



CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING,  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE &  
PLANNING

# LEITRIM LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2024-2029

## Natura Impact Report

Prepared for:  
Leitrim County Council



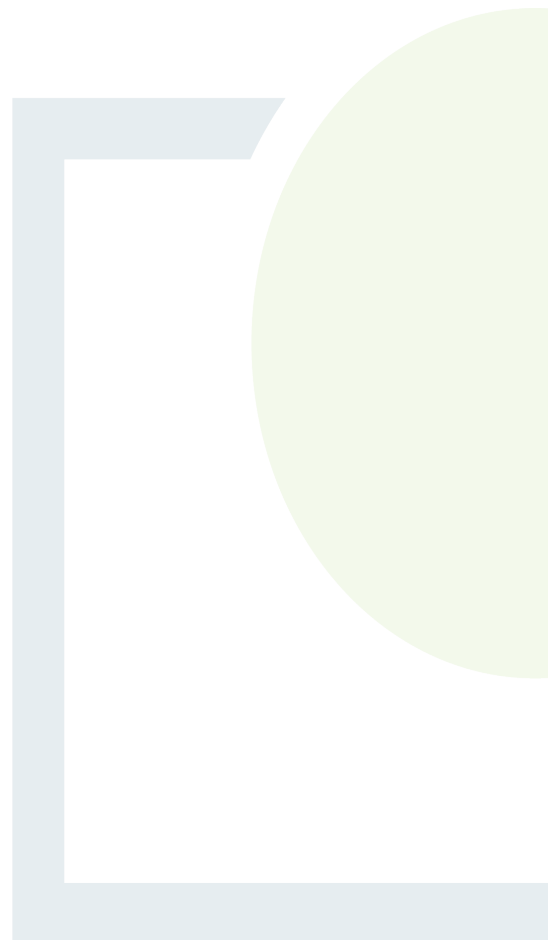
Leitrim  
County Council  
Comhairle Chontae Liatroma

Date: February 2024

Core House, Pouladuff Road, Cork, T12 D773, Ireland  
T: +353 21 496 4133 | E: [info@ftco.ie](mailto:info@ftco.ie)

CORK | DUBLIN | CARLOW

[www.fehilytimoney.ie](http://www.fehilytimoney.ie)



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

### REVISION CONTROL TABLE, CLIENT, KEYWORDS AND ABSTRACT

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

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

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

This report is part of the AA process that was undertaken alongside the preparation of the LACAP.

### 1.2 Post Draft Plan Consultation Modifications

This document is the final NIR produced on adoption of the LACAP. An earlier draft version of this report has been updated having regard to the consultation submissions made during the Draft Plan consultation period, recommendations made in the report on submissions received during public consultation of the draft plan, and the modifications made to the original draft version of the LACAP that was put on display for consultation. The updates made to the report were clerical or minor and non-material in nature and have not changed the parameters of the environmental/ecological assessment undertaken or the environmental mitigation defined.

The Plan modifications arising from the consultation process, the report on submissions received during public consultation of the draft plan, and the post consultation plan-making process were screened for AA. The AA Screening Report for the post consultation Plan modifications are presented in Appendix 3. The Plan revisions modifications determined to be non-material and did not introduce any additional environmental/ecological effects not previously considered and mitigated during the SEA and AA processes.

An AA Conclusion Statement will now be prepared on how the AA process shaped the content of the final plan.

### 1.3 Legislative Context

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

AA is required by the Habitats Directive, as transposed into Irish legislation by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act (as amended). AA is an assessment of the potential for adverse or negative effects of a plan or project, in combination with other plans or projects, on the conservation objectives of a European site. These sites consist of SACs and SPAs and provide for the protection and long-term survival of Europe’s most valuable and threatened species and habitats.



## 1.4 Approach

The AA is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological and hydrological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and grey literature<sup>1</sup> was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS) website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives (including spatial data collected for the most recent Article 17 conservation status reporting cycle, 2019).

In addition to being informed by these reports, the NIR was also informed by the Leitrim County Development Plan and the accompanying SEA Environmental Report and AA Natura Impact Report

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

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

- Identification of European sites within 15km of the LACAP boundary with identification of potential pathways links for specific sites (if relevant) greater than 15km from the LACAP boundary;
- Review of the NPWS site synopsis and conservation objectives for European sites in the local authority functional area and surrounding areas potentially connected to the functional by way of environmental pathways (herein referred to as the 'study area'); and
- Examination of available information on protected species.

There are four main stages in the AA process as follow:

### ***Stage One: Screening***

The process that identifies the likely impacts upon a European site of a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant.

### ***Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment***

The consideration of the impact on the integrity of the European site of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's structure and function and its conservation objectives. Additionally, where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts. If adequate mitigation is proposed to ensure no significant adverse impacts on European sites, then the process may end at this stage. However, if the likelihood of significant impacts remains, then the process must proceed to Stage Three.

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



### ***Stage Three: Assessment of Alternative Solutions***

The process that examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoids adverse impacts on the integrity of the European site.

### ***Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain***

An assessment of compensatory measures where, in the light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), it is deemed that the project or plan should proceed.

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

The assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted following a standard source-pathway-receptor model<sup>2</sup>, where, in order for an effect to be established all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence or removal of one of the elements of the model is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

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

The NIR exercise has been prepared taking into account legislation including the aforementioned legislation and guidance including the following:

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2009;
- “Commission Notice: Managing Natura 2000 sites - The provisions of Article 6 of the ‘Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC’”, European Commission 2018;
- “Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC”, European Commission Environment DG, 2002;
- “Managing Natura 2000 sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC”, European Commission, 2000; and
- Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management; OPR Practice Note PN01; Office of the Planning Regulator, 2021.

The scope of the AA was informed by the submissions received on the scope of the accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Source(s) – e.g. pollutant run-off from proposed works; Pathway(s) – e.g. groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and Receptor(s) – qualifying aquatic habitats and species of European Sites

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



## 2. DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

### 2.1 Overview

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

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

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

The LACAP has been developed in accordance with the requirements of Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 (herein referred to as the Climate Act). It must be consistent with the Climate Action Plan 2023 (CAP23) and the National Adaptation Framework, and generally the policies & plans per amended Section 15 of the Act. Local authority Development Plans must also be aligned with their LACAP.

### 2.2 Context

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

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

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

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

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





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

## 2.3 Plan Content

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

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

Theme Area	Main Objective
Governance and Leadership	To implement appropriate climate action mitigation and adaptation measures across all operations of Leitrim County Council
	To be an exemplar in climate action to influence, coordinate and enable others to meet their own climate obligations
	To work and collaborate with other sectors and agencies to deliver programmes that support climate action
	To utilise technology to enhance the efficiency and decrease the carbon footprint of our services
	To increase the knowledge, awareness, and competency of the staff of Leitrim County Council surrounding climate change and action
Built Environment and Transport	To implement appropriate climate action mitigation and adaptation measures across all operations of Leitrim County Council
	To conserve resources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase the use of renewable energy technologies, and increase energy efficiency throughout our housing, offices, and infrastructure.
	Ensure emergency planning systems and plans address climate action to protect critical infrastructure from extreme weather events and to ensure a co-ordinated and resourced emergency response from all climate related emergencies and events, including flooding.
	To promote, support and facilitate the implementation and expansion of active travel mechanism, in association with other key stakeholders to enhance connectivity, mobility and modal shift in Leitrim
	To reduce the councils transport emissions through increasing fuel efficiency, facilitating fleet transition and examining current working practices.
	To align, update and implement plans and strategies as required to enable sustainable transport and active travel in Leitrim
Natural Environment and Green Infrastructure	To implement appropriate climate action mitigation and adaptation measures across all operations of Leitrim County Council



Theme Area	Main Objective
	To be an exemplar in climate action to influence, coordinate and enable others to meet their own climate obligations
	Project peatland from further degradation
Communities, Resilience & Transition	To build capacity, improve social connectedness and foster cooperation to increase community resilience and transition
	To promote climate action and climate literacy through training and education in partnership with educational facilities
Sustainability & Resource Management	Support circular economy initiatives and infrastructure within the County including prevention, reuse, repair and recycling to lower resource demand and combat the impacts of climate change
	Support and assist the Business and Enterprise sectors to go green, grow the counties low carbon economy and increase the supply of low carbon goods and services
	Support farmers in diversifying to lower carbon agricultural practices and promotion of sustainable food production within the county
	Support renewable electricity generation, transmission and use within the County in line with national and regional policy including the Electricity Storage Policy Framework

## 2.4 Overall Vision and Strategic Outcomes

The overall vision of the LACAP for LCC is:

*"Leitrim County Council will work to support the transition of County Leitrim to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy."*

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

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

### 2.4.1 Decarbonising Zone

The town of Carrick-on-Shannon has been designated as the Decarbonising Zone (DZ) for Leitrim County Council.



## 3. SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

### 3.1 Introduction to Screening

This stage of the process identifies any potential significant effects to European sites from a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans.

An important element of the AA process is the identification of the “conservation objectives”, “Qualifying Interests” (QIs) and/ or “Special Conservation Interests” (SCIs) of European sites requiring assessment. QIs are the habitat features and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive for which each European Site has been designated and afforded protection. SCIs are wetland habitats and bird species listed within Annexes I and II of the Birds Directive. It is also vital that the threats to the ecological / environmental conditions that are required to support QIs and SCIs are considered as part of the assessment.

The following NPWS Generic Conservation Objectives have been considered in the screening:

- For SACs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected; and
- For SPAs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

Where available, Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) designed to define favourable conservation status for a particular habitat<sup>4</sup> or species<sup>5</sup> at that site have been considered.

### 3.2 Identification of Relevant European Sites

The Department of the Environment (2009) Guidance on AA recommends a 15 km buffer zone to be considered (from a plan or project boundary, as appropriate). Although sites beyond this buffer zone would be considered if relevant, a review of all sites within this zone - using a source, pathway and receptor framework - has allowed the conclusion to be made that in the absence of significant hydrological links the characteristics of the LACAP will not impose effects beyond the 15 km buffer from the local authority functional area boundary. The assessment process also considered hydrogeological processes and possible effects to ground water with respect to ground water sensitive habitats and species.

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<sup>4</sup> Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when: its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing; the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future; and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.

<sup>5</sup> The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when: population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats; the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future; and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.



Details of European sites that occur within 15 km of the LACAP boundary are provided in Table 3-1. European sites and EPA Rivers Catchments are also mapped in Figure 3-1 below. Information on QIs, SCIs and site-specific vulnerabilities and sensitivities (see Appendix I) and background information (such as that within Ireland's Article 17 Report to the European Commission, site synopses and Natura 2000 standard data forms) have been considered by both the AA screening assessment (provided under this section) and Stage 2 AA (provided under Section 4). Conservation objectives that have been considered by the assessment are included in the following National Parks and Wildlife Service documents:

- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC [IE0000007] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Ballintra SAC [IE0000115] Version 1.
- NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for Donegal Bay (Murvagh) SAC [IE0000133] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Durnesh Lough SAC [IE0000138] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for St. John's Point SAC [IE0000191] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for River Shannon Callows SAC [IE0000216] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Lough Melvin SAC [IE0000428] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Lough Ree SAC [IE0000440] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Cuilcagh - Anierin Uplands SAC [IE0000584] Version 1.
- NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives for Ballysadare Bay SAC [IE0000622] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Ben Bulbin, Gleniff and Glenade Complex SAC [IE0000623] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Bunduff Lough and Machair/Trawalua/Mullaghmore SAC [IE0000625] Version 1.
- NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives for Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC [IE0000627] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Union Wood SAC [IE0000638] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Corratirrim SAC [IE0000979] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Arroo Mountain SAC [IE0001403] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Annaghmore Lough (Roscommon) SAC [IE0001626] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Bricklieve Mountains & Keishcorran SAC [IE0001656] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Lough Arrow SAC [IE0001673] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Streedagh Point Dunes SAC [IE0001680] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Lough Forbes Complex SAC [IE0001818] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Unshin River SAC [IE0001898] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Glenade Lough SAC [IE0001919] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Lough Gill SAC [IE0001976] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Tamur Bog SAC [IE0001992] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Boleybrack Mountain SAC [IE0002032] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Lough Golagh and Breesy Hill SAC [IE0002164] Version 1.



- NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for Lower River Shannon SAC [IE0002165] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for Mount Jessop Bog SAC [IE0002202] Version 9.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC [IE0002241] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Dunmuckrum Turloughs SAC [IE0002303] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Brown Bog SAC [IE0002346] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Clooneen Bog SAC [IE0002348] Version 1.
- NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives for Drumcliff Bay SPA [IE0004013] Version 1.
- NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives for Cummeen Strand SPA [IE0004035] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Oughter SPA [IE0004049] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Arrow SPA [IE0004050] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA [IE0004058] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Ree SPA [IE0004064] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Inishmurray SPA [IE0004068] Version 9.
- NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA [IE0004077] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Middle Shannon Callows SPA [IE0004096] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for River Suck Callows SPA [IE0004097] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Ballykenny-Fisherstown Bog SPA [IE0004101] Version 9.
- NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives for Ballysadare Bay SPA [IE0004129] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Durnesh Lough SPA [IE0004145] Version 9.
- NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for Donegal Bay SPA [IE0004151] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Sligo/Leitrim Uplands SPA [IE0004187] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Ballintemple and Ballygilgan SPA [IE0004234] Version 9.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Cuilcagh Mountain SAC [UK0016603] Version 2.1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Upper Lough Erne SAC [UK0016614] Version 2.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Cladagh (Swanlinbar) River SAC [UK0030116] Version 2.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Moninea Bog SAC [UK0030212] Version 2.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Upper Lough Erne SPA [UK9020071] Version 2.

