safeguard European Union farmers to make a reasonable living; • help tackle climate change and the sustainable management of natural resources; • maintain rural areas and landscapes across the EU; • keep the rural economy alive by promoting jobs in farming, agri-food industries and associated sectors.	The CAP 2023-2027 entered into force on 1 January 2023. Support for farmers and rural stakeholders across the 27 EU countries is based on the CAP 2023-2027 legal framework and the choices detailed in the CAP Strategic Plans, approved by the Commission. The approved Plans are designed to make a significant contribution to the ambitions of the European Green Deal, Farm to Fork Strategy and Biodiversity Strategy.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006), as amended	The purpose of this Regulation is to ensure a high level of protection of human health and the environment, including the promotion of alternative methods for assessment of hazards of substances, as well as the free circulation of substances on the internal market while enhancing competitiveness and innovation.	This Regulation lays down provisions on hazardous substances and mixtures and specification of hazard classes; general obligations of manufacturers, importers and downstream users to classify, label and package the substances and mixtures; identification and examination of available information on substances and mixtures; evaluation of hazard information and decision on classification; establishment of a classification and labelling inventory in the form of a database; and the manufacture, placing on the market and use of chemical substances and preparations, pursuant to the precautionary principle. The Regulation sets forth the framework concerning the registration of such substances and preparations as well as the granting of authorizations. Furthermore, it sets up the European Chemicals Agency for the purposes of managing and carrying out the technical, scientific and administrative aspects of this Regulation. This Regulation sets out eight annexes attached. Annex I sets out the criteria for classification and labelling requirements for hazardous substances and mixtures. Annex II lays down special rules for labelling and packaging of certain classified substances and mixtures.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

UN Sustainable Development Goals	The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which reflect the need for all countries to urgently act as a global partnership.	Sustainable transport is mainstreamed across several SDGs and targets, especially those related to food security, health, energy, economic growth, infrastructure, and cities and human settlements.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Commission's "Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change" (2021)	The Strategy sets out how the European Union can adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change and become climate resilient by 2050.	The Strategy has four principal objectives: to make adaptation smarter, swifter and more systemic, and to step up international action on adaptation to climate change.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Environment Agency's European Climate Risk Assessment (2024)	This assessment identifies 36 climate risks with potentially severe consequences across Europe.	The risks are evaluated in the contexts of risk severity, policy horizon (lead time and decision horizon), policy readiness and risk ownership. It further identifies priorities for EU policy action, based on a structured risk assessment united with qualitative aspects, such as considering social justice.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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 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 and in line with recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) take steps "to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above preindustrial levels".	• 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Green Deal (2019) and "Fit for 55" legislation (2021)	The European Green Deal provides a roadmap for making the EU's economy sustainable by turning climate and environmental challenges into opportunities across all policy areas and making the transition just and inclusive for all. The "Fit for 55" legislative package is a central part of the European Green Deal.	The European Green Deal covers all sectors of the economy, notably transport, energy, agriculture, buildings, and industries such as steel, cement, ICT, textiles and chemicals. It outlines investments needed and financing tools available, and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition. The 'Fit for 55' package responds to the requirements in the EU Climate Law to reduce Europe's net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030. It was updated when the Commission proposed increased ambition on renewable energy and energy efficiency in the REPowerEU plan to respond to Russia's invasion of Ukraine and boost Europe's energy security. The final legislative package is expected to reduce EU net greenhouse gas emissions by 57% by 2030. For transport, the package is primarily focused on reducing fossil fuel dependency and increasing the availability of, and infrastructure for, renewable alternatives.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Leaders Pledge for Nature 2020	Political leaders (including Taoiseach Michael Martin) participating in the United Nations Summit on Biodiversity in September 2020, representing 75 countries from all regions and the European Union, have committed to reversing biodiversity loss by 2030.	As part of the UN Decade of Action to achieve sustainable development, the leaders commit to achieve the vision of Living in Harmony with Nature by 2050 by undertaking ten actions, including: • Putting biodiversity, climate, and the environment at the heart of COVID-19 recovery strategies and investments as well as national and international development and cooperation; • Developing and implementing an ambitious and transformational post-2020 global biodiversity framework for adoption at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Kunming, China, as a key instrument to reach the SDGs; • Raising ambition and aligning domestic climate policies with the Paris Agreement on climate change, with enhanced nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and long-term strategies consistent with the temperature goals of the Paris Agreement, and the objective of net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by mid-century, and strengthen climate resilience of economies and ecosystems; and • Mainstream biodiversity into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policies at all levels, including in food production, agriculture, fisheries and forestry, energy, tourism, infrastructure and extractive industries, and trade and supply chains, as well as into key international agreements and processes.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory 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. Aims to build resilience to future threats such as the impacts of climate change, forest fires, food insecurity, disease outbreaks and protecting wildlife and fighting illegal wildlife trade.	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; • Launching an EU nature restoration plan; • Introducing measures to enable the necessary transformative stage; and • Introducing measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Green Infrastructure Strategy (2013)	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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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. 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2000)	The European Landscape Convention introduced a Europe-wide concept centring on the quality of landscape protection, management and planning and covering the entire territory, not just outstanding landscapes. Through its ground-breaking approach and its broader scope, it complements the Council of Europe's and UNESCO's heritage conventions.	• Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. • Organise European co-operation on landscape issues.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Eight Environmental Action Programme (2021–2030)	The 8th Environmental Action Programme (8th EAP) 2021–2030 sets the EU's legally binding environmental policy framework anchored in the European Green Deal. It establishes a long-term vision out to 2050 and specific targets for 2030.	By 2050, the goal is for Europeans to: • "Live well, within planetary boundaries" • Thrive in a well-being economy where nothing is wasted and growth is regenerative • Achieve climate neutrality • Substantially reduce inequalities	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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) (1979)	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. • Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Bali Road Map (2007)	The Bali Road Map includes the Bali Action Plan, which charts the course for a new negotiating process designed to tackle climate change. The Bali Action Plan is a comprehensive process to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action, now, up to and beyond 2012, in order to reach an agreed outcome and adopt a decision.	The Bali Action Plan is divided into five main categories: shared vision, mitigation, adaptation, technology and financing. The shared vision refers to a long-term vision for action on climate change, including a long-term goal for emission reductions.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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.	Among the many decisions taken, governments: • Strengthened their resolve and set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015, which will come into effect in 2020. • Streamlined the negotiations, completing the work under the Bali Action Plan to concentrate on the new work towards a 2015 agreement under a single negotiating stream in the Ad hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action. • Emphasized the need to increase their ambition to cut greenhouse gases and to help vulnerable countries to adapt. • Launched a new commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol, thereby ensuring that this treaty's important legal and accounting models remain in place and underlining the principle that developed countries lead mandated action to cut greenhouse gas emissions. • Made further progress towards establishing the financial and technology support and new institutions to enable clean energy investments and sustainable growth in developing countries.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) (2001)	The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from chemicals that remain intact in the environment for long periods, become widely distributed geographically, accumulate in the fatty tissue of humans and wildlife, and have harmful impacts on human health or on the environment. 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 • 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	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ramsar Convention (1971)	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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

OSPAR Convention (1992)	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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Level			
The National Planning Framework (first revision 2025) and associated National Development Plan Review (2025)	The National Planning Framework is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of to the year 2040. The new 2025 Framework is revised and updated to take account of changes that have occurred since it was published in 2018 and to build on the framework that is in place. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for the people, and to protect and enhance the environment. The National Planning Framework and the National Development Plan form a single vision for Ireland under Project Ireland 2040. The implementation of the National Planning Framework will continue to be fully supported by the Government's investment strategy for public capital investment and investment by the State sector in general, with the National Development Plan detailing key projects.	The ambition is to create a single vision, a shared set of goals for every community across the country. These goals are expressed in the Framework as National Strategic Outcomes: 1. Compact Growth 2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility 3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities 4. High-Quality International Connectivity 5. Sustainable Mobility 6. A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills 7. Enhanced Amenities and Heritage 8. Transition to a Carbon Neutral and Climate-Resilient Society 9. Sustainable Management of Environmental Resources 10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)	An Act to consolidate and revise the law relating to planning and development; to provide for proper planning and sustainable development in the interests of the common good; to provide for the licensing of events and control of funfairs; for those purposes to repeal and replace the Planning and Development Act 2000; to amend certain other enactments; and to provide for matters connected therewith.	• 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning and Development Act 2024	An Act to consolidate and revise the law relating to planning and development; to provide for proper planning and sustainable development in the interests of the common good; to provide for the licensing of events and control of funfairs; for those purposes to repeal and replace the Planning and Development Act 2000 and amend certain other enactments; for purposes unrelated to the foregoing, to amend the Residential Tenancies Act 2004, the Residential Tenancies (Amendment) Act 2019, the Land Development Agency Act 2021 and the National Asset Management Agency Act 2009; and to provide for matters connected therewith.	Key reforms included in the Act: • The introduction of statutory timelines for all consenting processes, to give confidence and certainty to applicants; • A significant reorganisation of An Bord Pleanála, to be known as An Coimisiún Pleanála; • Greater mandatory alignment of all tiers of planning, improving consistency; • Improvements to the planning judicial review processes; • Clearer, more consistent policies and guidance; • Longer term, more strategic, ten-year plans for Local Authorities; • More agile local implementation, through the introduction of Urban and Priority Area Plans, including new bespoke plans for Gaeltacht and Island communities; • Creation of Urban Development Zones, which will facilitate a more plan-led approach to development, increasing certainty at the master-planning stage; • Provisions to deter abuse of planning processes through spurious planning submissions and appeals, as well as a ban on requesting payment for not opposing development and; • Ability to suspend the duration of a permission while subject to judicial review proceedings, so as not to lose any time available for completing the development. • 'Replacement of Ministerial Guidelines with National Planning Statements'	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended	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).	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
S.I. No. 456 of 2025, the European Union (Land Use Planning – Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2025	S.I. No. 456 of 2025, the European Union (Land Use Planning – Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2025, came into effect on 2 October 2025 to update SEA requirements for land-use plans. These regulations replace S.I. No. 436 of 2004, mandating environmental assessments for regional strategies, development plans, and certain planning schemes to ensure environmental protection.	These Regulations detail requirements for SEA, including the determination of need for assessment, the assessment process itself, the content and scoping of environmental reports, consultation procedures, handling transboundary effects, decision-making processes, information disclosure, monitoring and joint or coordinated assessments. Further explanation of the Regulations can be found in the attached Appendix. The Regulations include a new provision (Regulation 14) to allow for the carrying out of joint or coordinated assessments where both a SEA and an Appropriate Assessment are required.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities Environmental Objectives (FPM) 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,	• 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. 9 of 2010), as amended	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. • 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (S.I. 722 of 2003) **European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (S.I. 350 of 2014)** **European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (S.I. 272 of 2009)**	• 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. • Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Services Act 2007 (No. 30 of 2007) **Water Services Act 2013 (No. 6 of 2013)** **Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013 (No. 50 of 2013)** **Water Services Act 2017 (No. 29 of 2017)** **Water Services (Amendment) Act 2022 (No. 39 of 2022)**	• Provides the water services infrastructure. • Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services. • Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and waste water supply. Uisce Éireann was given the responsibility of the provision of water and waste water services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland.	Key strategic objectives include: • Ensuring Uisce Éireann delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector. • Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services in the gateways and hubs listed in the National Spatial Strategy, and in other locations where services need to be enhanced. • Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards • Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary waste water treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Waste water Treatment Directive.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Irish Water's Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and 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. The Capital Investment Plan 2020-2024 is Uisce Éireann investment plan for water and wastewater assets and infrastructure for the next 5 years. The Capital Investment Plan sets out where to prioritise investment to deliver the most urgently needed improvements in drinking water quality, leakage reduction, water availability, wastewater compliance, efficiencies and customer service.	The Capital Investment Plan 2020-2024 is made up of investment in individual projects such as building new or upgrading existing water and wastewater treatment plants and upgrading existing networks, and national programmes where activities are being delivered in a consistent and efficient manner across the country. Some examples of these programmes are the Leakage Reduction Programme, the National Disinfection Programme, the Small Towns and Villages Growth Programme, and the National Certification Authorisation Programme.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023-2030 and associated Implementation Plan including the National Forestry Programme 2023-2027	The Implementation Plan will facilitate the initial steps in the implementation of the Strategy on the road to achieving the Shared Vision for 2050. The Implementation Plan includes the new Forestry Programme (2023 – 2027), which will be the primary implementation mechanism for the Forest Strategy. The Plan also includes a list of actions that will be funded and enabled by mechanisms outside of the Forestry Programme.	The Forestry Programme 2023-2027 was created in alignment with Ireland's Forest Strategy and is designed to provide lasting benefits for many key areas including climate change, biodiversity, wood production, and employment alongside enhancing societal benefits. The Forestry Programme will provide incentives for farmers and other landowners and will provide farm families with the opportunity to increase and diversify their income streams.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Water Action Plan 2024: River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022-2027 (3rd Cycle) (2024)	The Water Action Plan 2024 is Ireland's third River Basin Management Plan and it outlines the measures the Government and other sectors are taking to improve water quality in Ireland's groundwater, rivers, lakes, estuarine and coastal waters, and provide sustainable management of our water resources (as specified under SDG 6). This Water Action Plan enhances and builds upon the work of the first and second-cycle plans. Where necessary, this plan addresses the shortcomings experienced during the implementation of previous plans.	The responses to shortcomings addressed include, for example, strengthen the incorporation of the integrated catchment management approach, improving the environmental ambition, improving the evidence base for 'targeting the right measures in the right place' and securing dedicated resources to deliver these, increasing environmental enforcement and compliance, and strengthening the governance structures.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ireland's National Water Quality Monitoring Programme 2022-2027	The main purpose of Ireland's National Water Quality Monitoring Programme 2022-2027 is to provide a comprehensive national overview of the ecological and chemical status of surface waters and the quantitative and chemical status of groundwaters. The information is used to track progress towards the achievement of the environmental objectives required by the Water Framework Directive, and those set out in the River Basin Management Plan.	The programme is comprised of 2,899 surface and groundwater bodies representing 60% of the total number of national water bodies, covering 2,429 river water bodies, 224 lakes, 80 transitional water bodies, 45 coastal waters, 16 canals and 121 groundwater bodies. The programme is operated by the Environmental Protection Agency, Marine Institute, Inland Fisheries Ireland, Waterways Ireland, National Parks and Wildlife Service and Local Authorities.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Water Resources Plan (NWRP) – Framework 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 preparation of the plan has been divided into two distinct phases, the combination of which will become the final NWRP. Phase 1 was carried out in 2021 and the NWRP Framework has been adopted. In Phase 2 of the NWRP, Uisce Éireann summarised the needs across the 539 individual water supplies and identified the solutions to address these needs. Due to the large number of supplies in Ireland, Phase 2 was delivered as four Regional Water Resources Plans: • Regional Water Resources Plan: North West (RWRP NW) • Regional Water Resources Plan: South West (RWRP SW) • Regional Water Resources Plan: South East (RWRP SE) • Regional Water Resources Plan: Eastern and Midlands (RWRP EM)	The key objectives 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 • Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development 2030	The national plans are intended to inform investment priorities for aquaculture under Member States' operational programmes under the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund. They are also intended to identify measures to reduce the administrative burden on operators, to secure sustainable development and growth of aquaculture through coordinated spatial planning, to enhance the competitiveness of the aquaculture sector and to promote a level playing field for EU operators by exploiting their competitive advantages. Ireland's National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development was finalised following public consultation earlier in 2022. The Plan was adopted by the European Commission in 2022.	The National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development proposes 58 actions to be implemented over the period up to 2030.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Aquaculture Acts 1997 to 2006 (Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 (8/2006), s. 1(3)) Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997 (23/1997) Fisheries and Foreshore (Amendment) Act 1998 (54/1998), ss. 2, 3 and 4 Fisheries (Amendment) Act 2001 (40/2001) Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 (8/2006)	The Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division ensures the efficient and effective management of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing in respect of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities.	The Strategic Objectives of the Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division are: • to develop and manage an efficient and effective regulatory framework in respect of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities; • to secure a fair financial return from the State's foreshore estate in the context of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing in respect of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities; • to progressively reduce arrears in the clearing of licence applications.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Foreshore Acts 1933 to 2011	The Foreshore Acts require that a lease or licence must be obtained from the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government for the carrying out of works or placing structures or material on, or for the occupation of or removal of material from, State-owned foreshore, which represents the greater part of the foreshore. Construction of permanent structures on privately owned foreshore also required the prior permission of the Minister under the Foreshore Act.	Developments on the foreshore require planning permission in addition to a Foreshore Lease/Licence/Permission. All Foreshore Leases, Licences Permissions are without prejudice to the powers of the local planning authority. Applicants should, therefore, consult initially with the local planning authority regarding their proposal. In the case of developments on foreshore for, by or on behalf of a Local Authority where an EIS is required, applications should be made to An Bord Pleanála under Part XV, Planning and Development Act 2000.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF) (2024)	The NMPF details how marine activities will interact with each other in an ocean space that is under increasing spatial pressure, ensuring the sustainable use of Ireland's marine resources to 2040. The NMPF has been prepared with an ecosystem-based approach and informed by best available knowledge.	The National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF) brings together all marine-based human activities for the first time, outlining the Government's vision, objectives and marine planning policies for each marine activity. The NMPF is intended as the marine equivalent to the National Planning Framework. This approach will enable the Government to: • set a clear direction for managing our seas • clarify objectives and priorities • direct decision makers, users and stakeholders towards strategic, plan-led, and efficient use of our marine 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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Seafood Development Programme 2021-2027	Based on the challenges identified for the seafood sector and coastal communities and the policy context, Ireland's Programme requires an ambitious vision to: "To support a resilient, climate smart, environmentally sustainable and profitable Irish seafood sector in order to maximise its contribution to jobs and growth and maintain the economic and social activities of our most vibrant and sustainable coastal communities"	The Programme details the vision and key missions to be achieved by the implementation of the programme. It also demonstrates how the strategic objectives of the EMFAF fund (specified in Regulation (EU) 2021/1139) will be employed in fulfilling the Programme.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth: An Integrated Marine Plan for Ireland 2012	Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth is an Integrated Marine Plan (IMP), setting out a roadmap for the Government's vision, high-level goals and integrated actions across policy, governance and business to enable our marine potential to be realised. Implementation of this Plan will see Ireland evolve an integrated system of policy and programme planning for our marine affairs.	• Sustainable economic growth of marine/ maritime sectors; • Increase the contribution to the national GDP; • Deliver a business friendly yet robust governance, policy and planning framework; • Protect and conserve our rich marine biodiversity and ecosystems; • Manage our living and non-living resources in harmony with the ecosystem; • Implement and comply with environmental legislation; • Building on our maritime heritage, strengthen our maritime identity; • Increase our awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits; and • Engagement and participation by all.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