The assessment considers available conservation objectives. Since conservation objectives focus on maintaining the favourable conservation condition of the QIs/SCIs of each site, the screening process concentrated on assessing the potential effects of the LACAP against the QIs/SCIs of each site. The conservation objectives for each site were consulted throughout the assessment process.



### 3.3 Assessment Criteria and Screening

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

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

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

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

- *Arising from both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure:*
  - *Loss of/damage to biodiversity in designated sites (including European sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna;*
  - *Habitat loss, fragmentation and deterioration, including patch size and edge effects; and*
  - *Disturbance (e.g. due to noise and lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species.*
- *Potential interactions if effects upon environmental vectors such as water and air.*
- *Adverse effects from tourism, amenity and recreation.*
- *Damage to the hydrogeological and ecological function of the soil resource.*
- *Adverse effects upon the status of water bodies arising from changes in quality, flow and/or morphology.*
- *Increase in the risk of flooding.*
- *Emissions to air including greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions.*

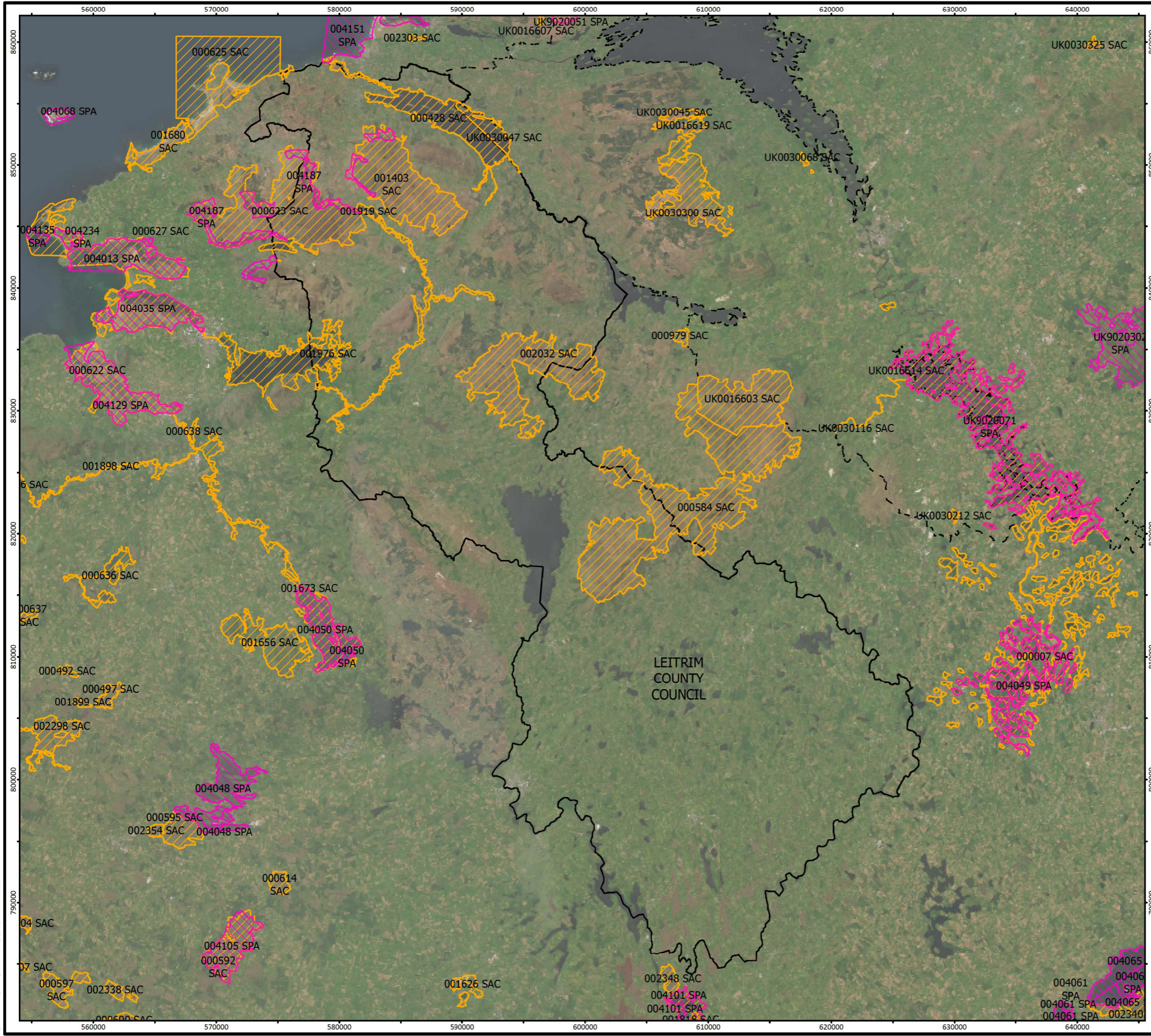
The elements of the LACAP with the highest potential to give rise to the effects indicated above are associated with construction phase elements of the implementation of the LACAP. The operational phase elements of the LACAP are consistent with the existing condition of the study area. All policies and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

#### 3.3.3 Screening of Sites

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

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

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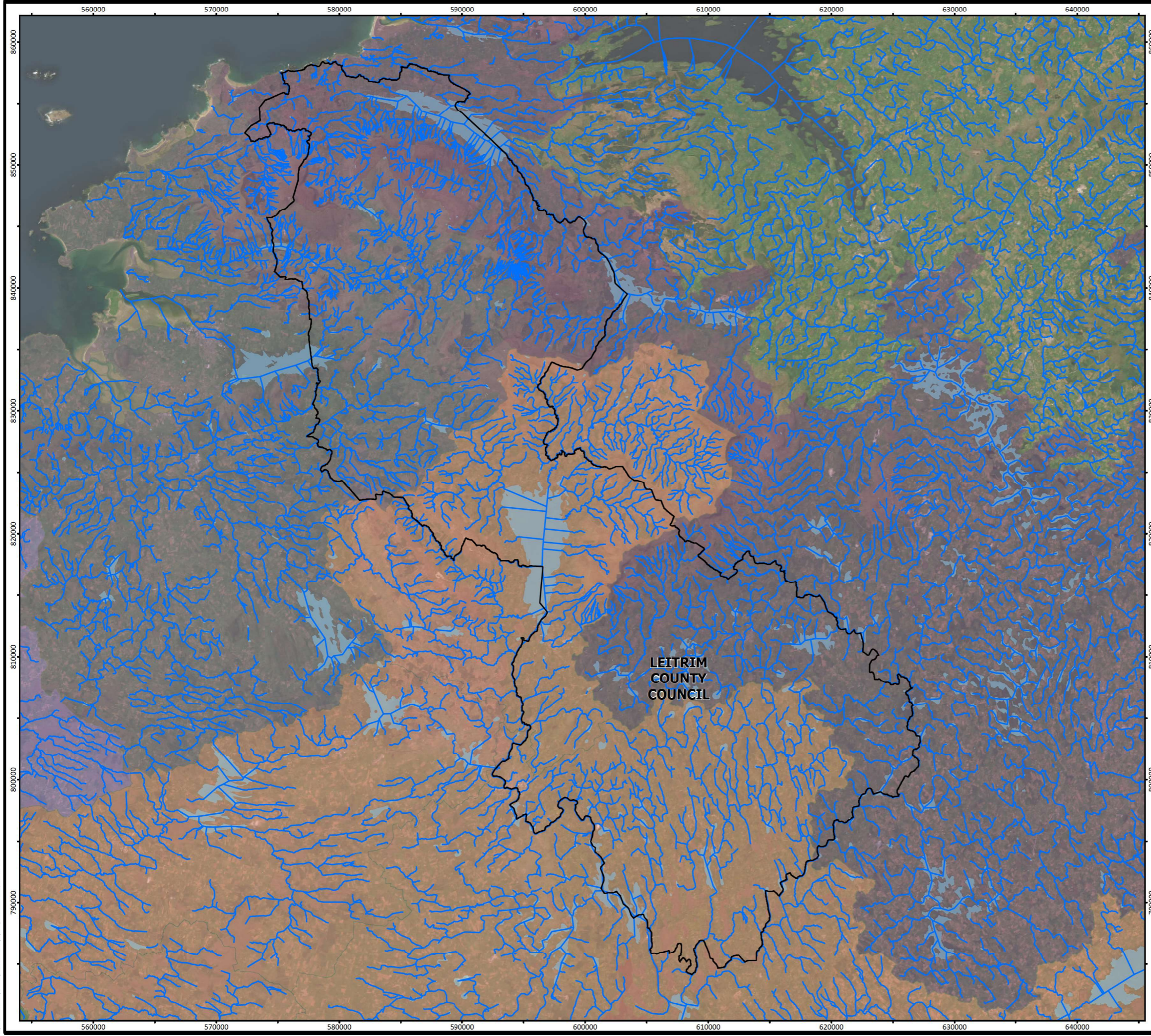
**Legend**

- Local Authority Boundaries
- Northern Ireland
- Special Area of Conservation
- Special Protection Areas

Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protected Areas	
LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL Local Authority Climate Action Plans	
FIGURE NO:	3.1
CLIENT:	LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL
DATE:	08/01/2024
SCALE:	1:305,000 @ A3

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- Legend**
- Local Authority Boundaries
  - Rivers
- WFD Catchments**
- Catchment Name**
- Corrib
  - Erne
  - Moy & Killala Bay
  - Sligo Bay & Drowse
  - Upper Shannon

<b>Hydrology</b>	
LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL Local Authority Climate Action Plans	
<b>FIGURE NO:</b>	3.2
<b>CLIENT:</b> LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL	
<b>DATE:</b> 16/11/2023	<b>SCALE:</b> 1:305,000 @ A3







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

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000428	Lough Melvin SAC	0	Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinia caerulea</i> ) [6410], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or <i>Isoeto-Nanojuncetea</i> [3130], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106]	The European Site is located within the study area.  The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.  Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
UK0030 047	Lough Melvin SAC	0	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or <i>Isoeto-Nanojuncetea</i> [3130], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinia caerulea</i> ) [6410], Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106]	The European Site is located immediately adjacent to the study area.  The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.  Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000584	Cuilcagh - Anierin Uplands SAC	0	Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains ( <i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i> ) [3110], Slender green feather-moss ( <i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i> ) [6216], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow	The European Site overlaps with the study area.  The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110], European dry heaths [4030], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000623	Ben Bulbin, Gleniff and Glenade Complex SAC	0	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140], Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (Thlaspietea rotundifolii) [8120], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], European dry heaths [4030], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Alkaline fens [7230], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Geyer's whorl snail (Vertigo geyeri) [1013], Water courses of	The European Site overlaps with the study area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355]			
000625	Bunduff Lough and Machair/Traw alua/Mullagh more SAC	0	Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Reefs [1170], Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Petalwort (Petalophyllum ralfsii) [1395], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Machairs * in Ireland [21A0], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria - white dunes [2120], Alkaline fens [7230], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Humid dune slacks [2190]	The European Site overlaps with the study area.  The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.  Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
001403	Arroo Mountain SAC	0	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (Thlaspietea rotundifolii) [8120], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], European dry heaths [4030], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Northern Atlantic wet	The European Site is located within the study area.  The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
001919	Glenade Lough SAC	0	Slender naiad ( <i>Najas flexilis</i> ) [1833], White-clawed crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> ) [1092], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150]	The European Site is located within the study area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
001976	Lough Gill SAC	0	Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0], Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], White-clawed crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> ) [1092], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0], Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> ) [1096]	The European Site overlaps with the study area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
002032	Boleybrack Mountain SAC	0	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010], <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinia caerulea</i> ) [6410], European dry heaths [4030]	<p>The European Site overlaps with the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
004151	Donegal Bay SPA	0	Light-bellied Brent Goose ( <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> ) [A046], Sanderling ( <i>Calidris alba</i> ) [A144], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Great Northern Diver ( <i>Gavia immer</i> ) [A003], Common Scoter ( <i>Melanitta nigra</i> ) [A065]	<p>The European Site is located immediately adjacent to the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
004187	Sligo/Leitrim Uplands SPA	0	Peregrine falcon ( <i>Falco peregrinus</i> ) [A103], Chough ( <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> ) [A346]	<p>The European Site overlaps with the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p>	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
UK0016 603	Cuilcagh Mountain SAC	0	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220]	<p>The European Site is located c. 5km from the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
002348	Clooneen Bog SAC	0.72	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Bog woodland [91D0], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 720 m between this European Site and the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	No	No
001818	Lough Forbes Complex SAC	0.97	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Depressions on peat substrates of the	There is a separation distance of approximately 970 m between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 1 km (in-stream distance) is present.	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150]	<p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc., which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>		
004101	Ballykenny-Fisherstown Bog SPA	0.97	Greenland White-fronted Goose ( <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> ) [A395]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 970 m between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 1 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
000007	Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC	1.16	Bog woodland [91D0], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 1.16 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 1.87 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.</p>	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				<p>Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>		
002303	Dunmuckrum Turloughs SAC	1.74	Turloughs [3180]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 1.74 km between this European Site and the study area and a potential groundwater connection is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
004049	Lough Oughter Complex SPA	3.08	Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Great Crested Grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 3.08 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 6.18 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p>	Yes	Yes





Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
UK0030 300	West Fermanagh Scarplands SAC	4.5	Limestone pavements [8240], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines [9180], Alkaline fens [7230], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]	There is a separation distance of approximately 4.5 km between this European Site and the study area and a potential groundwater connection is present.  The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.  There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
001680	Streedagh Point Dunes SAC	4.54	Narrow-mouthed whorl snail (Vertigo angustior) [1014], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria - white dunes [2120]	There is a separation distance of approximately 4.54 km between this European Site and the study area.  The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.  At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000979	Corratirrim SAC	4.91	Limestone pavements [8240]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 4.91 km between this European Site and the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	No	No
001898	Unshin River SAC	6.19	Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates ( <i>Festuco-Brometalia</i> ) * important orchid sites [6210], <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinion caeruleae</i> ) [6410]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 6.19 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 9.19 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
000627	Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC	6.82	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> - white dunes [2120], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Narrow-mouthed whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo angustior</i> ) [1014], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 6.82 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 10.95 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p>	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			- grey dunes [2130], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Harbour seal (Phoca vitulina) [1365], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Estuaries [1130], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]	<p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>		
004035	Cummeen Strand SPA	6.92	Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 6.92 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 10.95 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
004013	Drumcliff Bay SPA	7.1	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 7.1 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 8.56 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p>	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				<p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>		
002346	Brown Bog SAC	7.68	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 7.68 km between this European Site and the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	No	No
002164	Lough Golagh and Breesy Hill SAC	7.82	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 7.82 km between this European Site and the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
001673	Lough Arrow SAC	8.14	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 8.14 km between this European Site and the study area and no hydrological connection is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	No	No
000638	Union Wood SAC	8.77	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 8.77 km between this European Site and the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
UK0016 607	Pettigoe Plateau SAC	8.91	Active raised bogs [7110], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], European dry heaths [4030], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea [3130]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 8.91 km between this European Site and the study area and no hydrological connection is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	No	No
UK9020 051	Pettigoe Plateau SPA	8.91	Golden Plover [A140], Wetland and waterbirds [A999]	<p>This European Site is within 15km of the study area which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
UK0030 045	Largalunny SAC	9.18	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 9.18 km between this European Site and the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				<p>Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>		
004234	Ballintemple and Ballygilgan SPA	9.31	Barnacle goose ( <i>Branta leucopsis</i> ) [A045]	<p>This European Site is within 15km of the study area which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
000138	Durnesh Lough SAC	9.65	Coastal lagoons [1150], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinia caerulea</i> ) [6410]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 9.65 km between this European Site and the study area and no hydrological connection is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004145	Durnesh Lough SPA	10.19	Greenland White-fronted Goose ( <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> ) [A395], Whooper Swan ( <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> ) [A038]	<p>This European Site is within 15km of the study area which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
000622	Ballysadare Bay SAC	10.31	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> - white dunes [2120], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110], Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail ( <i>Vertigo angustior</i> ) [1014], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Estuaries [1130], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Humid dune slacks [2190], Harbour seal ( <i>Phoca vitulina</i> ) [1365]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 10.31 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 29.25 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes





Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
004129	Ballysadare Bay SPA	10.31	Redshank ( <i>Tringa totanus</i> ) [A162], Dunlin ( <i>Calidris alpina</i> ) [A149], Grey Plover ( <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> ) [A141], Bar-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa lapponica</i> ) [A157], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Light-bellied Brent Goose ( <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> ) [A046]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 10.31 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 29.25 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
UK0016 619	Monawilkin SAC	10.35	Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates ( <i>Festuco-Brometalia</i> ) * important orchid sites [6210]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 9.18 km between this European Site and the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	No	No
004050	Lough Arrow SPA	10.81	Little Grebe ( <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> ) [A004], Tufted Duck ( <i>Aythya fuligula</i> ) [A061], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	<p>This European Site is within 15km of the study area which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.</p>	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				<p>Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>		
UK0030 116	Cladagh (Swanlinbar) River SAC	11.37	Freshwater Pearl Mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> ) [1029], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation [3260]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 11.37 km between this European Site and the study area and no hydrological connection is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	No	No
000115	Ballintra SAC	11.53	European dry heaths [4030], Limestone pavements [8240]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 11.53 km between this European Site and the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
001656	Bricklieve Mountains & Keishcorran SAC	11.61	White-clawed crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> ) [1092], Lowland hay meadows ( <i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i> ) [6510], Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels ( <i>Thlaspietea rotundifolii</i> ) [8120], Marsh Fritillary ( <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> ) [1065], Turloughs [3180], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates ( <i>Festuco-Brometalia</i> ) * important orchid sites [6210]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 11.61 km between this European Site and the study area and a potential groundwater connection is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
UK0030 212	Moninea Bog SAC	11.63	Active raised bogs [7110]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 11.63 km between this European Site and the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	No	No
000191	St. John's Point SAC	11.68	Limestone pavements [8240], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinion caeruleae</i> ) [6410], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates ( <i>Festuco-Brometalia</i> ) * important orchid sites [6210], Vegetated sea cliffs of the	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 11.68 km between this European Site and the study area and a potential groundwater connection is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.</p>	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Alkaline fens [7230], Reefs [1170], Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065], Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]	Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.  There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
001626	Annaghmore Lough (Roscommon) SAC	12.4	Alkaline fens [7230], Geyer's whorl snail (Vertigo geyeri) [1013]	There is a separation distance of approximately 12.4 km between this European Site and the study area and a potential groundwater connection is present.  The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.  There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
001992	Tamur Bog SAC	12.68	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]	There is a separation distance of approximately 12.68 km between this European Site and the study area.  The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.  At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
UK0016 614	Upper Lough Erne SAC	13.28	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], 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], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 13.28 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 24.43 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
UK9020 071	Upper Lough Erne SPA	13.28	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Wetland and waterbirds [A999]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 13.28 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 24.43 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000133	Donegal Bay (Murvagh) SAC	13.86	Harbour seal ( <i>Phoca vitulina</i> ) [1365], Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> ( <i>Salicion arenariae</i> ) [2170], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Humid dune slacks [2190], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 13.86 km between this European Site and the study area and no hydrological connection is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	No	No
004068	Inishmurray SPA	13.87	Herring Gull ( <i>Larus argentatus</i> ) [A184], Shag ( <i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i> ) [A018], Barnacle goose ( <i>Branta leucopsis</i> ) [A045], Arctic tern ( <i>Sterna paradisaea</i> ) [A194]	<p>This European Site is within 15km of the study area which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
002202	Mount Jessop Bog SAC	14.21	Bog woodland [91D0], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 14.21 km between this European Site and the study area.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				<p>Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>		
000440	Lough Ree SAC	16.77	<p>Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], Limestone pavements [8240], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Alkaline fens [7230], Active raised bogs [7110], Bog woodland [91D0]</p>	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 16.77 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 20.19 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
004064	Lough Ree SPA	16.77	<p>Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193], Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067], Little Grebe (<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>) [A004], Coot</p>	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 16.77 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 20.19 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p>	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			(Fulica atra) [A125], Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065]	There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004097	River Suck Callows SPA	33.72	Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 33.72 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 79.3 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	43.3	Limestone pavements [8240], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Alkaline fens [7230], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 43.3 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 55.28 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes





Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	43.3	Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140], Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> ) [A156], Corncrake ( <i>Crex crex</i> ) [A122], Whooper Swan ( <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> ) [A038], Black-headed Gull ( <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> ) [A179], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) [A142], Wigeon ( <i>Anas penelope</i> ) [A050]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 43.3 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 55.28 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
002241	Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC	83.59	Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Limestone pavements [8240], Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i> [7210], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0], Alkaline fens [7230], <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 83.59 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 114.16 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	83.59	Common tern ( <i>Sterna hirundo</i> ) [A193], Goldeneye ( <i>Bucephala clangula</i> ) [A067], Cormorant ( <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> ) [A017], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Tufted Duck ( <i>Aythya fuligula</i> ) [A061]	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 83.59 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 114.16 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	117.33	Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Freshwater pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> ) [1029], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230], Estuaries [1130], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinia caerulea</i> ) [6410], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095], Reefs [1170], Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i> ) [1330], Bottlenose dolphin ( <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> ) [1349], Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time [1110], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitans</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> ) [1096], Large shallow inlets and bays	<p>There is a separation distance of approximately 117.33 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 154.74 km (in-stream distance) is present.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.</p> <p>There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.</p>	Yes	Yes



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			[1160], Coastal lagoons [1150], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ( <i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0], Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> ) [1410], <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]			
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	132.59	Light-bellied Brent Goose ( <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> ) [A046], Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) [A142], Greenshank ( <i>Tringa nebularia</i> ) [A164], Teal ( <i>Anas crecca</i> ) [A052], Curlew ( <i>Numenius arquata</i> ) [A160], Grey Plover ( <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> ) [A141], Cormorant ( <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> ) [A017], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Knot ( <i>Calidris canutus</i> ) [A143], Wigeon ( <i>Anas penelope</i> ) [A050], Ringed Plover ( <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> ) [A137], Whooper Swan ( <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> ) [A038], Black-headed Gull ( <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> ) [A179], Shelduck ( <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> ) [A048], Dunlin ( <i>Calidris alpina</i> ) [A149], Scaup ( <i>Aythya marila</i> ) [A062], Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140], Pintail ( <i>Anas acuta</i> ) [A054], Redshank ( <i>Tringa totanus</i> ) [A162], Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> ) [A156], Bar-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa lapponica</i> ) [A157], Shoveler ( <i>Anas clypeata</i> ) [A056]	There is a separation distance of approximately 132.59 km between this European Site and the study area, and a hydrological connection of 184.51 km (in-stream distance) is present.  The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.  There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes



### 3.4 In-combination effects with Other Plans and Programmes

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

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

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

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

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

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

### 3.5 AA Screening Conclusion

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

- Is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site; and
- May, if unmitigated, have significant adverse effects on 43 (no.) European sites.



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

### 3.5.1 Transboundary Effects

The effects of the LACAP, as considered and identified, may be transmitted to protected sites situated in Northern Ireland which are within the zone of influence of the local authority functional area also, such as; Lough Melvin SAC (UK0030047), West Fermanagh Scarplands SAC (UK0030300) and Cuilcagh Mountains SAC (UK0016603).



## 4. STAGE 2 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

### 4.1 Introduction

The Stage 2 AA assesses whether the LACAP alone, or in-combination with other plans, programmes, and/or projects, would result in adverse effects on the integrity of the 43 European sites brought forward from screening (those considered on Table 3-1 for which there is “Potential Pathway for Significant Effects” and/or “Potential for In-Combination Effects”), with respect to site structure, function and/or conservation objectives.

### 4.2 Characterisation of European sites Potentially Affected

The AA Screening identified 43 European sites with pathway receptors for potential effects arising from the implementation of the LACAP. Appendix I characterises each of the qualifying features of the ALL European sites brought forward from Stage 1 in context of each of the sites’ vulnerabilities. Each of these site characterisations were taken from the NPWS website<sup>6</sup>.

### 4.3 Identifying and Characterising Potential Significant Effects

The following parameters can be used when characterising impacts<sup>7</sup>:

- 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.

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<sup>6</sup> Last accessed 17th July 2023; <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites>

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



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

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

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

*Favourable conservation status of a species can be described as being achieved when: 'population data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself, and the natural range of the species is neither being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.'*

*Favourable conservation status of a habitat can be described as being achieved when: 'its natural range, and area it covers within that range, is stable or increasing, and the ecological factors that are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable'.*

Generic Conservation Objective for SACs:

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

One generic Conservation Objective for SPAs:

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



### 4.3.1 Types of Potential Effects

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

#### 4.3.1.1 *Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area*

The LACAP provides for action related to climate action and generally seeks to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through coordination, advocacy, awareness etc. Many of the actions also relate to land use change or the provision of infrastructure developments such as green energy and active travel projects. The exact spatial location of these projects is not fully developed within the plan. The development of all infrastructural have associated construction phase effects which include land take, habitat destruction, disturbance effects, light pollution, dust, hydrological interactions, airborne pollution, excessive noise etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure that there are no significant adverse effects due to construction on the ecological integrity of any European site.

As identified above LACAP boundary has several European sites within it; therefore, there is potential for effects to European sites through urbanisation and direct habitat loss on foot of the implementation of the LACAP; however, several mitigation measures have been integrated into the LACAP to ensure that its implementation will not result in the loss of any habitat necessary for the ecological integrity of any European site; namely list of actions to avoid habitat loss N5<sup>8</sup>, N6<sup>9</sup>, N9<sup>10</sup>, N11<sup>11</sup>, N12<sup>12</sup>, N13<sup>13</sup>, N14<sup>14</sup> N16<sup>15</sup> etc.

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<sup>8</sup> Identify Local Authority land that may require ecological surveys and highlight areas that may be at risk and require protection.

<sup>9</sup> Continue County wetland survey and identify suitable wetland sites for conservation and restoration.

<sup>10</sup> Develop an awareness raising campaign for the management of native hedgerows and implement recommendations from hedgerow appraisal survey where appropriate.

<sup>11</sup> Promote planting of native trees, hedgerow and vegetation on developments and in line with the All-Island Pollinator Plan guidelines.