National Raised Bog Special Areas of Conservation Management Plan 2017 – 2022 and a Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Area Network	The National Raised Bog Special Areas of Conservation Management Plan 2017 - 2022 sets out a roadmap for the long-term management, restoration and conservation of protected raised bogs in Ireland.	The Plan is part of the measures being implemented in response to the on-going infringement action against Ireland in relation to the implementation of the EU Habitats Directive, with regard to the regulation of turf cutting on the Special Areas of Conservation and on foot of the recommendation of Mr. Justice Quirke that a National Raised Bog SAC Management Plan be drawn up, arising from the Peatlands Forum (2012).	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Union (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2022 (S.I. No. 113/2022)	The purpose of these Regulations is to give effect to Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme pursuant to Council Directive 91/676/EEC concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural source.	Part 2 concerns farmyard management. The Part requires an occupier of a holding shall take all such steps, as far as is practicable for the purposes of minimising the amount of soiled water produced on the holding; livestock manure and other organic fertilisers, soiled water and effluents from dungsteads, farmyard manure pits, silage pits or silage clamps arising or produced in a building or yard on a holding shall, prior to its application to land or other treatment, be collected and held in a manner that prevents the run-off or seepage, directly or indirectly, into groundwaters or surface waters of such substances. The Regulations provides for general obligations related to capacity of storage facilities and then distinguishes among requirements for storage facilities of: effluents and soiled water; pig manure; poultry manure; manure from deer, goats and sheep; manure from cattle. Part 3 concerns nutrient management. Part 4 is focused on the prevention of water pollution from fertilizers and certain activities; this includes the distances from a water body and other issues requirements as to manner of application of fertilizers, soiled water etc; periods when application of fertilizers is prohibited; limits on the amount of livestock manure to be applied. Part 5 regulates general duty of occupier, such as keeping of records, etc. Offences and related matters. Part 6 is functions of the public authorities: certificates, exemptions, etc.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-Fisheries) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 565 of 2014)	These Regulations the European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-fisheries) Regulations 2013 so as to apply them to the regulation of sea-fishing activity in so far as the regulation of that activity is necessary to secure compliance with the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 and the objectives of the Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.	• Regulation 3 provides for the submission of a Fisheries Natura Plan in relation to planned fisheries; • Regulation 4 provides for a screening of a Fisheries Natura Plan to determine whether or not an appropriate assessment is required; • Regulation 5 provides for an appropriate assessment of a Fisheries Natura Plan and also provides for public and statutory consultation; • Regulation 6 provides for the Minister to make a determination to adopt a Fisheries Natura Plan. The Minister may amend, withdraw or revoke a plan; • Regulation 7 provides for publication of the adopted Fisheries Natura Plan; • Regulation 8 provides for a Risk Assessment of unplanned fisheries and also provides for public and statutory consultation on the assessment; • Regulation 9 provides for the issue of a Natura Declaration to prohibit, restrict including restricting by permit, control, etc. of sea fishing activities; • Regulation 10 provides for Natura Permits to be issued where required by Natura Declarations; and • Regulations 11 to 31 deal with functions of authorised officers and related matters, offences, etc.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Wildlife Act of 1976 **Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000** **Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2023**	The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna. The Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2023 introduced a new public sector duty on biodiversity. The legislation provides that every public body, as listed in the Act, is obliged to have regard to the objectives and targets in the National Biodiversity Action Plan.	• 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	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030	Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan sets the national biodiversity agenda for the period 2023-2030 and aims to deliver the transformative changes required to the ways in which we value and protect nature.	This National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030 builds upon the achievements of the previous Plan. It will continue to implement actions within the framework of five strategic objectives, while addressing new and emerging issues: Objective 1 - Adopt a Whole of Government, Whole of Society Approach to Biodiversity Objective 2 - Meet Urgent Conservation and Restoration Needs Objective 3 - Secure Nature's Contribution to People Objective 4 - Enhance the Evidence Base for Action on Biodiversity Objective 5 - Strengthen Ireland's Contribution to International Biodiversity	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025	The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is an island-wide attempt to reverse declines in pollinating insects to ensure the sustainability of our food, avoid additional economic impacts on agriculture, and protect the health of the environment. The main objectives include: • Making farmland, public land and private land in Ireland pollinator friendly; • Raising awareness of pollinators and how to protect them; • Managed pollinators – supporting beekeepers and growers; • Expanding our knowledge of pollinators and pollination service; and • Collecting evidence to track change and measure success.	This voluntary Plan identified 81 actions, shared out between over 100 governmental and non-governmental organisations. A large focus of the Plan is to identify actions to improve the quality and amount of flower-rich habitat. Actions range from creating pollinator highways along our transport routes, to supporting pollinators on farmland, in gardens, businesses, and on public land.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 (as amended)	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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Climate Action Plans	The National Climate Action Plan 2023 provided 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 Climate Action Plan 2024 builds upon the 2023 Plan by refining and updating the measures and actions required to deliver the carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings. The Climate Action Plan 2025 is the third statutory annual update to the Climate Action Plan.	The Climate Action Plans list the actions needed to deliver on Ireland's climate targets and sets indicative ranges of emissions reductions for each sector of the economy. It will be updated periodically to ensure alignment with Ireland's legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral ceilings. Climate Action Plan 2025 lays out a roadmap of actions that are intended to lead to meeting the national climate objective of pursuing and achieving, by no later than the end of the year 2050, the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy. It aligns with legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings. Climate Action Plan 2025 builds upon the Climate Action Plan 2024 by refining and updating the measures and actions required to deliver the carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings and it should be read in conjunction with Climate Action Plan 2024. The Plan provides a roadmap for taking decisive action to halve Ireland's emissions by 2030 and achieve climate neutrality by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2024 and associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans	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. • Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Climate Mitigation Plan 2017	The Plan represents an initial step to set Ireland on a pathway to achieve the deep decarbonisation required in Ireland by mid-century in line with the Government's policy objectives.	The National Mitigation Plan focuses on the following issues: • Climate Action Policy Framework • Decarbonising Electricity Generation • Decarbonising the Built Environment • Decarbonising Transport • An Approach to Carbon Neutrality for Agriculture, Forest and Land Use Sectors	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Climate Adaptation Sectoral Adaptation Plans	The Climate Act sets out the requirements for the preparation of Sectoral Adaptation Plans. The 12 priority sectors identified in the 2018 NAF were grouped into 9 such Plans and clustered into four themes covering natural and cultural capital, critical infrastructure, water resource and flood risk management, and public health. This approach aims to provide a structured and systematic approach to sectoral developments.	To support key national sectors in planning for climate change adaptation and according to the requirements of the National Adaptation Framework (2018), sectoral planning guidelines were developed as part of the Irish Climate Information Platform, Climate Ireland project . The guidelines aim to ensure that a coherent and consistent approach to adaptation planning is adopted at national and local levels. Since the guidelines' publication in May 2018, they have been successfully implemented by relevant Departments to develop Sectoral Adaptation Plans.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Sustainable Mobility Policy (SMP) (2022)	It sets out a strategic framework to 2030 for active travel (walking and cycling) and public transport journeys to help Ireland meet its climate obligations. It is framed around three key principles that will guide the delivery of sustainable mobility policy over the coming decade. They are: • Safe and green mobility; • People focussed mobility; and • Better integrated mobility.	The SMP includes an Action Plan covering the period 2022-2025 with 91 actions, supporting behavioural change across a wide range of interventions including, among other things, public transport infrastructure and services, active travel promotion and supports, road safety initiatives, legislative measures, research, and public engagement. The Policy also supports the implementation of large-scale transport projects including MetroLink and DART+ in Dublin, BusConnects in the five cities, the Connecting Ireland scheme in rural areas, and an Active Travel Infrastructure Programme providing high-quality cycling infrastructure across the country.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy 2022-2025 and associated implementation plan	It sets out a pathway for the delivery of EV charge point infrastructure, including the rollout of EV infrastructure as required under the EU's Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulation (AFIR), where a 300% increase in the amount of public recharging infrastructure is targeted for delivery.	The strategy takes a people-first approach, focusing on the different transport needs across the country and is being informed by the piloting of different technologies and charging options in Ireland. An Implementation Plan has also been developed in conjunction with the strategy to provide an initial set of actions and deliverables to support the strategy's delivery. This includes the development the National Road Network EV Charging Plan and the Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Renewable Transport Fuel Policy 2025-2027	The Renewable Transport Fuel Policy 2025-2027 sets out a pathway for achievement of Climate Action Plan biofuel targets as well as delivery of the targets and requirements for renewable energy share in transport under the European Union Renewable Energy Directive, including EU requirements for sustainability certification and greenhouse gas reduction.	The Department updates the policy every two years to ensure it remains agile and responsive to market trends and other variables impacting on the achievement of the objectives set out. The latest iteration of the policy explores potential for further deployment of renewable fuels for all transport modes, incentivises increased supply of advanced biofuels and renewable fuels of non-biological origin, and seeks to strengthen sustainability assurance mechanisms within EU frameworks and continue to ensure policy is grounded on latest research and market developments. The policy contains 19 actions aimed at delivering on the objectives set out over the next two years.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Energy Security Framework (2022)	National Energy Security Framework provides an overarching and comprehensive response to Ireland's energy security needs in the context of the war in Ukraine. The Framework outlines the structures which are in place within Government to monitor and manage our energy supplies. It sets out the plans which are in place to deal with energy security emergencies should they arise, and outlines out how these plans will be tested in light of the war in Ukraine.	The Framework sets out the government's action in response to these issues across three key themes: - managing the impact on consumers and businesses, with a specific focus on financially vulnerable residential consumers in the short-term - ensuring security of energy supply in the near term, with a focus on the period up to and including winter 2022/23 - reducing our dependency on imported fossil fuels, in the context of the phasing out of Russian energy imports across the EU	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ireland's National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) 2021-2030 (updated 2024)	National Energy and Climate Plans are the framework within which EU Member States must notify their climate and energy objectives, targets, policies, and measures to the European Commission and were established under Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action. Member States are required to develop NECPs on a ten-year rolling basis. The aim of the plans is to outline our energy and climate policies in detail for the period from 2021 to 2030 and provide projections and ambitions towards 2050. Under the Regulation, Member States are also required to update their initial plans after 5 years, this is the first update of the initial NECP which was published in 2019. The NECP covers five dimensions of the Energy Union: - Decarbonisation - Energy Efficiency - Energy Security - Internal Energy Market - Research, Innovation and Competitiveness The NECP brings together the policies, targets, tools and associated material relating to our climate and energy obligations under various EU Regulations and Directives from across government bodies and departments into one document. It reflects our ambitions and provides certainty to investors and policymakers that we are committed to EU-wide targets and ambitions to move towards becoming a carbon-neutral society.	It outlines our department's energy and climate policies in detail for the period from 2021 to 2030 and looks onwards to 2050. The NECP collates the policies, measures and actions related to energy and climate outlined in a range of government plans: such as the Climate Action Plan, the National Development Plan, and Project Ireland 2040, into one cohesive document. It also presents modelling that illustrates Ireland's current trajectories toward its three main European targets. The NECP reflects the ambitions set out in Climate Action Plan 2024. The NECP will act to identify gaps and areas that Ireland can improve on, which should be reflected in updated policies and measures in subsequent Climate Action Plans. The policies outlined in the NECP reflect the ambition of Climate Action Plan 2024.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Implementation Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals 2022-2024	It is the second National Implementation Plan for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals reviews the progress made towards each of the 17 Goals.	The Plan sets out five strategic objectives and 51 actions, with 119 individual measures to increase Ireland's ambition and strengthen implementation structures to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It also incorporates 23 external actions from four other National Plans or Strategies which contribute to and are complementary to the objectives of this Plan and which have been included for coherence and reporting purposes. Strategic Objective 1: To embed the SDG framework into the work of Government Departments to achieve greater Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development Strategic Objective 2: To integrate the SDGs into Local Authority work to better support the localisation of the SDGs Strategic Objective 3: Greater partnerships for the Goals Strategic Objective 4: To further incorporate the principle of Leave No One Behind into Ireland's Agenda 2030 implementation and reporting mechanisms Strategic Objective 5: Strong reporting mechanisms	Implementation of the Strategy needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040	The PLUTO takes account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies.	The PLUTO seeks to: 1. Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term; 2. Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and, 3. Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) (2021)	The high-level strategic framework for prioritising future investment in the land transport network. This new framework is the Department of Transport's contribution to Project Ireland 2040, Government's long-term strategy for accommodating population growth in a sustainable manner and making Ireland a better country for all of its people. It has been developed to ensure that our transport sectoral strategy is underpinned by and supports the achievement of the spatial objectives and National Strategic Objectives set out in the National Planning Framework.	The framework establishes high-level investment priorities to efficiently and effectively address key transport challenges identified by the background analysis and to ensure that transport investment is aligned with and supports Government's overarching spatial and climate change objectives, as articulated in the National Planning Framework and Climate Action Plan.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Investing in our Future: A Strategic Framework for Investment in Land Transport (SFILT) – Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport	SFILT sets out a set of priorities to guide the allocation of the State's investment to best develop and manage Ireland's land transport network over the coming decades.	The three priorities stated in SFILT are: • Priority 1: Achieve steady state maintenance (meaning that the maintenance and renewal of the existing transport system is at a sufficient level to maintain the system in an adequate condition); • Priority 2: Address urban congestion; and • Priority 3: Maximise the value of the road network. In delivering on the steady state maintenance objective set out in SFILT, the Plan includes for: • Planned replacement programme for the bus fleet operated under Public Service Obligation ("PSO") contracts; • Tram refurbishment and asset renewal in the case of light rail; and • To the extent within the Authority' remit, support for the operation of the existing rail network within the GDA.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Infrastructure and Capital Investment Plan (2016-2021)	€27 billion multi-annual Exchequer Capital Investment Plan, which is supported by a programme of capital investment in the wider State sector, and which over the period 2016 to 2021 will help to lay the foundations for continued growth in Ireland.	• This Capital Plan reflects the Government's commitment to supporting strong and sustainable economic growth and raising welfare and living standards for all. • It includes allocations for new projects across a number of key areas and funding to ensure that the present stock of national infrastructure is refreshed and maintained.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Energy Security in Ireland to 2030 ("Energy Security Package")	It outlines a new strategy to ensure energy security in Ireland for this decade, while ensuring a sustainable transition to a carbon neutral energy system by 2050.	The Energy Security Package includes a range of measures to implement this approach in the short and medium term by prioritising: • Reduced and Responsive Demand • A Renewables-Led System • More Resilient Systems • Robust Risk Governance	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012	A medium to long term framework for advancing sustainable development and the green economy in Ireland. It identifies spatial planning as a key challenge for sustainable development and sets a series of measures to address these challenges. It aims at improving synergies and identifying and tackling policy gaps, policy conflicts and trade-offs as part of a coherent, joined-up approach to policy making on sustainable development. Ireland's Framework for Sustainable Development timeframe is to 2020 to tie in with other national and international frameworks, but a longer-term horizon to 2050 is also taken where appropriate, to provide a framework for guiding and reporting on long-term broad development trends such as on climate change.	The objectives of the Framework are to: • Identify and prioritise policy areas and mechanisms where a sustainable development approach will add value and enable progress towards the strategy aims. • Highlight and promote existing sustainable practices that, with the correct support, can underpin sustainable development more generally. • Strengthen policy integration, coherence and co-ordination and bring a long term perspective to decision making. • Set out governance mechanisms which ensure effective participation within government and across all stakeholders. • Set out clear measures, responsibilities and timelines in an implementation plan. • Set out how progress is to be measured and reported on through the use of indicators. • Incorporate adequate and effective monitoring, learning and improvement into the Framework process.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future – A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2020	Outlines a policy for how a sustainable travel and transport system can be achieved. Sets out five key goals: • To reduce overall travel demand. • To maximise the efficiency of the transport network. • To reduce reliance on fossil fuels. • To reduce transport emissions. • To improve accessibility to transport.	Others lower level aims include: • reduce distance travelled by private car and encourage smarter travel, including focusing population growth in areas of employment and to encourage people to live in close proximity to places of employment • ensuring that alternatives to the car are more widely available, mainly through a radically improved public transport service and through investment in cycling and walking • improving the fuel efficiency of motorised transport through improved fleet structure, energy efficient driving and alternative technologies • strengthening institutional arrangements to deliver the targets	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 - 2020	The Draft Bioenergy Plan vision: Bioenergy resources contributing to economic development and sustainable growth, generating jobs for citizens, supported by coherent policy, planning and regulation, and managed in an integrated manner.	Three high-level goals, of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified: • To harness the market opportunities presented by bioenergy in order to achieve economic development, growth and jobs. • To increase awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits of developing bioenergy. • To ensure that bioenergy developments do not adversely impact the environment and its living and non-living resources.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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 2009/28/EC: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.	Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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 alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.	Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: • AFV forecasts • Electricity targets • Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets • Hydrogen targets • Biofuels targets • LPG targets • Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

National Cycle Network Scoping Study 2010	Outlines objectives and actions aimed at developing a strong cycle network in Ireland. Sets out 19 specific objectives, and details the 109 actions, aimed at ensuring that a cycling culture is developed.	Sets a target where 10% of all journeys will be made by bike by 2020. Proposes the planning, infrastructure, communication, education and stakeholder participations measures required to implement the initiative.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Cycle Network Plan Report 2023 (Transport Infrastructure Ireland, on behalf of the Department of Transport)	The planned National Cycle Network, presented below, links cities and towns of over 5,000 people with a safe, connected and inviting cycle network. One of the most ambitious and wide-reaching infrastructure plans in the history of the State, the proposed cycle network of approximately 3,500km will connect more than 200 settlements and 2.8m people. The National Cycle Network will link to destinations such as transport hubs, centres of education, centres of employment, leisure, and tourist destinations with the intention of facilitating greater cycling and walking amongst students, leisure users, tourists, and commuters alike. The NCN Plan complements other networks and establishes a core spine of infrastructure to encourage further development of cycling projects in the future, thereby optimising the potential for people to cycle as part of their daily activities, such as travel to work or education.	As well as contributing to Ireland's commitments to sustainability and decarbonisation, successful implementation of the NCN Plan will provide many benefits for cyclists and communities across Ireland, including: • Ensuring delivery of a high-quality cycle network which will promote safety, comfort and increased participation in cycling. • Improving sustainable connectivity nationally and providing links with other networks such as CycleConnects, EuroVelo and Northern Ireland networks. • Supporting both urban and rural economies through increased leisure and tourism cycling. • Improving public health through well documented benefits of active travel. • Guiding how local authorities prioritise exchequer-funded investments in cycle infrastructure. • Making use of existing infrastructure wherever possible including greenways, road infrastructure, • and declassified roads where safe and inviting cycle experiences can be provided. • The NCN aligns with the NTA's CycleConnects programme of urban and county-level cycle networks, as well as other cycle routes and networks in various stages of development, including the EuroVelo routes, national and regional greenways, and the Strategic Plan for Greenways in Northern Ireland.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland – The Energy Policy Framework 2007 – 2020 (2007)	• White paper setting out a framework for delivering a sustainable energy future in Ireland. • Outlines strategic Goals for: o Security of Supply o Sustainability of Energy o Competitiveness of Energy Supply	The underpinning Strategic Goals are: • Ensuring that electricity supply consistently meets demand • Ensuring the physical security and reliability of gas supplies to Ireland • Enhancing the diversity of fuels used for power generation • Delivering electricity and gas to homes and businesses over efficient, reliable and secure networks • Creating a stable attractive environment for hydrocarbon exploration and production • Being prepared for energy supply disruptions	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) (2010)	The National Renewable Energy Action Plan sets out the Government's strategic approach and concrete measures to deliver on Ireland's 16% target under Directive 2009/28/EC. National Renewable Energy Action Plan.	The areas of intervention identified by the NREAP are heat, transport and electricity. Section 4 provides an overview of all policies and measures to promote the use of energy from renewable resources, these are: Biofuels Mineral Oil Tax Relief (MOTR) Schemes to increase production and use of biofuel; Greener Homes Scheme, financial facilitates to wider deployment of renewable-energy heating technologies in the residential sector; Grant support for the planting of perennial biomass crops (willow and miscanthus) – contributes to biomass needs of renewable energy sector; a policy that facilitates renewables by providing for grid connections outside the gate process for certain small, renewable, low carbon generators; new local and central authorities; etc.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland (2017 – 2020)	Article 24 of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive requires Member States to submit a National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP) every three years. Ireland's 4th NEEAP was produced in early 2017.	It provides a comprehensive overview on the progress made towards the above targets the measures in place to ensure the targets are met the strategies and policies in place across the residential, commercial, transport and public sector.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Broadband Plan (2012)	The National Broadband Plan is the Government's initiative to deliver high speed broadband services to all premises in Ireland. This will be delivered through investment by commercial enterprises coupled with intervention by the State in those parts of the country where private companies have no plans to invest.	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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Shaping Our Electricity Future 1.1 (EirGrid)	The main objective of the Shaping Our Electricity Future Roadmap Version 1.1 is to outline how we can make the grid ready so that 80% of Ireland's and Northern Ireland's electricity can come from renewable sources, like the wind and sun, by 2030. These targets, and new limits to carbon emissions, are the product of updates to climate change policy across the island in 2022.	Key goals include: • Support the delivery of renewable electricity. • Find problems, gaps, opportunities, potential collaborations, or areas of duplication in the deployment of renewable electricity projects. • Help to find and resolve potential regulatory, administrative and/or legal barriers to the faster deployment of renewable electricity projects. • Increase alignment across the energy sector to support the delivery of renewable electricity generation projects. • Recommend appropriate investment conditions for electricity projects.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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. 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.	• A strategic greenway network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and/or link with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure; • Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in activity tourism to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors, domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity; • Greenways that provide a substantially segregated off road experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; and • Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and • Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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; • 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland (1997)	The overall aim of this Strategy is to ensure that economy and society in Ireland can develop to their full potential within a well-protected environment, without compromising the quality of that environment, and with responsibility towards present and future generations and the wider international community.	The Strategy addresses all areas of Government policy, and of economic and societal activity, which impact on the environment. It seeks to re-orientate policies as necessary to ensure that the strong growth Ireland enjoys and seeks to maintain will be environmentally sustainable.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character Assessment (pending preparation)	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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2021-2027	The EPA's National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (NWHMP) covers a six-year period from 2021 to 2027. This is the fourth National Hazardous Waste Management Plan and is made under Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996. It sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the prevention and management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous revised plan, and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous revised plan was published. The purpose of this plan is to protect the environment and human health in Ireland through best-practice management of hazardous wastes.	The Plan's objectives are: 1. Support and drive priority prevention actions by industry and the public to reduce the generation of hazardous waste; 2. Support the identification of adequate and appropriate collection infrastructure for all hazardous wastes with a view to mitigating environmental and health impacts; 3. Endorse the proximity principle such that hazardous wastes are treated as close to the point of production as possible – including within Ireland, taking into account the need for specialised installations for certain types of waste. 4. Support effective regulation of the movement and management of hazardous wastes in line with national policy priorities; 5. Promotion of safe reuse and recycling pathways in support of the circular economy.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy (2024)	The Regional Waste Management Planning Offices, under the auspices of the County and City Management Association National Oversight Group, have co-ordinated the preparation of this plan which is the first National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy. This Plan sets out a framework for the prevention and management of waste in Ireland for the period 2024 to 2030.	The Plan seeks to influence sustainable consumption and prevent the generation of waste, improve the capture of materials to optimise circularity and enable compliance with policy and legislation.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Healthy Ireland Framework 2019-2025	The Healthy Ireland Framework 2019-2025 is a roadmap for building a healthier Ireland.	It is based around four key goals: • to increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life • to reduce health inequalities • to protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing • to create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
S.I. 232/2018 - European Union (National Emission Ceilings) Regulations 2018	The Regulations require the Minister to ensure that emissions of the specified pollutants are limited in accordance with the ceilings set out in Schedule 2. Annex III part 2 includes a set of measures to reduce emissions from agriculture.	The Regulations provide that the Environment Protection Agency shall prepare an annual inventory report of emissions of 5 specified pollutants (sulphur dioxide (SO_2), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOC), ammonia (NH_3), and fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$), and in certain years a report on projections of emissions. The Regulations also require the preparation of a national air pollution control programme Referring, among other things, to the 1979 UNECE Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution), and the establishment of a network to monitor the negative impacts of air pollution upon ecosystems based on a network of monitoring sites that is representative of Ireland's freshwater, natural and semi-natural habitats and forest ecosystem types. The Programme shall contain elements on the use of nitrogen fertilizer and soil protection. In fulfilling the requirements of subparagraph (b) the Minister shall ensure coordination with other monitoring programmes established pursuant to Union legislation including Directive 2008/50/EC, Directive 2000/60/EC and Council Directive 92/43/EEC and, if appropriate, the LRTAP Convention and, where appropriate, make use of data collected under those programmes.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Clean Air Strategy 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.	• Having a National Strategy provides a policy framework by which 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 and this is a theme of the Strategy.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Agri-Food Strategy 2030	The Food Vision 2030 Strategy is a new ten year Strategy for the Irish agri-food sector (taken to include primary agriculture, food and drink processing and manufacturing, fisheries, aquaculture and fish processing, forestry and forestry processing and the equine sector).	The Strategy consists of 22 Goals, grouped into four high-level "Missions" for the sector to work toward: • A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector • Viable and Resilient Primary Producers with Enhanced Well-Being • Food Which is Safe, Nutritious And Appealing, Trusted And Valued at Home and Abroad • An Innovative, Competitive and Resilient Agri-Food Sector, Driven by Technology And Talent	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Agricultural Schemes, including: **Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS), Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS), Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS) and Results-based Environment-Agri Pilot Scheme (REAP)**	Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection. The REPS evolved to AEOS 1, 2 and 3 and currently the Green Low Carbon Agri-Environment (GLAS) Scheme is in place. The recently introduced REAP scheme in Ireland is a two year scheme in place for 2021 and 2022.	• Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation. • Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats. • Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment. • Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans. • Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Rural Development Programme 2014-2022 (as amended)	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	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Our Rural Future: Rural Development Policy 2021-2025	The vision of this policy is for a thriving rural Ireland which is integral to our national economic, social, cultural and environmental wellbeing and development. Our Rural Future represents the Irish Government's blueprint for a post-COVID-19 recovery and development of rural Ireland over the next 5 years. It provides the framework to achieve the vision of transforming the quality of life and opportunity for people living in rural areas.	A set of policy measures aim to deliver wellbeing for all, and to support an aligned policy approach to rural development. It seeks to promote enhanced community participation, to prepare rural areas for technological, demographic and environmental change, and to address the diversity of challenges and opportunities facing rural areas, informed by analysis, data, and consultation.