<sup>12</sup> Promote the integrated planning, design and delivery of green infrastructure (including urban greening) through appropriate provisions in planning policies, development standards, infrastructural, public realm and community projects, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality and cultural heritage.

<sup>13</sup> Identifying suitable lands within the ownership of the LA for prioritising native species biodiversity contribution..

<sup>14</sup> Continue work on existing and initiate new biodiversity/ sustainability centred projects.

<sup>15</sup> Consider feasibility of the integration of peatland soil maps with the council planning map systems to assist in land use identification to further prevent drainage and degradation of peatlands.





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

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

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



#### 4.3.1.2 *Habitat or species Fragmentation*

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

The LACAP recognises the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources. The LACAP provides actions to minimise potential fragmentation and to facilitate the enhancement of ecological corridors such as hedgerows; mitigation measures such as N5<sup>8</sup>, N9<sup>10</sup>, N11<sup>11</sup>, N12<sup>12</sup>, N14<sup>14</sup> etc. (see full list of measures reproduced at Section 5 of this report). Lighting is a particular issue for biodiversity - particularly with regard to linear projects, therefore the following action was required to ensure there would be no significant impacts in this regard: B5<sup>16</sup> and DZSRM1<sup>17</sup>.

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

#### 4.3.1.3 *Disturbance to Key Species*

Disturbance effects are caused by any activity that has potential to alter the movement patterns/distribution of species. Disturbance effects can relate to direct disturbance through human activity/movement or noise pollution. This is particularly relevant in relation to tourism and recreation in general, which could be influenced by the LACAP due to the provision of active travel schemes and other green initiatives within the LACAP; from the perspective that many of the tourism destinations or attractions in the area are in or adjacent to European sites.

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<sup>16</sup> Deliver the Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project in County Leitrim as part of PLEEP Scheme to reduce GHG emissions and energy usage of Public Lighting. Ensure potential actions maintain/control or reduce existing lumen levels and spectral range to avoid effects on biodiversity.

<sup>17</sup> Upgrade all public lighting in Carrick-on-Shannon to Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights to improve energy efficiency, while ensuring the lumen levels and spectral range are maintained or reduced / controlled to avoid effects on biodiversity.



The LACAP accounts for noise pollution effects through its policies and objectives affording protection to European sites by ensuring any projects that arise from the implementation of the LACAP avoid or minimise noise in compliance with the Environmental Noise Directive and associated National Regulations through the Leitrim County Council Noise Action Plan 2018 - 2023. Actions to ensure the protection of habitat quality with respect to disturbance effects from noise and other sources have been built into the LACAP; namely B30<sup>18</sup>, B32<sup>19</sup>, B37<sup>20</sup>, B42<sup>21</sup>, B45<sup>22</sup>, B46<sup>23</sup>, DZT8<sup>24</sup>, DZT13<sup>25</sup> etc. (further details see Section 5).

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

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<sup>18</sup> Progress the delivery of Greenway / Blueway infrastructure in line with National Cycle Network (NCN). Priority projects at present include: 75km Greenway Sligo Leitrim Northern Counties Railway (SLNCR), 10km Blueway Carrick Carrick-on Shannon to Hartley, 26km Cavan Leitrim Railway Greenway Dromod to Ballinamore, Drumshambo to Ballinamore. Having due regard to opportunities to enhance tourism, recreation and cultural heritage value associated with the route, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites and cultural heritage related sensitivities.

<sup>19</sup> Promote and encourage a modal shift by raising awareness of Active Travel Infrastructure throughout Leitrim.

<sup>20</sup> Undertake a decarbonisation strategy for local authority fleet in line with guidance from CCMA, LGMA and SEAI activating the Avoid – Shift – improve model working to the aim of 51% emission reductions by 2030. Implement road map towards sustainable decarbonisation for LA Fleet.

<sup>21</sup> Promote the cycle to work scheme to encourage the use of bicycles to travel to/from work. Encourage the use of carpooling/lift sharing.

<sup>22</sup> Promotion of virtual meeting over in-person meetings to reduce business travel of staff within and outside the county.

<sup>23</sup> Develop, adopt & implement Local Transport Plans for Carrick on Shannon with an emphasis on the promotion of sustainable transport modes and modal shift, having due regard to climate action co-benefit/biodiversity enhancement opportunities and environmental sensitivities that may be impacted by active travel projects.

<sup>24</sup> Promote, support & incentivise cycling/walking bus for schools within DZ area, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality, and cultural heritage.

<sup>25</sup> Install cycle routes within 1.5km of all schools, community facilities, sports/ youth clubs in line with Safe Routes to School programme, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality and cultural heritage.



#### 4.3.1.4 Reduction in species density

Species densities are reliant on species distributions, habitat condition, connectivity of ecological resources and availability of resources such as prey/food. The LACAP introduces potential sources for effects to affect these four determinant factors for species densities in the form of construction phase effects such as habitat destruction, visitor movements/access, hydrological interaction or operational effects such as disturbance effects, habitat encroachment, trampling etc. However, the LACAP contains provisions to enhance biodiversity, landscape and the environment within Council boundary CRT5<sup>26</sup>, CRT15<sup>27</sup>, CRT19<sup>28</sup>, N1<sup>29</sup>, , N12<sup>12</sup>, N14<sup>14</sup>, DZNGI3<sup>30</sup>, DZNGI4<sup>31</sup> etc. Similarly, the LACAP the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources. Further to these provisions there are actions related to specific ecological resources and/or habitats such as N5<sup>8</sup>, N9<sup>10</sup>, N11<sup>11</sup>, N12<sup>12</sup>, N13<sup>13</sup>, N14<sup>14</sup>, N16<sup>15</sup> etc. These actions apply to all plans, programmes and projects that may arise due to the implementation of the plan. Measures relating to light pollution, noise pollution, habitat loss and fragmentation are addressed above (further detailed in Section 5).

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

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<sup>26</sup> Encourage and support Tidy Towns organisations, festivals, and event's organisers to incorporate climate action and sustainability into all events

<sup>27</sup> Engage with youth groups and schools to raise awareness of climate issue and promote positive climate action initiatives. Organise school competitions to promote biodiversity, climate mitigation and adaptation.

<sup>28</sup> Support the Green Schools and Heritage in Schools programme to promote biodiversity and climate issues to schools.

<sup>29</sup> Develop and implement a Local Authority Biodiversity Action 5 year Plan to protect and enhance local biodiversity, including climate-relevant measures.

<sup>30</sup> Promote biodiversity gain and carbon sequestration through inclusion of planting of native trees and pollinator friendly plants in new developments subject to the development management process..

<sup>31</sup> Support the creation of public and connected green spaces in Carrick-on-Shannon to enhance health and wellbeing and biodiversity having due regard for planning and development policy and environmental protection considerations during the masterplanning and development process.



#### 4.3.1.5 *Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value*

Water quality is the primary macro indicator of conservation value. The LACAP contains many robust actions to ensure the protection of both surface and ground water quality. Development within the vicinity of groundwater or surface water dependant European sites will not be permitted where there is potential for a likely significant effect on the groundwater or surface water supply to the European sites. Action that specifically relate to the protection of water quality which account for potential effects to European sites include B20<sup>32</sup>, SR5<sup>33</sup>, SR22<sup>34</sup>, N2<sup>35</sup>, N6<sup>9</sup>, DZNGI5<sup>36</sup>, DZNGI6<sup>37</sup> etc. Similarly, emissions to air have potential to adversely affect the conservation status of European sites; however, the LACAP contains actions – such as , B30<sup>18</sup>, B32<sup>19</sup>, B45<sup>22</sup>, B46<sup>23</sup>, DZT8<sup>24</sup> etc.– which account for this.

Additionally, the actions provide broader scope to ensure the protection of the wider landscape associated with riparian zones and habitats sensitive to hydrological interactions; such as N6<sup>9</sup> and N12<sup>12</sup>.

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<sup>32</sup> Continue the prioritisation of SUDS measures in road and transportation projects.

<sup>33</sup> Regulate and enforce the National Enforcement Priorities (NEPs) which focus on delivering positive environmental outcomes for air quality, water quality and waste management. Ensure sustainable transport modes are used to travel to and from inspection sites, where feasible.

<sup>34</sup> Support farmers in reducing chemical nitrogen fertiliser use by 20% by 2030, increasing the use of protected urea and increasing the uptake of low emission slurry spreading to 90% of farms.

<sup>35</sup> Deliver climate themed events and ensure sustainability and climate action are integrated into all events through the development of local authority wide policy on events e.g. Heritage week / Biodiversity week / Science week / Hedgerow week / Climate Action week.

<sup>36</sup> Support green infrastructure and nature based solutions such as sustainable urban drainage systems to improve climate resilience having due regard to environmental sensitivities including water quality, biodiversity, European sites, riparian corridors and aquatic ecology, visual amenity and recreation and amenity value.

<sup>37</sup> Promote rain-water harvesting, reuse of grey water and green roofs and walls, having due regard for environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity; and built heritage conservation requirements, during any retrofitting works.



#### 4.3.1.6 *Climate change*

The LACAP is specifically focused on climate action and most of the actions within the plan are aimed at reducing carbon emissions and move towards renewable energy sources; GL5<sup>38</sup>, GL9<sup>39</sup>, GL22<sup>40</sup>, B2<sup>41</sup>, B7<sup>42</sup>, B13<sup>43</sup>, B14<sup>44</sup>, B37<sup>20</sup>, SR12<sup>45</sup>, SR16<sup>46</sup> etc.

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

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<sup>38</sup> Ensure the latest iterations of Leitrim County Council's plans, policies and strategies fully align with Leitrim Climate Action Plan.

<sup>39</sup> Climate Action will be incorporated into the Performance Management Development System (PMDS) process.

<sup>40</sup> Actively participate and seek to adopt recommendations originating out of the Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) and Northern and Western Climate Action Region.

<sup>41</sup> Leitrim County Council Buildings – Implement sensor lighting in all common areas and corridors of suitable public buildings.

<sup>42</sup> Endeavour for all new council public buildings to be built to Net Zero Standards as far as practicable, having due regard for environmental sensitivities that may be affected by retrofitting works or development, including built heritage, sensitive human receptors and biodiversity.

<sup>43</sup> Ensure all Leitrim County Council new build social houses meet minimum A2 Building Energy Rating standard to reduce GHG emissions and Energy consumption, having due regard to environmental sensitivities that may be affected by supported development, including landscape and visual sensitivities, sensitive human receptors and biodiversity.

<sup>44</sup> Continue retrofitting and upgrading works of existing social housing units to BER B2 rating to reduce GHG emissions, energy consumption, having regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity.

<sup>45</sup> Support the establishment of 'Circular Economy Hubs' that act as physical material hubs for the drop-off and recirculation of materials and products from and for both commercial and residential activities.

<sup>46</sup> Promotion of sustainable diversification in food production through the economic and enterprise remit. Highlight positive benefits of sustainably sourced locally grown food.



## 4.4 Transboundary Effects

In the absence of any mitigation, the identified effects, as presented in the preceding section have the potential to also impact Northern Irish protected sites facing the same threats and pressures within the zone of influence of the local authority functional area.



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

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
000007	Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to land use management, invasive species, hydrological interactions, forestry, habitat fragmentation, recreation, and waste management.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
000191	St. John's Point SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to recreation and agriculture.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, infrastructure, direct interaction with species and populations, recreation, flooding, land use change, land use management, hydrological interactions, waste management, mining/ resource extraction, and forestry.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
000428	Lough Melvin SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to invasive species, forestry, land use management, land use change, hydrological interactions, and agriculture.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
000440	Lough Ree SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, forestry, waste management, flooding, agriculture, direct interaction with species and populations, recreation, changes in abiotic conditions, invasive species, habitat fragmentation, land use management, and infrastructure.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>





Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
000584	Cuilcagh - Anierin Uplands SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, poor conservation measures, waste management, agriculture, infrastructure, erosion, forestry, mining/ resource extraction, burning, recreation, hydrological interactions, direct interaction with species and populations, land use management, and succession.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
000622	Ballysadare Bay SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to agricultural practices, aquaculture, direct interaction with species and populations through hunting, and other direct land use practices.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
000623	Ben Bulbin, Gleniff and Glenade Complex SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to mining/ extraction, land use management, erosion, agriculture, infrastructure, recreation and invasive species.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
000625	Bunduff Lough and Machair/Trawalua/Mull aghmore SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to recreation, agriculture, land use management, erosion, land use change, predator control, and coastal defense.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
001403	Arroo Mountain SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to burning, infrastructure, forestry, erosion, mining/ resource extraction, recreation, agriculture, invasive species, and landslides.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p>



Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001626	Annaghmore Lough (Roscommon) SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices and burning.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
001656	Bricklieve Mountains & Keishcorran SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices, burning, direct interaction with species and populations through fishing and hunting, and other direct land use practices.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
001818	Lough Forbes Complex SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, waste management, agriculture, land use management, direct interaction with species and populations, recreation, and invasive species.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
001898	Unshin River SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices, forestry, invasive species, and hydrologic interactions.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
001919	Glenade Lough SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry and invasive species.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>



Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
001976	Lough Gill SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to invasive species, recreation, agriculture, waste management, infrastructure, habitat fragmentation, forestry, land use management, and land use change.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
002032	Boleybrack Mountain SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry, predation control, succession, land use management, infrastructure, mining/ resource extraction, burning, agriculture, parasitism, hydrological interactions, recreation, direct interaction with species and populations, and energy production.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to infrastructure, land use management, land use change, waste management, agriculture, forestry, mining/ resource extraction, recreation, direct interaction with species and populations, aquaculture, invasive species, and hydrological interactions.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
002241	Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, agriculture, commercial shipping, infrastructure, waste management, invasive species, changes in abiotic conditions, land use change, land use management, succession, recreation, flooding, and forestry.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
002303	Dunmuckrum Turloughs SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to succession, land use management, land use change, and agriculture.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>



Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
004013	Drumcliff Bay SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, agriculture, aquaculture, habitat fragmentation.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
004035	Cummeen Strand SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, infrastructure, land use management, land use change, commercial shipping, waste management, and aquaculture.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
004049	Lough Oughter SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to direct interaction with species and populations, recreation, forestry, and agriculture.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
004050	Lough Arrow SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to agricultural practices, direct interaction with species and populations through fishing, and recreation.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, direct interaction with species and populations, and agriculture.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
004064	Lough Ree SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, agriculture, direct interaction with species and populations, forestry, and invasive species.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p>



Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004068	Inishmurray SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to commercial shipping, recreation, land use management, agriculture, aquaculture, and infrastructure.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agriculture, recreation, land use management, direct interaction with species and populations, and infrastructure.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
004097	River Suck Callows SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to land use management, land use change, agriculture, recreation, forestry, and direct interaction with species and populations.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
004101	Ballykenny-Fisherstown Bog SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, direct interaction with species and populations, agriculture, and forestry.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>



Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
004129	Ballysadare Bay SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to agricultural practices, aquaculture, direct interaction with species and populations through hunting, and other direct land use practices.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
004145	Durnesh Lough SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, agriculture, waste management, and hydrological interaction.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
004151	Donegal Bay SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to aquaculture, agriculture, infrastructure, land use management, and recreation.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
004187	Sligo/Leitrim Uplands SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to invasive species, mining/resource extraction, land use change, recreation, erosion, agriculture, land use management, and forestry.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
004234	Ballintemple and Ballygilgan SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to infrastructure and land use management.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
UK9020071	Upper Lough Erne SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agricultural practices, waste management, abiotic and biotic changes, recreation and other direct land use practices.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p>



Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
UK0016614	Upper Lough Erne SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry, agricultural practices, hydrological interactions, waste management, pollution, invasive species, direct interaction with species and populations through hunting and collection, recreation and other direct land use practices.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
UK9020051	Pettigoe Plateau SPA	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to direct interaction with species and populations, invasive species, agriculture, recreation, and forestry.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
UK0030300	West Fermanagh Scarplands SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry, succession, agriculture, recreation, hydrological interactions, waste management, and burning.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
UK0016603	Cuilcagh Mountain SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, infrastructure, recreation, waste management, succession, burning, and hydrological interactions.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>
UK0030047	Lough Melvin SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, invasive species, hydrological interactions, land use management, and forestry.</p> <p>The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.</p>



## 5. MITIGATION MEASURES

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

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

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

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

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

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





**Table 5-1: Recommendations integrated into the Plan**

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
GL19	Enhancement of emphasis on development of social housing on sites near town centres and local facilities.	<p>This action will support the delivery/enhancement of a 10-minute town. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p> <p>The action will support the development of shared spaces and walking and cycling infrastructure, landscaping, and drainage measures. In the absence of any mitigation, the construction and excavation works associated with this action have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts, cultural heritage asset impacts.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Ensure any supported development is planned in a manner that has due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites and cultural heritage.</p>
GL24	Adopt a cloud technology first approach to reduce the volume of energy used by physical servers and ancillary infrastructure such as cooling systems.	This action will reduce the on-site GHG emissions within the Local Authority. It may not, however, have any effect on overall GHG emissions.	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Steps will be taken to ensure the cloud provider chosen has sustainability- and carbon-goals that align with the overall objective of this plan.</p>
B1	Deliver the Leitrim Pathfinder Programme and pursue other national and regional funding sources for retrofitting and improving energy efficiency and reducing emissions.	The implementation of the action will have a positive effect on climate and may generate some degree of impact on built heritage.	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Promote the need to adhere to environmental protection requirements during retrofit projects, including the need to appropriately conserve built heritage.</p>
B5	Deliver the Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project in County Leitrim as part of PLEEP Scheme to reduce GHG emissions and energy usage of Public Lighting.	This action will support the local authority in reducing its organisational GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect in terms of GHG emissions however, the spectrum of light from LED sources has the potential to impact nocturnal species. Therefore there is also scope for there to be slight negative effects if unmitigated.	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Ensure potential actions maintain/control or reduce existing lumen levels and spectral range to avoid effects on biodiversity.</p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
B7	Endeavour for all new council public buildings to be built to Net Zero Standards as far as practicable.	<p>This action will support the reduction of Residential sector GHG emissions. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p> <p>This action may support the development of renewable energy infrastructure. Such infrastructure has the potential to have negative environmental effects, including, potentially, glint and glare impacts, construction related environmental effects, noise impacts and impacts on biodiversity.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard for environmental sensitivities that may be affected by retrofitting works or development, including built heritage, sensitive human receptors and biodiversity.</p>
B8	Use Gap to Target (GTT) Tool to inform decisions and continue retrofitting council owned buildings to reduce emissions such as Electricity, Thermal and Transport and improve energy efficiency	<p>This action will support the reduction/offset of GHG emissions. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p> <p>This action may support refurbishment or retrofitting of building stock. There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. Retrofitting works may also negatively affect protected species living within buildings that are to be retrofitted. Therefore there is also scope for there to be negative effects if unmitigated.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard for environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity; and the need to appropriately protect and conserve built heritage.</p>
B9	Facilitate and support the upgrade of existing vacant & derelict residential and commercial properties in Carrick-on-Shannon Town and County through schemes such as Town centre First	<p>This action has the potential to create a variety of positive environmental effects. In a climate context, this action has the potential to support the offset embodied GHG emissions associated with the construction of new residential development.</p> <p>This action has the potential to support the use of derelict structures which could result in significant negative effects if unmitigated. Any use should ensure correct restoration of derelict structures.</p> <p>This action has the potential to have adverse effects on Bats which are Annex IV species, as many roosts are located within old unused buildings. This action has the potential to have significant positive effects on population and land use.</p> <p>There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. Retrofitting works may also negatively affect the appropriate conservation of protected structures. Therefore there is also scope for there to be negative effects if unmitigated.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard for environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity; and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures, during any retrofitting works.</p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		This action may support the carrying out of significant residential development, which may result in a range of slight to significant negative environmental effects in the absence of appropriate design or mitigation, including construction-related effects, or effects on biodiversity.	
B13	Ensure all Leitrim County Council new build social houses meet minimum A2 Building Energy Rating standard to reduce GHG emissions and Energy consumption	<p>This action will support the reduction of Residential sector GHG emissions. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p> <p>This action may support the development of renewable energy installations at such development (e.g., rooftop solar panels). Such development has the potential to have negative environmental effects, including, potentially, glint and glare impacts, construction related environmental effects, and impacts on biodiversity, in particular if it is carried out at scale or at large scale residential development, for example.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard to environmental sensitivities that may be affected by supported development, including landscape and visual sensitivities, sensitive human receptors and biodiversity.</p>
B14	Continue retrofitting and upgrading works of existing social housing units to BER B2 rating to reduce GHG emissions, energy consumption	<p>This action will support the reduction/offset of GHG emissions in the community. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p> <p>This action may support refurbishment or retrofitting of housing and building stock. There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. Retrofitting works may also negatively affect the appropriate conservation of protected structures. Therefore there is also scope for there to be negative effects if unmitigated.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>while having regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity.</p>
B17	Leitrim County Council will seek to prioritise the delivery of Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Programme identified flood schemes in the county and promote nature-based solutions and integral to these schemes	<p>The progression of this flood resilience related action has the potential to lead to significant development taking place.</p> <p>In the absence of any mitigation, such development could potentially have a variety of significant, negative environmental effects, including effects on water quality, biodiversity, including flora and fauna reliant on aquatic ecosystems; the receiving air environment (due to the generation of construction dust), the receiving noise environment (due to the generation of construction phase noise).</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>in accordance with technical, financial and environmental requirements.</p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
	<p>Prioritise CFRAMS identified flood schemes in Leitrim, priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CoS -planning, CoS – construction</li> <li>2. LV – Planning, LV – construction</li> <li>3. Mohill -feasibility study, works dependent on outcome</li> <li>4. Dromod -feasibility study, start dependent on Cos &amp; LV</li> <li>5. Dromahaire FRS planning</li> </ol>	<p>Flood resilience action has the potential to have positive environmental effects. The possible development of nature based solutions and SuDS as part of a flood risk management policy has the potential to have slight to significant, positive effects on biodiversity and water quality.</p> <p>The delivery of flood resilience action has the potential to reduce flood risk and prevent future flood events. Reducing flood risk can generate significant, positive effects for a variety of environmental receptors that could be negatively impacted by flood events; including ecological receptors and cultural heritage assets.</p> <p>The implementation of a flood management policy is likely to have slight to significant positive effects on the receiving soils environment - through the prevention of erosion. This may also have a beneficial impact on inter-related environmental components that could potentially be impacted by fluvial erosion.</p>	
B19	Pursue maintenance funding for works on resolved local flooding areas	<p>This action has the potential to lead to positive impacts on water quality and hydrology and biodiversity mainly.</p> <p>The progression of this flood resilience related action has the potential to lead to significant development taking place.</p> <p>In the absence of any mitigation, such development could potentially have a variety of significant, negative environmental effects, including effects on water quality, biodiversity, including flora and fauna reliant on aquatic ecosystems; the receiving air environment (due to the generation of construction dust), the receiving noise environment (due to the generation of construction phase noise).</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>ensuring the plan takes nature-based solutions and protection of biodiversity into consideration.</p>
B23	Develop a formal routine gully maintenance and cleaning plan to ensure that programmes are in place in all towns and villages prone to flooding and that all gully's are cleaned in advance of the Autumn and Winter seasons. Pursue funding for same.	<p>This action has potential to support improving the effectiveness of flood risk management measures implemented in response to flood events. The action will generate a positive effect for environmental receptors that are at risk of being negatively impacted by flood events - by reducing the risk of such flood events.</p> <p>This action has the potential to cause unintended negative effects to water quality and biodiversity.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Ensure the plan takes nature-based solutions and protection of biodiversity into consideration.</p>
B28	Continue to roll out Active-Travel infrastructure maximising available funding from National Transport Authority (NTA).	This action supports the development of additional active travel infrastructure.	Attach the following text to the action:



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		<p>In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of such infrastructures have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts.</p> <p>The delivery of an expanded, safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p>	<p>having due regard to opportunities to enhance tourism, recreation and cultural heritage value associated with active travel routes, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites, and cultural heritage related sensitivities.</p>
B30	<p>Progress the delivery of Greenway / Blueway infrastructure in line with National Cycle Network (NCN). Priority projects at present include: 75km Greenway Sligo Leitrim Northern Counties Railway (SLNCR), 10km Blueway Carrick Carrick-on Shannon to Hartley, 26km Cavan Leitrim Railway Greenway Dromod to Ballinamore, Drumshambo to Ballinamore.</p>	<p>This action supports the development of additional green infrastructure.</p> <p>In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of such infrastructures have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts.</p> <p>The delivery of an expanded, safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions.</p> <p>This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Having due regard to opportunities to enhance tourism, recreation and cultural heritage value associated with the route, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites and cultural heritage related sensitivities.</p>
B31	<p>Increase the number of safe routes to school schemes in the county. Promotion of schemes and engagement with Boards Management</p>	<p>This action has the potential to encourage modal shift and the use of active travel networks. This action supports the development of additional cycling infrastructure.</p> <p>In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional cycling infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality and cultural heritage.</p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		This action also has the potential to generate some degree of positive environmental effect due to a reduction in vehicle use.	
B33	Engage with Smart and Sustainable Mobility Accelerator (SSMA) programme to increase knowledge, competencies, and understanding of sustainable and smart mobility supporting the implementation of the National Sustainable Mobility Policy (NSMP) goals and those outlined in the Pathfinder programme; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality and cultural heritage.	This promotional/engagement action has the potential to support a modal shift and reduction in vehicle related GHG emissions within the Local Authority.	Attach the following text to the action:  Having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality and cultural heritage.
B34	Develop a Regional EV Strategy for County Leitrim in association with Lead Local Authority & implement actions / recommendation as identified	<p>The development of this strategy has the potential to lead to the development of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the local authority's functional area.</p> <p>In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts.</p> <p>The delivery of good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p>	Attach the following text to the action:  Having due regard to the need to ensure disabled access to EV charging infrastructure and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality and cultural heritage.
B35	Develop a fleet management strategy ensuring alignment to the Leitrim CAP. Evaluate annual mileage of LA grey fleet and associated carbon emissions.	<p>This action has the potential to support the reduction of vehicle related emissions in the County.</p> <p>In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental</p>	Reword the action to as follows:  Develop a fleet management strategy ensuring alignment to the Leitrim CAP and sustainability principles.