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Food Wise 2025 (DAFM)	Food Wise 2025 sets out a ten-year plan for the agri-food sector. It underlines the sector's unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further.	Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including: • 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.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021	The Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021 sets out actions that the Tourism Leadership Group has identified as priorities to be progressed until 2021 in order to maintain sustainable growth in overseas tourism revenue and employment. Each action involves specific tourism stakeholders, both in the public and private sectors, all of whom we expect to proactively work towards the completion of actions within the specified timeframe.	The Plan contains 27 actions focusing on the following areas: • Policy Context • Marketing Ireland as a Visitor Destination • Enhancing the Visitor Experience • Research in the Irish Tourism Sector • Supporting Local Communities in Tourism • Wider Government Policy • International Context • Co-ordination Structures	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025	Growing Tourism to 2025 is a policy framework for the development of tourism within the Country. 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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan 2016-2020	The Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan provides a strategic framework for the integration of built, natural and cultural heritage into the future management of waterways. The overarching aim of the Plan is to: *"Identify and protect the unique waterways heritage and promote its sustainable use for the enjoyment of this and future generations".*	Four objectives of the Plan include the following: • Objective 1: Fostering partnerships to continue building waterway heritage knowledge through storing information, undertaking research and developing best practice. • Objective 2: Promoting awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of our waterway heritage with a focus on community engagement. • Objective 3: Promoting the integrated management, conservation, protection and sustainable use of the inland navigable waterway asset. • Objective 4: To develop Waterways Ireland as a heritage organisation committed to achieving the aim of this plan.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Waterways Ireland "Reimagining Our Waterways" 10-Year Plan 2023	10-Year Plan is a visionary roadmap for reimagining historical waterways, greenways and blueways. Waterways Ireland's Vision is to be recognised as having enabled the creation of inspirational inland navigations and waterways experiences, through conservation and sustainable development for the benefit of all.	At the core of our 10-year plan is set of six strategic priorities. These are: • Organisation Development & Governance • Sustainable Funding Model • Asset Portfolio Management • Participation and Reputation • Sustainable Development • Climate Action, Environment and Heritage	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Development and Innovation – A Strategy for Investment 2016-2022, (Fáilte Ireland, 2016)	This strategy sets out the framework and mechanism for the delivery of investment to cities, towns, villages, communities and businesses across the country. It identifies priorities to support innovation in the sector to retain and grow the country's competitiveness in the marketplace. Its ultimate aim is to strengthen the appeal of Ireland for international visitors.	The objectives of the Tourism Development and Innovation Strategy are: • To successfully and consistently deliver a world class visitor experience; • To support a tourism sector that is profitable and achieves sustainable levels of growth and delivers jobs; • To facilitate communities to play an enhanced role in developing tourism in their locality, thereby strengthening and enriching local communities; and • To recognise, value and enhance Ireland's natural environment as the cornerstone of Irish tourism.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998	The Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998 requires that each Housing Authority adopts a Traveller Accommodation Programme for its functional area.	This Act amended and extended the Housing Acts, 1966 to 1997, the Local Government (Planning and Development) Acts, 1963 to 1998, the Local Government Act, 1991, to make provision for the accommodation needs of travellers, to provide for the appointment of a national traveller accommodation consultive committee and local traveller accommodation consultative committees and to provide for related matters.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlement Guidelines (DHLGH, 2024)	The Guidelines set out policy and guidance in relation to the planning and development of urban and rural settlements, with a focus on sustainable residential development and the creation of compact settlements. They are accompanied by a companion non-statutory Design Manual that illustrates best practice examples of how the policies and objectives of the Guidelines can be applied.	The Guidelines build on and update previous guidance to take account of current Government policy and economic, social and environmental considerations. There is a renewed focus in the Guidelines on the renewal of existing settlements and on the interaction between residential density, housing standards and quality urban design and placemaking to support sustainable and compact growth.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Retail Planning Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2012)	The Guidelines have five key policy objectives: • Ensuring that retail development is plan-led; • Promoting city/town centre vitality through a sequential approach to development; • Securing competitiveness in the retail sector by actively enabling good quality development proposals to come forward in suitable locations; • Facilitating a shift towards increased access to retailing by public transport, cycling and walking in accordance with the Smarter Travel strategy; and • Delivering quality urban design outcomes.	The aim of the Guidelines is to ensure that the planning system continues to play a key role in supporting competitiveness in the retail sector for the benefit of the consumer in accordance with proper planning and sustainable development. In addition, the planning system must promote and support the vitality and viability of city and town centres thereby contributing to a high standard of urban design and encouraging a greater use of sustainable transport.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Architectural Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011)	Part 1 of these guidelines includes the criteria to be applied when selecting proposed protected structures for inclusion in the RPS. It also offers guidance to planning authorities on issuing a declaration on a protected structure and on determining planning applications in relation to a protected structure, a proposed protected structure or the exterior of a building within an ACA.	Part 2 contains supplementary detailed guidance to support planning authorities in their role to protect the architectural heritage when a protected structure, a proposed protected structure or the exterior of a building within an ACA is the subject of development proposals and when a declaration is sought in relation to a protected structure.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027	The primary objective of the strategy which is to facilitate disabled people to live independently with the appropriate choices and control over where, how and with whom they live, promoting their inclusion in the community.	This Strategy will build on the progress made under the previous strategy, The National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability (NHSPWD) 2011 – 2016 (extended to 2021). The Strategy promotes a whole of community approach to housing for disabled people when planning the provision of housing, including infrastructure, transport, education, and employment.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Derelict Sites Act (1990)	An Act to make provision with respect to land to prevent it being or becoming a derelict site, to enable Local Authorities to require the taking of measures on derelict sites by the owners or occupiers and, in certain circumstances, to acquire derelict sites compulsorily, to establish registers of derelict sites, to enable the minister to give directions in relation to derelict sites, to provide for a derelict sites levy and to provide for other matters connected with the aforesaid and to repeal the Derelict Sites Act 1961.	Under the Act, local authorities can: • Prosecute owners who do not comply with notices served • Make compulsory land purchases • Carry out necessary work themselves and charge the owners for the cost All local authorities must: • Maintain derelict sites register • Make the register available for public inspection - It can remove an entry from the Register when it is satisfied that improvement works have been carried out on the derelict site.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 (as amended)	An Act to make provision with respect to land in areas in which housing is required and in areas which are in need of renewal to prevent it lying idle or remaining vacant, to establish a register of vacant sites in those areas, to provide for vacant sites levy, to amend the Derelict Sites Act 1990, to amend Parts II, III and V of the Planning and Development Act 2000, to amend the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009 and to provide for related matters.	This Revised Act is an administrative consolidation of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015. It is prepared by the Law Reform Commission in accordance with its function under the Law Reform Commission Act 1975 (3/1975) to keep the law under review and to undertake revision and consolidation of statute law.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Delivering Homes, Building Communities 2025-2030: An Action Plan on Housing Supply and Targetting Homelessness	Delivering Homes, Building Communities 2025–2030 sets out the Government's overarching strategy to significantly increase housing supply and address homelessness through accelerated delivery, planning and infrastructure reform, and a strengthened role for the State in housing provision.	The Action Plan is structured around two primary policy pillars, focused on activating housing supply at scale and targeting homelessness through coordinated State-led intervention and delivery reform through the following: • Increase housing supply at scale by accelerating the delivery of 300,000 new homes by 2030, including social, affordable, cost-rental and private housing, to meet demographic and economic demand and address long-standing supply shortages. • Target and prevent homelessness through a coordinated, whole-of-government approach that prioritises early intervention, increased delivery of social housing, and pathways from emergency accommodation to secure, long-term homes. • Remove barriers to delivery by activating zoned land, reforming planning and judicial review processes, and investing in enabling infrastructure (water, energy, transport) to support faster and more predictable housing development. • Strengthen the State's role while supporting private delivery, including record public investment, expansion of the Land Development Agency, and measures to restore viability and confidence across the construction and development sector	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Housing for All - a New Housing Plan for Ireland-	The government's overall objective is that every citizen in the State should have access to good quality homes: • to purchase or rent at an affordable price • built to a high standard and in the right place • offering a high quality of life	The policy has four pathways to achieving housing for all: • supporting home ownership and increasing affordability • eradicating homelessness, increasing social housing delivery and supporting social inclusion • increasing new housing supply • addressing vacancy and efficient use of existing stock	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Town Centre First Policy (2022)	The Town Centre First Policy is a major cross-government policy that aims to tackle vacancy, combat dereliction and breathe new life into town centres. It advocates for a holistic, place-based approach to sustainable rural development. The Town Centre First policy aims to create town centres that function as viable, vibrant and attractive locations for people to live, work and visit, while also functioning as the business, service, social and. cultural.	The Policy contains 33 actions which will give towns the tools and resources they need to become more viable and attractive places in which to live, work, socialise and run a business. This will focus on charting the future direction of their towns, address issues of vacancy and dereliction and add vibrancy to the town centre.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
IDA's Adapt Intelligently: A Strategy for Sustainable Growth and Innovation 2025-29 and associated developments	IDA Ireland's strategy 2025-29 is an ambitious and positive approach to a fast-changing world. Drawing on the opportunities for growth arising from the structural forces that are reshaping the global economy, it sets an ambition: • For Ireland to be a leading location for smart, sustainable manufacturing and intelligent, digitalised services • To increase the number of companies undertaking cutting-edge research and innovation and the scope, scale and ambition of their Research, Development and Innovation activity • To retain and enhance Ireland's position in key strategic value chains • To grow the level of investment in sustainable business practices and processes and in developing new sustainability and energy-efficient technologies • For Ireland to be a leading location for the world-class talent and skills needed to realise future growth opportunities.	In pursuit of the strategic objectives and targets, IDA Ireland will win 1,000 investments to: • Secure €7bn in new Research, Development and Innovation investment • Deliver 550 regional investments • Reduce IDA Ireland client carbon emissions by 35% • Create 75,000 jobs • Upskill 40,000 people. • This in turn will support IDA Ireland client spend in Ireland of €250bn over the lifetime of the strategy on wages, Irish goods and services, and capital investment, providing further opportunity and economic impact across local supply chains.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

National Biodiversity Adaptation Plan 2025	The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage's Biodiversity Sectoral Adaptation Plan 2025 is the second Sectoral Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Ireland's Biodiversity Sector. It has been developed under the provisions of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 and the National Adaptation Framework (Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment, 2024). The 2025 Plan builds on the 2019 Plan and integrates the latest climate and ecological science, stakeholder engagement, and national and international strategies. The Plan is a national-scale plan that considers climate change impacts and risks across Ireland's terrestrial, freshwater, and marine biodiversity. It assesses sectoral consequences under two climate scenarios.	The Plan is aligned with the objectives of the 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan and supports the overarching objectives of the Nature Restoration Regulation to put restoration measures in place to restore at least 20% of the EU's land and sea areas by 2030 and all ecosystems in need of restoration by 2050. The Plan sets out three strategic goals supported by eight objectives and 22 new actions, alongside coordinated delivery of 43 existing actions from the 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan. These actions range from strengthening the evidence base for adaptation, ecosystem restoration, and nature-based solutions to governance, monitoring, and public engagement. Each action is linked to delivery owners, timelines, and indicators to support implementation and alignment with Ireland's climate commitments. Governance and implementation are supported by a Monitoring, Reporting, Evaluation and Learning framework, annual progress reviews, and funding mechanisms. The Plan also recognises cross-sectoral interdependencies, highlighting how climate impacts and adaptation efforts in biodiversity influence and are influenced by sectors such as agriculture, water, health, energy, and infrastructure. Through this integrated and forward-looking approach, the Plan aims to mainstream climate adaptation and build long-term resilience across Ireland's ecosystems, ensuring that biodiversity continues to support climate regulation, human wellbeing, and sustainable development.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Heritage Ireland 2030 (2020)	The Vision from Heritage Ireland is: "Recognised for its contribution to society and well-being, Ireland's heritage will be valued, nurtured and protected and placed at the very centre of our decision"	Heritage Ireland 2030 is Ireland's new national heritage plan. It is built around a vision of our heritage – in all its forms – being at very centre of local and national discourse, valued by all and cared for and protected for future generations. At the heart of this framework are three themes: communities, leadership and partnerships. These themes reflect the importance of ongoing collaboration between government and communities, heritage organisations, individuals and local authorities in caring and planning for our shared heritage. Heritage Ireland 2030 suggests a series of structures under which all these stakeholders can come together to advance the protection of Ireland's heritage through over 150 actions. These structures will be established in Q1 and Q2 of 2022 ahead of the publication of an implementation plan in Q3 which will assign actions and timeframes to responsible stakeholders.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Emerging NTA CycleConnects: Ireland's Cycle Network	Aims to improve sustainable travel by providing the potential for more trips on a safe, accessible and convenient cycling network, connecting more people to more places.	Proposals for cycling links in key cities, towns and villages in each county are included in the plan, in addition to connections between the larger towns, villages and settlements. The plan also incorporates existing and planned cycle routes such as greenways and blueways. The draft proposals envisage an extensive cycling network across the 22 counties, complementing the cycling plans already developed for the Greater Dublin Area (Meath, Kildare, Wicklow and Dublin). Together these plans will create an overall comprehensive cycle network for Ireland.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The All-Island Strategic Rail Review	The All-Island Strategic Rail Review aims to enhance and expand the rail system across Ireland and Northern Ireland with 32 strategic recommendations for development up to 2050.	The All-Island Strategic Rail Review was jointly commissioned by the Department of Transport in Ireland and the Department for Infrastructure in Northern Ireland. Its primary goal is to create a strategic vision for the rail system that supports sustainable transport, enhances connectivity, and aligns with net carbon zero commitments in both jurisdictions. The review emphasizes the importance of rail as a backbone for a high-quality transport system that benefits communities and the economy.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
December 2013 the European parliament adopted Regulation (EU) No.315/2013 on Guidelines for the development of the Trans European Transport Network (Ten-T), (amended in 2014 to include supplementary maps (EU) No.473/2014)	The Guidelines set out that member states shall "take appropriate measures" to complete their core network by 2030; the maps associated with the Regulations show the core network corridors of the TEN-T extending from Dublin to Belfast, and Dublin to Cork only.	Nationally, as a result of the directive, parts of the N13 (including the Letterkenny to Bridgend section), N14 and N15 have also been identified as part of the TEN-T network	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional/ County/Local Level			
Southern Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2020-2032	The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy provides a long-term strategic planning and economic framework for the Southern Region in order to support the implementation of the National Planning Framework.	The Southern Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy includes provisions for its 10 constituent local authorities: Cork City Council; Cork County Council; Clare County Council; Kerry County Council; Limerick City and County Council; Tipperary County Council; Waterford County Council; Carlow County Council; Kilkenny County Council; and Wexford County Council.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Integrated Implementation Plan 2019-2024	The Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035, which established an overall framework for transport investment over the next two decades and was subject to full SEA and Stage 2 AA, is a key policy shaping the six-year Integrated Infrastructure Plan. The priorities in the Integrated Infrastructure Plan align with the objectives and priorities set out in the Transport Strategy, focused on improving public and sustainable transport.	The Implementation Plan identifies investment proposals for a number of areas including: • Bus; • Light Rail; • Heavy Rai; • Integration Measures and Sustainable • Transport Investment; • Integrated Service Plan; and • Integration and Accessibility.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy 2040 (LSMATS)	The 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 aim of the Strategy is to provide a long-term strategic framework for the planning and development of transport infrastructure and services for the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area. It is a cross-county Metropolitan scale document which sets out the policies and objectives of the NTA, Limerick City and County Council, Clare County Council and Transport Infrastructure Ireland at a level appropriate to that scale.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs	Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include: • 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.	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 Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Groundwater Protection Schemes	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.	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 Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Land Use Plans, including: • **Those in force and emerging in the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council (including the overarching Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028);** • **Those in force and emerging in other adjoining planning authorities (including development plans for Local Authorities in: Cork; Tipperary; Clare; and Kerry; and local plans for settlements)**	• Outline planning objectives for land use development. • Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies. • Set out the policies and proposals to guide development in the specific Local Authority area.	• Identify future infrastructure, development and zoning required. • Protect and enhances amenities and environment. • Guide planning authority in assessing proposals. • Aim to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development. • Aim to promote sustainable development. • Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage.	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 Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs), including Limerick LECP 2023-2028	The overarching vision for each LECP is: "to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities."	The purpose of the Local Economic and Community Plan is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development in county Laois.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Town Centre First Plans	Town Centre First aims to create town centres that function as viable, vibrant and attractive locations for people to live, work and visit, while also functioning as the service, social, cultural and recreational hub for the local community.	Town Centre First (TFC) lays the foundation for each town to develop, at a local level, their own plan-led path forward. This will be expressed through a tailored TCF plan, which is underpinned by a clear diagnosis of local strengths and challenges. The TCF approach is centred on: • Collaboration and communication – a collaborative process involving all relevant local stakeholders, represented by a collaborative Town Team, with good communication in respect of issues raised and the agreed direction. • Understanding the place – analysis and appraisal underpinned by a town audit/ data gathering -process. • Defining the place – shaping the plan around high-level objectives that are subsequently expressed through a series of actions. • Enabling the place– identifying a clear path to delivery of the Plan, cognisant that this will require actions of varying scale to be delivered by different partners.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
reThinking Tourism: Limerick City and County Council Tourism Plan 2025-2030	The Limerick City and County Tourism Plan represents a whole of organisation approach for tourism that takes into account the existing planning framework for tourism. The Plan examines the opportunities to deliver, in line with the Limerick Development Plan, on the aims and ambitions of the tourism industry, grow the appeal of Limerick as an international visitor destination and meet the needs of Limerick's visitors.	The Plan comprises a series of actions under headings including: • Limerick for tourism – collaboration • Destination marketing • Scale signature attractions • Destination placemaking • Community tourism impact • Linking the City and County • Event destination • Outdoor experiences • Unique limerick experiences • Sustainability – Green DNA	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 Plan to be varied 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 and County Festivals and Events Strategy 2024-2028	The Festivals and Events Strategy has been prepared by Limerick City and County Council. The Vision of the Strategy is that "Limerick will inspire and engage local residents and visitors through an authentic, distinct and diverse year-round programme of festivals and events, that celebrate Limerick's culture on a world stage."	The key objectives of the Strategy are: • To develop a portfolio of festivals and events building momentum towards and beyond Ryder Cup 2027. • To reflect the essence of Limerick as captured in our brand — Atlantic Edge, European Embrace — celebrating and promoting Limerick as an innovative, open, inclusive place to live, visit, study and work. • To develop our local communities, support universal accessibility, wellbeing, civic engagement and placemaking. • To incorporate the UN Sustainable Development Goals in all aspects of planning, management and implementation of festivals and events. • To develop a compelling portfolio of year-round festivals and events. • To position Limerick as a festivals and events destination for leisure, weekend breaks, day-trips and to support seasonality, to motivate and attract domestic and international visitors to Limerick and increase length of visit and dwell time. • To leverage national/international public and private funding streams and set up multi-annual planning, to increase investment for festivals and events.	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 Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Local Authority Renewable Energy Strategy	The Strategy sets out the framework for the delivery of sustainable and renewable energies throughout the County.	The LARES outlines the potential for a range of renewable energy resources and developments and acknowledges the significant contribution that they can make to the county in terms of energy security, reduced reliance on traditional fossil fuels, enabling future energy exports, meeting assigned national targets and the transition to a low carbon economy.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Authority Climate Action Charter 2019	The Climate Action Charter is a key action in the Plan and will ensure every local authority embeds decarbonisation, sustainable development and climate resilience into every aspect of the work they do. This Plan will ensure to meet local authority's 2030 climate commitments, on a trajectory to be net-zero emissions by 2050.	The Charter commits Local Authorities to several actions that will ensure that they play a key leadership role locally and nationally in delivering effective climate action.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Limerick Landscape Character Assessment forming part of the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 and Landscape Character Assessment in adjoining local authorities	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.	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 Plan to be varied 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 Land Development Agency's Colbert Quarter Spatial Framework (2022)	This Spatial Framework sets out a vision for the area with principles to guide its future development, aligning with key objectives and policies within the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028.	Th Strategy also supports and aligns with the ambitious growth plans for Limerick for compact urban growth and optimising brownfield land as set out in the National Planning Framework. The Colbert Quarter project will transform this part of Limerick city, incorporating new urban districts to be developed over time delivering potentially 2,800 homes in addition to commercial floorspace and public spaces alongside sustainable transport options.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Mayoral Programme: More for Limerick (2024-2029)	Sets out aspirations for the 2024-2029 Mayoralty including: • An Ambitious Plan showing a path for Limerick to grow to 2050 • Improved Quality of Life and Placemaking • Social Inclusion and More Equal Opportunities for All • More Affordable and Sustainable Housing • Reimaging Our City Centre and Key County Towns	The Mayoral Programme sets out a variety of transport measures which could be implemented to improve the liveability of Limerick. Measures include park and ride facilities to support the rail network, to prioritise pedestrians within the City Centre, a new traffic management plan in the City Centre to reduce through traffic, implementation of a high-quality active travel network and a much-progressed BusConnects system in place across the city in line with Plan.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Limerick Public Realm Strategy and Limerick Cultural Strategy	These Strategies ensure that public spaces and cultural assets are integrated into the urban fabric in a way that enhances quality of life, promotes tourism, and creates a sense of community.	These Strategies ensure that public spaces and cultural assets are integrated into the urban fabric in a way that enhances quality of life, promotes tourism, and creates a sense of 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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Limerick Age-Friendly Strategy and Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026	These Strategies ensure that the housing and community needs of all demographics, including older residents, are met, supporting social inclusion and affordable housing solutions.	These Strategies ensure that the housing and community needs of all demographics, including older residents, are met, supporting social inclusion and affordable housing solutions.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Limerick BusConnects Programme	BusConnects is a programme of public transport investment in Ireland's major urban centres.	It is developed and managed by the National Transport Authority (NTA), and funded by Project Ireland 2040. BusConnects includes many elements: • Redesigning the bus network • Building new bus corridors and cycle lanes • Implementing a state-of-the-art ticketing system • Implementing a cashless payment system • Simpler fare structure • New bus livery • New bus stops and shelters • New Park & Ride sites in key locations • Transitioning to a new zero emissions bus fleet The Limerick Bus Network Redesign 2023 provides a Final New Network for bus services identifying where and how often the bus should come.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Shannon Tourism Masterplan 2020-2030	The Shannon Tourism Masterplan is the first dedicated plan undertaken on the entire Shannon Region, setting out a bold and integrated framework for sustainable tourism development along the Shannon across 2020 – 2030. The Masterplan is a collaborative project led by Waterways Ireland with Fáilte Ireland and 10 Local Authorities along the River Shannon and Shannon-Erne Waterway.	The Masterplan has examined the potential for positioning the Shannon as a hub destination for international and domestic tourism. It identifies the scale and scope of this challenge and has identified the measures needed to develop the necessary infrastructure, products, and experiences to reposition the Shannon Region as a key tourism destination within Ireland's Hidden Heartlands. Three key themes are identified in the plan, The Shannon, Mighty River of Ireland, Shannon Journey's and Adventures and The Natural Timeless Shannon.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Limerick Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030	Aims to protect, conserve, enhance and restore heritage, biodiversity and ecosystem services across all spectrums. The Limerick Biodiversity Action Plan will provide a framework for biodiversity action for the next five years. A key aim of the plan is to focus the efforts and resources of Limerick City and County Council, public sector bodies, nature conservation groups and others to protect and enhance biodiversity and halt biodiversity loss in Limerick and to further incorporate the free ecosystem services that biodiversity provides.	The Limerick Biodiversity Action Plan puts forward an ambitious programme of a sixty-six actions to reverse the decline in biodiversity by 2030. The actions are based upon recommendations made in ecological studies and on proposals put forward by the Limerick Biodiversity Forum, nature conservation groups, NGO's, members of the public, Strategic Policy Committee members and various Council Departments. The actions in this plan are centred on five objectives which mirror the objectives of the 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan. • Adopt a Whole of Limerick City and County Council, Whole of Society Approach to Biodiversity • Meet Urgent Conservation and Restoration Needs • Secure Nature's Contribution to Current and Future Generations • Enhance the Evidence Base for Action on Biodiversity • Strengthen Limerick's Contribution to National and Regional Biodiversity Initiatives	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Limerick Heritage Plan 2017-2030	The 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. Heritage should remain a strong contributory factor to Limerick being a special place to live, work, locate to and a worthwhile location to invest in."* To achieve this purpose, the aims of the Plan are: • 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.	• Pass on Limerick's heritage to future generations in the interest of sustainable future development • Contribute to a sense of community, sense of pride, sense of place, respecting the natural, cultural and built environments and Limerick's unique biodiversity. • To maximise the resources and expertise of the many agencies working in the heritage area, including state bodies, local government, the private and voluntary sectors. • Complement and maximise the potential of heritage for tourism development, local economic development, and supporting principles of sustainable planning and development. • Strengthen existing community development initiatives, assist local communities to secure funding for projects, e.g. Tidy Towns, etc. Assist the implementation of national policy in relation to heritage at a local level.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Limerick Agglomeration Noise Action Plan 2024-2028	Noise Action Plans are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, Statutory Instrument 140 of 2006. These Regulations give effect to the EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. This Directive sets out a process for managing environmental noise in a consistent manner across the EU and the Noise Regulations set out the approach to meeting the requirements of the Directive in Ireland. The main purpose of Noise Action Plans is to: • 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.	The actions detailed in the Plan have been drawn up to assess noise exposure in priority areas, as indicated by strategic noise mapping located on the identified routes within the respective functional areas of the Council.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Limerick City and County Council's Climate Action Plan 2024-2029	The Climate Action Plan sets out how the local authority can promote a range of mitigation, adaptation and other climate action measures, to help deliver on the national climate obligations and the Government's overall National Climate Objective, which seeks to pursue and achieve, by no later than the end of 2050, the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy. Vision: *"Limerick City and County Council will lead the transition to a low carbon and climate resilient society. This will be achieved through engagement, innovation and a just transition."* Mission: *"We will strive to achieve this by focusing on the key sustainability pillars of energy, transport, waste, behavioural change, land use, ecosystems and the built and natural environments. We will achieve this by supporting innovation and co-creation with all stakeholder in a collaborative environment across the county."*	The Climate Action Plan sets out a framework to promote, develop and implement climate actions through process improvements, community engagement, progressive development and iterative learning processes, which will be refined throughout the lifetime of the plan.	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Retail Strategy for Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area and County Limerick 2022 – 2028 forming part of the Limerick Development Plan	The overriding aim of the strategy is to create the appropriate conditions necessary to foster a healthy and vibrant retail environment in Limerick City Centre and throughout the Metropolitan Area and County Limerick to help improve the retail environment, enhance the vitality of urban areas and effectively manage and support positive change.	The key outputs are covered under number of headings including: • National, Regional and Local Policy Context • Current Retail Trends • Shopper and Household Retail Surveys • Town Centre Health Checks • Projected Retail Floorspace Requirements • Retail Planning Policies and Criteria for Assessment	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 Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan 2024-2030	The plan provides a pathway for the accelerated delivery of regional and local networks of public electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure at destination and neighbourhood areas, in line with both national and European ambitions for cleaner transportation. The plan ensures a cohesive and standardised approach. It will be led by local authorities, working together to develop regional and local strategies to promote a unified and efficient rollout of charging infrastructure and to facilitate the equitable transition to EVs.	The Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan provides a way forward for equitably delivering charging infrastructure at a national and local level to support the national and international efforts to reduce transport-related carbon emissions through the shift to zero emission vehicles for all users. The plan lays out a pathway, adhering to the fundamental principles below set out in the Infrastructure Strategy, to sustainably deliver charging infrastructure at destination and neighbourhood locations.	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 Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Local Neighbourh-o-od and Destination Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategies	The Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan published for consultation by ZEVI (Zero Emission Vehicles Ireland) in 2024 sets out minimum charging capacity requirements for local authorities per geographical area.	By developing a comprehensive network of strategically located charging stations, the strategies are intended to support the growing number of EVs on Irish roads, ensuring that all areas are adequately served and help meet the climate action targets.	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 Plan to be varied 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 Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan' by the National Transport Authority	The plan aims to improve mobility in rural areas, and it will do this by providing better connections between villages and towns by linking these areas with an enhanced regional network connecting cities and regional centres nationwide.	These principles include: • Increasing frequency on existing routes to attract more passengers; • Design useful and integrated timetables; • Schedule services to arrive at a centre before 09:00, particularly for work and education trips; • Allow for trips in the middle of the day for those shopping, attending health appointments, or visiting friends and family; • Schedule a return home at around 17:30 and potentially provide later services for socialising and evening retail where there is demand; • Provide services seven days a week; • Provide local routes that connect smaller settlements with the regional public transport network with integrated timetables that allow more interchange opportunities; and • Serve key locations within towns, e.g. hospitals, train stations, educational institutes, etc.	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 Plan to be varied 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.
Fáilte Ireland Tourism plans and strategies, including those relating to "Wild Atlantic way" including Destination Experience Development Plans and Regional Tourism Development Strategies	Fáilte Ireland's work includes preparing various plans and strategies for Wild Atlantic Way other brands and initiatives. These plans are subject to their own environmental assessment processes and any project arising is required to be consistent with and conform with the provisions of all adopted/approved Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes, including provisions for the protection and management of the environment.	Some of Fáilte Ireland's plans and strategies include various projects relating to land use and infrastructural development, including those relating to development of land or on land and the carrying out of land use activities. Many of these projects exist already while some are not currently in existence. The Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes that provide for different projects undergo a variety of environmental assessments. These assessments ensure that environmental effects are considered, including: those arising from new and intensified uses and activities; and those arising from various sectors such as tourism.	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 Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Various existing, planned and emerging projects provided for by the above plans and programmes	These projects have been provided for by higher-level plans and programmes.	These projects will contribute towards the development of the area to which the Plan relates and/or wider area and will contribute towards environmental protection and management.	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 Plan to be varied 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.

Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination under the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended) and Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, as amended) for:

Proposed Variation No. 3[1] to be made to the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028, as varied

In order to comply with the requirements of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (SI No. 34), as amended, and Article 6(3) of the European Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC), as amended, this determination is being made by Limerick City and County Council relating to the potential for Proposed Variation No. 3[2] to be made to the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028, as varied, to have likely significant effects on any European Site.

As is demonstrated and concluded in the Final, Consolidated Screening for AA Report for Proposed Variation No. 3 to be made:

- The source-pathway-receptor model was applied, i.e. the Proposed Variation to be made was examined for sources for potential effects, alongside an examination of pathways for effects of any sources presented in the Proposed Variation to be made to the Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests (i.e., receptors), in view of their Conservation Objectives, of each European site assessed. In applying this model, it was found that no potential sources for significant effects to any European site considered would arise from the implementation of the Proposed Variation to be made that have not already been considered by the Stage 2 AA undertaken for the existing the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (the findings of which are provided in the Natura Impact Report accompanying the Plan).

- As such, the risks to the safeguarding of the Conservation Objectives of the Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests of the European sites have been addressed through existing, already in-force policies and objectives within the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 - with which all lower tier plans/projects must comply. In addition, any future projects, plans etc. that may arise will themselves be subject to AA/screening for AA when further details of design and location are known.

- Therefore , it is concluded in this Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report , that any likelihood of Proposed Variation No. 3 to be made to the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028, as varied, having any significant effect on any European site (either individually or in combination with any other plan or project), can be excluded in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats and species for which these sites have been designated. Consequently, a Stage Two AA (Natura Impact Report) is not required.

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above.

The undersigned hereby determines that any likelihood of Proposed Variation No. 3[3] to be made (either individually or in combination with any other plan or project) having any significant effect on any European site can be excluded in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species for which these sites have been designated. Therefore, Stage 2 AA for the Proposed Variation No. 3 to be made is not required.

Signatory: _____

Date: 28/9/26

[1] Incorporating the Proposed Variation and any modification/alteration considered by the AA screening process
[2] Incorporating the Proposed Variation and any modification/alteration considered by the AA screening process
[3] Incorporating the Proposed Variation and any modification/alteration considered by the AA screening process