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		<p>effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts.</p> <p>Electric vehicles have the potential to generate a variety of uncertain lifecycle impacts, including production-related impacts and end-of-life related.</p>	Evaluate annual mileage of LA grey fleet and associated carbon emissions.
B37	Undertake a decarbonisation strategy for local authority fleet in line with guidance from CCMA, LGMA and SEAI activating the Avoid – Shift – improve model working to the aim of 51% emission reductions by 2030. Implement road map to decarbonisation for LA Fleet.	This action has the potential to support the reduction of vehicle related emissions in the Local Authority.	Reword the action to as follows: Undertake a decarbonisation strategy for local authority fleet in line with guidance from CCMA, LGMA and SEAI activating the Avoid – Shift – improve model working to the aim of 51% emission reductions by 2030. Implement road map towards <b>sustainable</b> decarbonisation for LA Fleet.
B40	Purchase eVs as replacement fleet vehicles where suitable and available on the market in line with decarbonisation strategy	<p>This action has the potential to support the reduction of vehicle related emissions in the County.</p> <p>Electric vehicles have the potential to generate a variety of uncertain lifecycle impacts, including production-related impacts and end-of-life related.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p><b>Whilst ensuring energy/fuel used to power local authority alternative vehicles is sustainably sourced and ensure appropriate end-of-life management practices are in place for local authority owned Electric Vehicles.</b></p>
B41	Replacement of fuel type for HGV fleet with HVO when the technology and products become available	<p>This action has the potential to support the reduction of vehicle related emissions in the County.</p> <p>The scalable adoption of vehicles based on certain alternative fuels may contribute to the expansion of alternative fuel production sectors. These sectors may indirectly cause environmental effects (including uncertain and potentially negative effects) as a result of fuel sourcing, production and supply processes.</p>	<p>Reword the action as follows:</p> <p>Replacement of fuel type for HGV fleet with <b>sustainably sourced and certified HVO that delivers lifecycle GHG emission reductions</b>, when the technology and products become available.</p>
B46	Develop, adopt & implement Local Transport Plans for Carrick-on-Shannon with an emphasis on the promotion of sustainable transport modes and modal shift	This action will underpin and promote the carrying out of active travel related development, which has the potential to create a range of slight to significant positive environmental effects.	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p><b>having due regard to climate action co-benefit/biodiversity enhancement opportunities and environmental sensitivities that may be impacted by active travel projects.</b></p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
B48	Design and implement a transportation mobility plan and land-use transportation plan for Carrick-on-Shannon	This action has the potential to support a modal shift and reduction in vehicle related GHG emissions within the Local Authority.	Attach the following text to the action:  having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality and cultural heritage, and the need to promote sustainable transport.
N4	Consider a Green Infrastructure Strategy including a green infrastructure network for the County that incorporates ecology, climate change mitigation and adaptation, to increase climate resilience, climate action co-benefits and environmental protection requirements.	This action will promote the protection and further development of green infrastructure. The protection and development of green infrastructure has the potential to have wide ranging slight to very significant positive effects on biodiversity, and slight to significant positive effects on tourism and recreation amenity and water quality and hydrology.  Green infrastructure can also support GHG sequestration leading to a slight positive effect on the climate environment.  In absence of appropriate design and mitigation, the development of green infrastructure could potentially result in negative environmental effects, including negative construction related effects, negative effects on biodiversity or negative effects on cultural heritage assets.	Attach the following text to the action:  Ensure such a strategy promotes climate action co-benefits and adherence to planning and environmental protection requirements.
N8	Development and Implementation of a SUDS policy and continue the prioritisation of SUDS measures in Local Authority projects ensuring the plan takes nature-based solutions / protection of biodiversity and avoidance of habitat fragmentation into consideration.	This action has the potential to lead to positive impacts on water quality and hydrology and biodiversity mainly.	Attach the following text to the action:  Ensure this policy promotes Nature Based Solutions where appropriate and has due regard to environmental protection requirements.
N9	Develop an awareness raising campaign for the management of native hedgerows and implement recommendations from hedgerow appraisal survey where appropriate.	The implementation of this action is likely to generate some degree of positive effects for biodiversity, flora and fauna.  This action will promote the protection and enhancement of hedgerows and has the potential to generate slight to significant effects on biodiversity in the county, resulting in an additional degree of carbon sequestration, marginally offsetting the effects of GHG emissions. It may also create flight corridors for bats and nesting habitats for birds.	Reword this action to the following:  Develop an awareness raising campaign for the management of native hedgerows and implement recommendations from hedgerow appraisal survey where appropriate.





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N10	Encourage implementation of biodiversity aspects in new and existing social housing estates where possible e.g., green roofs, green walls, wetland and pond SUDS, reed bed waste water filtration, green car parking, nest boxes in facades, grasslands, and wildlife-friendly shrubs and trees in open spaces having appropriate regard to relevant planning and environmental protection criteria.	Conducting a feasibility report will have no real environmental effect in and of itself. The environmental effects are dependent on the output. If determined possible, and remedial/protective measures are put in place, this could have positive effects on water quality.	Attach the following text to the action:  with a focus on follow-up and protective/remedial action.
N12	Promote the integrated planning, design and delivery of green infrastructure (including urban greening) through appropriate provisions in planning policies, development standards, infrastructural, public realm and community projects	This action will promote the protection and further development of green infrastructure. The protection and development of green infrastructure has the potential to have wide ranging slight to very significant positive effects on biodiversity, and slight to significant positive effects on tourism and recreation amenity and water quality and hydrology.  In absence of appropriate design and mitigation, the development of green infrastructure could potentially result in negative environmental effects, including negative construction related effects, negative effects on biodiversity or negative effects on cultural heritage assets.	Attach the following text to the action:  having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality and cultural heritage.
N15	Develop and implement a pesticide use reduction policy for Leitrim County Council.	This action has the potential to have wide ranging slight to moderate effects on local biodiversity, water quality and soil. Limiting and regulating the use of herbicides and pesticides would prevent the occurrence of environmental pollution incidents due to the use of these substances.  The negative environmental effect of the continued use of such substances on the environment is potentially significant, given the hazardous properties of these substances.  Inappropriate or improper invasive species management could lead to negative environmental impacts on biodiversity.	Attach the following text to the action:  The policy shall also ensure pesticides are only used in accordance with good environmental practice, and only to a degree that does not cause significant effects on the receiving environment, such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity or European sites.
CRT9	Investigate and utilise funds that provide for cycle routes within schools, community facilities, sports and youth clubs	This action has the potential to encourage modal shift and the use of active travel networks. This action supports the development of additional cycling infrastructure.  In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional cycling infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-	Attach the following text to the action:  having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality and cultural heritage.



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		<p>off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts.</p> <p>This action also has the potential to generate some degree of positive environmental effect due to a reduction in vehicle use.</p>	
SR9	<p>Progress the authorisation and subsequent remediation of historical landfill sites previously controlled by Leitrim County Council. Ensure the works have appropriate regard to planning, waste management and environmental requirements, considerations and constraints.</p>	<p>This action is likely to benefit the environment, including positive effects to biodiversity, landscape, soil, air quality, water and human health. Any construction works involved in the remediation of historical landfill site could lead to short-term impacts on biodiversity, soil, water quality, and air quality and noise.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Ensure such remediation projects are properly designed and planned and do not cause unintended negative environmental effects.</p>
SR16	<p>Promotion of diversification in food production through the economic and enterprise remit. Highlight positive benefits of locally grown food.</p>	<p>This action has the potential to lead to slight to moderate positive effects on the soils environment, the water environment and biodiversity. The promotion of local food production may support the reduction of lifecycle GHG emissions associated with food sourced from afar.</p> <p>The carrying out of improper or unsustainable food production practices in a local context may result in negative environmental effects, including negative effects on water quality, the receiving environment and biodiversity.</p>	<p>Reword this action to the following:</p> <p>Promotion of sustainable diversification in food production through the economic and enterprise remit. Highlight positive benefits of sustainably sourced locally grown food.</p>
SR20	<p>Provide technical supports to farming enterprises in the development of biomethane from Anaerobic Digestion, including guidance on planning and environmental protection requirements.</p>	<p>The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p> <p>This action has the potential to lead to the development of anaerobic digestion facilities which have the potential to create unintended localised, negative environmental impacts, including odour effects or effects on biodiversity, European sites, landscape character and visual amenity, or soil, hydrological or water quality related effects.</p> <p>This action has the potential to lead to renewable energy development at these sites and GHG emissions reductions.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard to environmental sensitivities that may be affected by the construction and operation of Anaerobic Digestion systems (e.g., water quality, air quality, biodiversity, European sites).</p>
SR21	<p>Support and promote the Signpost Advisory Programme to support climate and sustainability actions on farms</p>	<p>The action has the potential to lead to a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. It could also lead to positive environmental effects on biodiversity, flora and fauna generally.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard to environmental sensitivities in the area such as European Sites, water quality, air quality, and biodiversity related sensitivities.</p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		This action could lead to the development of renewable energy development and building retrofits on farms within the LA region that could have a variety of slight to potentially significant negative environmental effects, including biodiversity impacts.	
SR23	Renewable Electricity to be developed in accordance with Leitrim County Councils Renewable Energy Strategy (RES) and the National Renewable Electricity Spatial Policy Framework, to support sustainable development of renewable electricity.	<p>This action will promote and support renewable energy development within the county that could generate a range of slight to significant positive environmental effects, including positive effects on climate, water quality, the soils environment and biodiversity.</p> <p>In the absence of mitigation, renewable energy development could have negative slight to significant environmental effects, including impacts on biodiversity (due to solar panel glint and glare, or wind turbine related noise impacts, for example) and impacts on the water or soils environment (due to development construction phase run-off of silt or cement-based material). Such potential effects can be mitigated by considering planning and environmental-related matters and constraints early on during the assessment/design process.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Promote the proper planning and sustainable development of renewable energy and ancillary grid infrastructure.</p>
SR24	Support safe, secure, reliable electricity grid infrastructure within the County to support renewable electricity generation, reinforcement, strengthening and integration of the transmission network to allow linkages with renewable electricity proposal consistent with RES.	This action serves to facilitate the expansion of renewable energy within the county, thereby contributing to the County's potential to reduce GHG emissions generally. Potential negative environmental effects to soil, air quality, noise, and water may arise from any related construction/maintenance work on the grid infrastructure.	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Promote the proper planning and sustainable development of renewable energy and ancillary grid infrastructure.</p>
SR25	Support local community-based renewable energy projects and new micro-generation and small-scale generation renewable energy projects	<p>This action supports the development of renewable energy projects in the community. It has the potential to support the delivery of GHG emission reductions and local air quality improvements.</p> <p>The action may support the development of renewable energy development which could lead to a range of potential slight to significant environmental impacts, including impacts on landscape character and visual amenity, the receiving noise environment, biodiversity and European sites.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Promote project adherence to planning and environmental protection requirements.</p>
<b>Decarbonising Zone</b>			
DZBE1	Retrofit social housing and local authority buildings in the Carrick-on-Shannon DZ to achieve a minimum Building Energy Rating of B2.	This action will support the reduction/offset of GHG emissions in the community. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Having due regard for environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity; and built</p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		<p>This action may support refurbishment or retrofitting of housing and building stock. There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works.</p> <p>Retrofitting works may also negatively affect the appropriate conservation of protected structures.</p> <p>Therefore there is also scope for there to be negative effects if unmitigated.</p>	<p>heritage conservation requirements, during any retrofitting works.</p>
DZBE2	Assess the feasibility of rooftop solar PV on social housing and local authority property across the Carrick-on-Shannon DZ	<p>This study action will have no real environmental effect when considered in isolation. This action will support the reduction of local authority organisational and Residential sector GHG emissions. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p> <p>There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. The installation of PV panels has the potential to result in negative glint and glare impacts on sensitive environmental receptors. There is also scope for there to be negative effects on cultural heritage if unmitigated.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard to local human receptors, protected species, biodiversity, European sites and the need to appropriately conserve protected structures.</p>
DZBE3	Install rooftop solar PV on social housing and local authority property across the Carrick-on-Shannon DZ	<p>This action will support the reduction of local authority organisational and Residential sector GHG emissions. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p> <p>There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. The installation of PV panels has the potential to result in negative glint and glare impacts on sensitive environmental receptors. There is also scope for there to be negative effects on cultural heritage if unmitigated.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard to local human receptors, protected species, biodiversity, European sites and the need to appropriately conserve protected structures.</p>
DZBE4	Promote retrofit to Building Energy Rating B2 for private and commercial properties across the Carrick-on-Shannon DZ	<p>This is a promotional action and it will have no real environmental effect in and of itself. However, this action can support the reduction/offset of GHG emissions in the community. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p> <p>This action may support refurbishment or retrofitting of housing and building stock. There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Having due regard for environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity; and built heritage conservation requirements, during any retrofitting works.</p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		Retrofitting works may also negatively affect the appropriate conservation of protected structures. Therefore there is also scope for there to be negative effects if unmitigated.	
DZBE6	Consider suitability for solar canopies at LCC car parks	<p>This study action will have no real environmental effect when considered in isolation. This action will support the reduction of local authority organisational and Residential sector GHG emissions. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p> <p>There is the potential for light and air pollution during construction works. The installation of PV panels has the potential to result in negative glint and glare impacts on sensitive environmental receptors. There is also scope for there to be negative effects on cultural heritage if unmitigated.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as landscape character and visual amenity, local human receptors, protected species, biodiversity, and European sites.</p>
DZBE8	Utilise available funding to carry out flood protection works and promote the use of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to reduce the impact of flooding	<p>The progression of flood protection related action has the potential to lead to significant development taking place at and in the vicinity of water bodies.</p> <p>In the absence of any mitigation, such development could potentially have a variety of significant, negative environmental effects, including effects on water quality and the hydrology of water bodies; biodiversity, including flora and fauna reliant on aquatic eco-systems; the receiving air environment (due to the generation of construction dust), the receiving noise environment (due to the generation of construction phase noise), and the receiving human environment.</p> <p>Flood protection action has the potential to have positive environmental effects also. The possible development of nature-based solutions and SuDS as part of a flood protection scheme has the potential to have slight to significant, positive effects on biodiversity and water quality at or downstream of a particular water body.</p> <p>The delivery of flood protection action also has the potential to reduce flood risk and prevent flood events. Reducing flood risk can generate significant, positive effects for a variety of environmental receptors that could be negatively impacted by flood events; including human receptors, ecological receptors and cultural heritage assets.</p>	<p>Attach the following to the action:</p> <p>having due regard to the need to promote nature based solutions and Sustainable Drainage Systems, and environmental sensitivities at and in the vicinity of water bodies, including water quality, biodiversity, European sites, riparian corridors and aquatic ecology, visual amenity and recreation and amenity value.</p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZBE10	Improve the energy efficiency of historic buildings within the DZ	<p>This action will support the reduction of GHG emissions associated with heritage assets, in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets.</p> <p>This action has the potential to support retrofitting of historic structures and traditional buildings which could result in significant negative effects if unmitigated. Any use should ensure correct restoration of historic structures and traditional buildings.</p> <p>Such restoration can significantly increase the amenity and heritage value associated with such buildings. This action has the potential to have adverse effects on Bats which are Annex IV species, as many roosts are located within old unused buildings. This action has the potential to have significant positive effects on cultural heritage and architectural assets and the amenity value attained by people from these assets.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard to the built and natural heritage conservation requirements, and the need to not negatively impinge on any protected species.</p>
DZBE11	Complete a Town Centre First Plan for Carrick-on-Shannon and implement recommendations.	<p>This action will support regenerative action in the community. The action is likely to have a slight positive effect on climate - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p> <p>This action has the potential to support the use of derelict structures which could result in significant negative effects if unmitigated. Any use should ensure correct restoration of derelict structures. This action has the potential to have adverse effects on Bats which are Annex IV species, as many roosts are located within old unused buildings.</p> <p>This action has the potential to have significant positive effects on population, land use and tourism.</p> <p>There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. Retrofitting works may also negative effect the appropriate conservation of protected structures. Therefore there is also scope for there to be negative effects if unmitigated.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard to protected species, biodiversity, European sites and the need to appropriately conserve protected structures.</p>
DZT1	Implement the decarbonisation of the Local Authority vehicular fleet as appropriate.	<p>This action has the potential to support the reduction of vehicle related emissions in the County.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Ensure energy/fuel used to power local authority alternative vehicles is sustainably sourced, and appropriate end-of-life management practices are in place for Electric Vehicles.</p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZT2	Undertake an Active Travel study to identify and prioritise the most effective measures	<p>This is a study based action. Depending on the outcome of the study, this action could potentially lead to promotion of modal shift which could have a positive effect on the climate and local air quality environments.</p> <p>In the absence of any mitigation, development that this study could lead onto extensive construction works, which could potentially have a variety of significant, negative environmental effects, including effects on water quality, biodiversity, flora and fauna; the receiving air environment (due to the generation of construction dust), the receiving noise environment (due to the generation of construction phase noise), and the receiving human environment.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>ensuring the study has appropriate regard to planning and environmental protection constraints and considerations.</p>
DZT5	Identify suitable locations for EV charging points across the Carrick-on-Shannon DZ	<p>This action has the potential to increase the uptake in Electric Vehicles and will support a modal shift and reduction in vehicle related GHG emissions.</p> <p>The expansion of the EV charging network will lead to the development of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the local authority's functional area.</p> <p>In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts.</p> <p>The delivery of good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions.</p> <p>This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, and cultural heritage.</p>
DZT7	Engage with the relevant authorities to support the electrification of Local Link.	<p>This opportunity will lead to the development of an EV charging network with multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the DZ area.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		<p>In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts.</p> <p>The delivery of a good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this opportunity relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p>	<p>Promote - through control or influence as appropriate - the consideration of sustainability and environmental protection requirements during the design, planning and development of this project.</p>
DZT8	Promote, support & incentivise cycling/walking bus for schools within DZ area.	<p>This action has the potential to encourage modal shift and the use of active travel networks. This action supports the development of additional cycling infrastructure.</p> <p>In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional active travel infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts.</p> <p>This action also has the potential to generate some degree of positive environmental effect due to a reduction in vehicle use.</p> <p>The action has the potential to have a positive impact on population and human health by reducing traffic risk at schools.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality, and cultural heritage.</p>
DZT9	Increase pedestrianised space in Carrick-on-Shannon to encourage active travel	<p>This action will promote the development of safe sustainable and active travel networks. This action has the potential to encourage modal shift and the use of active travel modes and networks.</p> <p>It will help fully realise the potential positive environmental effects associated with sustainable/active travel.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having appropriate regard to environmental sensitivities such as traffic and transport constraints and aspects, the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality and cultural heritage.</p>





Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the reallocation/pedestrianising of road space have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts and traffic and transport impacts (through the temporary creation of traffic diversions and congestion)	
DZT13	Install cycle routes within 1.5km of all schools, community facilities, sports/youth clubs in line with Safe Routes to School programme	<p>This action has the potential to encourage modal shift and the use of active travel networks. This action supports the development of additional cycling infrastructure.</p> <p>In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional cycling infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts.</p> <p>This action also has the potential to generate some degree of positive environmental effect due to a reduction in vehicle use.</p> <p>The action has the potential to have a positive impact on population and human health by reducing traffic risk at schools.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality and cultural heritage.</p>
DZNGI1	Develop a green infrastructure masterplan for Carrick-on-Shannon to coordinate planning for and enhancement of the natural environment, biodiversity and green areas	<p>This action will promote the protection and further development of green infrastructure. The protection and development of green infrastructure has the potential to have wide ranging slight to very significant positive effects on biodiversity, and slight to significant positive effects on tourism and recreation amenity and water quality and hydrology.</p> <p>Green infrastructure can also support GHG sequestration leading to a slight positive effect on the climate environment.</p> <p>In absence of appropriate design and mitigation, the development of green infrastructure could potentially result in negative environmental effects, including negative construction related effects, negative effects on biodiversity or negative effects on cultural heritage assets.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard for environmental protection considerations and opportunities for climate action co-benefits.</p>
GZNGI4	Support the creation of public and connected green spaces in Carrick-on-Shannon to enhance health and wellbeing and biodiversity	This action has the potential to have positive environmental effects on landscape and visual amenity, the soils environment, biodiversity and population and human health by providing safe public space for outdoor recreation.	Attach the following text to the action:



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		<p>The action may also support an additional degree of carbon sequestration and have a positive impact on local air quality.</p> <p>Inappropriate design or planning, or a lack of appropriate environmental mitigation may result in unintended construction or operational phase impacts on sensitive environmental receptors, such as the receiving biodiversity, human, noise, traffic or water environment.</p>	<p>having due regard for planning and development policy and environmental protection considerations during the masterplanning and development process.</p>
DZNGI5	Support green infrastructure and nature-based solutions such as sustainable urban drainage systems to improve climate resilience	<p>The use of nature-based solutions and sustainable urban drainage systems has the potential to lead to significant development taking place, including development at and in the vicinity of water bodies.</p> <p>In the absence of any mitigation, such development could potentially have a variety of significant, negative environmental effects, including effects on water quality and the hydrology of water bodies; biodiversity, including flora and fauna reliant on aquatic eco-systems; the receiving air environment (due to the generation of construction dust), the receiving noise environment (due to the generation of construction phase noise), and the receiving human environment.</p> <p>Flood resilience action has the potential to have positive environmental effects also. The development of nature based solutions and sustainable urban drainage systems as part of a climate/flood resilience has the potential to have slight to significant, positive effects on biodiversity and water quality at or downstream of a particular water body.</p> <p>The delivery of flood resilience action also has the potential to reduce flood risk and prevent flood events.</p> <p>Reducing flood risk can generate significant, positive effects for a variety of environmental receptors that could be negatively impacted by flood events; including human receptors, ecological receptors and cultural heritage assets.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>having due regard to environmental sensitivities including water quality, biodiversity, European sites, riparian corridors and aquatic ecology, visual amenity and recreation and amenity value.</p>
DZNGI6	Promote rain-water harvesting, reuse of grey water and green roofs and walls.	<p>The promotion of water harvesting and grey water reuse will support a slight to moderate reduction in water use at local authority owned buildings and housing. This action may have a slight positive effect on material assets - through the reduction of water supply system demand. The effective reduction of water demand has the potential to marginally reduce the levels of lifecycle GHG emissions associated with water treatment and distribution.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Having due regard for environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity; and built heritage conservation requirements, during any retrofitting works.</p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		<p>Promoting biodiversity-inclusive design, such as green roofs and walls, may result in positive effects for biodiversity, the environment and could provide an additional degree of carbon sequestration, marginally offsetting the effects of GHG emissions. The guidelines should also consider the operational phase of such projects and the implications for biodiversity.</p> <p>This action may support refurbishment or retrofitting of housing and building stock. There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. Retrofitting works may also negatively affect the appropriate conservation of protected structures. Therefore there is also scope for there to be negative effects if unmitigated.</p>	
DZNGI9	Develop and implement a pesticide reduction policy for Carrick-on-Shannon in line with All Island Pollinator Plan	<p>This action has the potential to have wide ranging slight to moderate effects on local biodiversity, water quality and soil. Limiting and regulating the use of herbicides and pesticides would prevent the occurrence of environmental pollution incidents due to the use of these substances.</p> <p>The negative environmental effect of the continued use of such substances on the environment is potentially significant, given the hazardous properties of these substances.</p> <p>Inappropriate or improper invasive species management could lead to negative environmental impacts on biodiversity.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:  <b>The policy shall also ensure pesticides are only used in accordance with good environmental practice, and only to a degree that does not cause significant effects on the receiving environment, such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity or European sites.</b></p>
DZCRT6	Hold an annual event to promote retrofitting of private buildings and increase community understanding of climate action	<p>This is a promotional action and it will have no real environmental effect in and of itself. However, this action can support the reduction/offset of GHG emissions in the community.</p> <p>The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p> <p>This action may support refurbishment or retrofitting of housing and building stock. There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. Retrofitting works may also negatively affect the appropriate conservation of protected structures. Therefore there is also scope for there to be negative effects if unmitigated.</p>	<p>Amend the action as per text below:   <b>Hold an annual event to promote appropriate retrofitting of private buildings</b></p>
DZSRM1	Upgrade all public lighting in Carrick-on-Shannon to Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights to improve energy efficiency	<p>This action will support the local authority in reducing its organizational GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect in terms of GHG emissions however, the spectrum of light from LED sources has the potential to impact nocturnal species. Therefore there is also scope for there to be slight negative effects if unmitigated.	while ensuring the lumen levels and spectral range are maintained or reduced/controlled to avoid effects to biodiversity.
DZSRM5	Support the development of sustainable and circular economy infrastructure	<p>This action will underpin and support the effective delivery of sustainability and circular economy related initiatives.</p> <p>Supported waste management infrastructure could lead to the creation of unintended negative environmental effects, including slight to significant traffic, noise, odour or nuisance related effects, if inappropriately designed or located, or in the absence of appropriate environmental mitigation.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>whilst ensuring such infrastructure is appropriately located and designed and operates in accordance with the provisions of the Waste Management Act or Industrial Emissions related legislation, and in a manner that does not cause negative environmental impacts or localized nuisance.</p>
DZSRM8	Undertake a feasibility study of the potential for district heating for Carrick-on-Shannon	<p>This is a study related action and will have no real environmental effect when considered in isolation. Depending on the outcome of this study, it has the potential to support the delivery of GHG emission reductions and energy efficiency in a local area.</p> <p>In the absence of any mitigation, development that this action could lead to, which will include extensive pipe laying works, could potentially have a variety of significant, negative environmental effects, including effects on water quality, biodiversity, flora and fauna; the receiving air environment (due to the generation of construction dust),</p> <p>the receiving noise environment (due to the generation of construction phase noise), and the receiving human environment.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>ensuring this study has appropriate regard to planning and environmental protection considerations.</p>
DZSRM10	Undertake a feasibility study on the potential for Anaerobic Digestion (AD) in the vicinity of Carrick-on-Shannon utilising waste resources to produce biomethane.	<p>This is an assessment action and will have no real environmental effect in and of itself. However, this action can support the use and production of renewable energy.</p> <p>The consequent development of anaerobic digestion facilities could result in a variety of environmental effects, including potential positive climate and material asset related effects, and potential negative construction or operational effects, including effects on</p>	<p>Reword the action to the following:</p> <p>Undertake a feasibility study on the potential for Anaerobic Digestion (AD) at an appropriate location in the vicinity of Carrick-on-Shannon utilising waste resources to produce biomethane.</p>



Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		<p>biodiversity, local odour effects, noise effects and traffic and transport related effects.</p> <p>This delivery of this action generally has the potential to have a moderate to significant positive effect on climate - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p>	<p>Ensure this study has appropriate regard to planning, waste management and environmental protection related considerations.</p>
DZSRM11	Assess the potential for utilising the Shannon River to produce renewable electricity	<p>This action will support the reduction of GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. The action is likely to have a moderately positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.</p> <p>This action will support the development of renewable energy technologies at the site, which could lead to a variety of slight to potentially profound environmental impacts, including impacts on biodiversity, landscape character and visual amenity, the receiving noise environment; hydrology, water quality, European sites or construction-related effects.</p>	<p>Attach the following text to the action:</p> <p>Carefully consider all environmental sensitivities and protection requirements related to such a project during this assessment.</p>



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

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



## 6. CONCLUSION

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

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

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

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

### 6.1 Transboundary Effects

All potential effects that may be transmitted to European sites in Northern Ireland will also be appropriately mitigated with the adoption of the defined mitigation. Mitigation measures have been adopted to ensure that the environmental effects of Plan Action are controlled at the source. Thus, it can be concluded that the LACAP is not foreseen to have any significant adverse effects on designated European sites situated in Northern Ireland, alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

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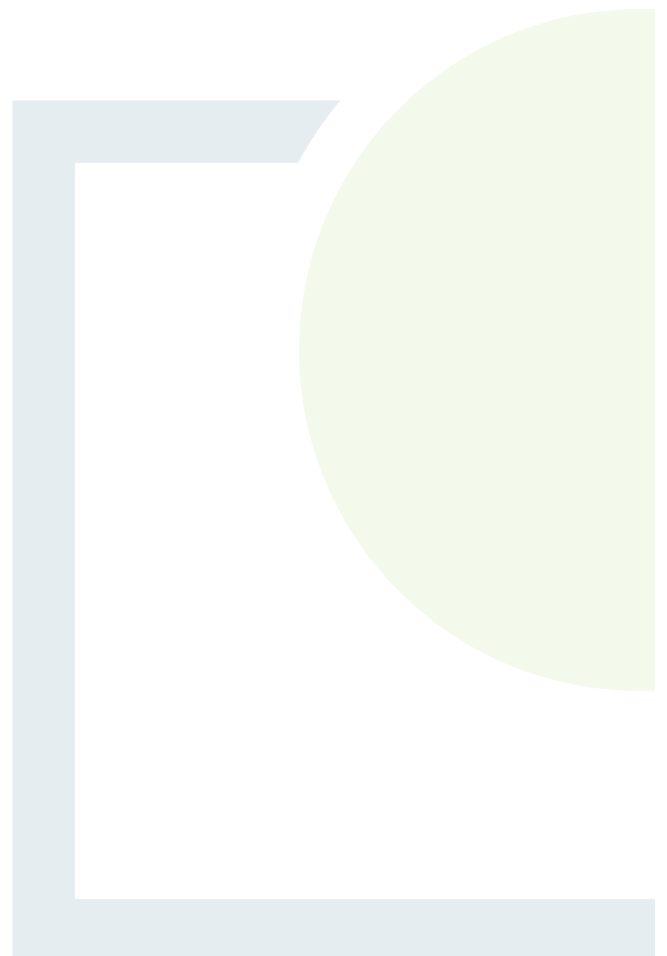
<sup>48</sup> Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.



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## APPENDIX 1

Background Information to  
European Sites





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

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000584	Cuilcagh - Anierin Uplands SAC	One of the more extensive areas of intact montane blanket bog in Ireland with exceptionally well developed vegetation cover in flat plateau areas including dystrophic lakes hummock and hollow complexes and large areas of wet heath and to a lesser extent dry heath. Inland cliffs support a range of locally rare mountain plants. The site is an important breeding area for several upland birds.	An extensive area of upland composed of Yoredale shales and Carboniferous Sandstones straddling the international boundary with Northern Ireland and covered with montane blanket bog wet heath humid grassland with some small oligotrophic lakes and numerous headstreams and flushes. Inland cliffs of shales occur at the higher elevations and include important fossil remains notably goniatites.
000638	Union Wood SAC	A typical western oakwood of the Blechno-Quercetum type but ecological interest lowered by the presence of conifers and other exotics. Also regeneration may be low. Nevertheless one of the best remaining oakwoods in the region and has good prospects as it is state owned.	Situated on a slope on the eastern side of the Ballysadare River the acidic soils are underlain by gneiss. In places the woodland has a fairly natural open character and a typical flora. There is a rich epiphytic flora. There is however much inter- and under-planting with commercial conifers. Habitat diversity is created by an area of heath which is dominated by <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> at Union Rock.
001673	Lough Arrow SAC	This is a good example of a fairly large naturally mesotrophic lake which has changed little in the last 40 years. Although supplied by groundwater in a limestone area it is not a marl lake like others in the region. Its aquatic vegetation is diverse. Has a Red Data chara species. Has some nationally important winter bird populations. Good fish stocks including <i>Salmo trutta</i> and <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> .	A large limestone lake sheltered on three sides by hills. Has a small catchment (6255 ha) and is fed largely by springs on lake bed. Average depth is 9m and maximum 33m. Nutritional status is mesotrophic. In most years the water stratifies Charophyte algae are widespread with seven Chara species identified. Well-developed marginal vegetation occurs especially at north end.
001680	Streedagh Point Dunes SAC	Sand dunes are part of an interesting tombolo formation. Fixed dunes are well represented and are notably species-rich. Also good development of shifting marram dunes and both Atlantic and Mediterranean salt meadows. Extensive intertidal sand flats of good quality. The Annex II mollusc <i>Vertigo angustior</i> recently confirmed at site. Supports moderate populations of wintering waterfowl. Site of importance for both ecological geological and geomorphological reasons.	Situated on the north Co. Sligo coastline this site comprises a fine diversity of coastal habitats. A shingle/stony spit is overlaid by a well developed sand dune system fronted by a boulder beach. The spit provides shelter for the formation of salt marshes which fringe extensive intertidal sand flats. The River Grange flows into the site. Underlying geology is limestone (Glencar formation) shale (Benbulbin formation) and sandstone (Mullaghmore formation). The fossilised remains of corals and brachiopods are locally abundant. Site also has a number of National Monuments. Main landuses within site are grazing and recreational activities.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
001898	Unshin River SAC	The Unshin River is an excellent example of a pristine unmanaged undrained lowland limestone river and is extremely important as it represents one of only four remaining undrained limestone rivers in Ireland. Such rivers as this are otherwise almost unknown in Europe. It is unpolluted for almost its entire length and supports a species-rich diverse aquatic flora several important bird species fish and several rare riverbank plant species including <i>Poa palustris</i> . Of particular importance is the population of <i>Salmo salar</i> . The site is used by <i>Lutra lutra</i> . A good diversity of adjacent habitats is found along its length including alluvial woodland.	The Unshin River has a spring-fed lake Lough Arrow as its source and flows north-westwards for some 24 km to reach the sea at Ballysadare Bay. The river supports a rich aquatic and emergent flora and runs beside or through a wide variety of habitats. The site also includes the Ballysadare and Owenboy/Owenbeg rivers. The whole site is underlain by Carboniferous limestone.
001992	Tamur Bog SAC	This site contains good examples of lowland blanket bog with well developed hummock lawn and pool systems. The interest of the site is increased by the presence of wet heath and Rhynchosporion vegetation as well as dry heath and oligotrophic lakes. Four Annex I Bird Directive species occur including wintering <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> . <i>Lutra lutra</i> is present. The rare moss <i>Sphagnum pulchrum</i> is found on wet lawns within blanket bog. <i>Lagopus lagopus</i> a candidate Red Data Book species is found on the bogs.	This site adjoins the border with Northern Ireland. Its topography is predominantly undulating over a bedrock of acid gneiss with some basic intrusions. The site occurs over a number of separate blocks and is made up mainly of blanket bog heath lakes and rivers. The blocks are separated by conifer plantations intensive peat cutting and agricultural land. The blanket bog displays variety in type micro-topography and vegetation. Sphagnum lawns pools and larger lakes are a feature of the bog surface. Reed-beds marsh and scrub fringe the larger lakes.
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	The site contains many Annexed habitats including the most extensive area of estuarine habitat in Ireland. A good range of Annexed species are also present including the only known resident population of <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> in Ireland all three Irish species of lamprey and a good population of <i>Salmo salar</i> . A number of birds listed on the EU Birds Directive either winter or breed in the site. The site is internationally important for waterfowl with more than 50000 individuals occurring in winter. Several species listed in the Irish Red Data Book are present perhaps most notably the only known Irish populations of <i>Scirpus triquetus</i> .	A very large long site approximately 14 km wide and 120 km long encompassing: the drained river valley which forms the River Shannon estuary; the broader River Fergus estuary plus a number of smaller estuaries e.g. Poulmasherry Bay; the freshwater lower reaches of the Shannon River between Killaloe and Limerick plus the freshwater stretches of much of the Feale and Mulkear catchments; a marine area at the mouth of the Shannon estuary with high rocky cliffs to the north and south; ericaceous heath on Kerry Head and Loop Head; and several lagoons. The underlying geology ranges from Carboniferous limestone (east of Foynes) to Namurian shales and flagstones (west of Foynes) to Old Red Sandstone (at Kerry Head). The salinity of the system varies daily with the ebb and flood of the tide and with annual rainfall fluctuations seasonally.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002346	Brown Bog SAC	Brown Bog is one of the best examples of a small relatively intact midland raised bog in Ireland at present. The active bog is characterised by flat quaking areas with frequent pools and with a wet flush. Sphagnum cover is high and includes the relatively rare <i>S. imbricatum</i> and <i>S. fuscum</i> . Lichen cover mainly <i>Cladonia</i> spp. is high. The degraded area of high bog is relatively undisturbed and considered a good example of the habitat. It is possible that a significant portion of the degraded bog could be re-wetted in the future. Rhynchosporion vegetation is well-developed and of good quality. <i>Lagopus lagopus</i> a threatened and Red listed species in Ireland has been reported from the site. In general this small bog is of good quality and has been relatively free of damaging activities such as peat-cutting and drainage.	Brown Bog is a small midland raised bog situated approximately 7 km west of Longford town. Uncut high bog accounts for a relatively high proportion (c.70%) of the site though the largest part of this is classified as degraded bog. The high bog is surrounded by a rim of cutover bog much of which has been invaded by <i>Betula pubescens</i> scrub. Other habitats in the cutover zone are broad-leaved woodland a small stand of planted conifers and some wet grassland. A large area of cutover bog to the east of the site has recently been planted with conifers.
004013	Drumcliff Bay SPA	Drumcliff Bay SPA is of importance for the diversity of wintering waterfowl and is an integral part of the larger unit of Sligo Bay. Its principal importance however is that it supports an internationally important population of <i>Branta leucopsis</i> which is one of the two most important flocks in the country (ca. 21% of the national total). It also supports nationally important populations of <i>Calidris alba</i> (4.0% of the national total) and populations of <i>Clangula hyemalis</i> and <i>Limosa lapponica</i> that are close to national importance as well as a population of <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> of local/regional importance. More intensive survey may show that higher numbers of some species occur. Drumcliff Bay has a population of <i>Phoca vitulina</i> .	Drumcliff Bay is the most northerly sector of Sligo Bay's three estuarine inlets. It extends from the village of Drumcliff as far west as Raghly Point a distance of over 9 km. The innermost part of the site is well sheltered and at low tide extensive intertidal flats are exposed. The flats support <i>Zostera noltii</i> . The outer part of the site is shallow marine water. Sandy beaches are well represented along with some salt marsh and stony shoreline. The site includes goose-feeding fields of improved grassland at Ballygilgan and Ballintemple. Some mixed woodland is also included.
004064	Lough Ree SPA	Lough Ree is one of the most important Midland sites for wintering waterfowl with nationally important populations of <i>Anas penelope</i> <i>Anas crecca</i> <i>Anas acuta</i> <i>Anas clypeata</i> <i>Aythya fuligula</i> and <i>Bucephala clangula</i> . Nationally important populations of <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> and <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> are also associated with the lake. Regionally important numbers of <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> and <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> are also found in the vicinity of the lake. The site supports a nationally important population of <i>Sterna hirundo</i> .	Situated on the River Shannon between Lanesborough and Athlone Lough Ree is the third largest lake in the Republic of Ireland. It lies in an ice-deepened depression in Carboniferous Limestone. Some of its features (including the islands) are based on glacial drift. The main inflowing rivers are the Shannon Inny and Hind and the main outflowing river is the Shannon. The greater part of Lough Ree is less than 10 m in depth but there are six deep troughs running from north to south reaching a maximum depth of about 36 m just west of Inchmore.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Larus ridibundus breeds (nationally important) and Larus fuscus and Larus canus have bred in the past (recent census information is poor). Lough Ree is an important site for breeding duck and grebes with Aythya fuligula and Podiceps cristatus having populations of national importance. Of particular note is that it is one of the two main sites in the country for breeding Melanitta nigra a Red Data Book species. The woodland around the lake is a stronghold for Sylvia borin and this scarce species probably occurs on some of the islands within the SPA. Lutra lutra is frequent within the site and the fish Coregonus autumnalis pollan occurs.	The lake has a very long indented shoreline and hence has many sheltered bays. It also has a good scattering of islands most of which are included in the site. The lake is classified as a mesotrophic system. The water of Lough Ree tends to be strongly peat-stained restricting macrophytes to depths of less than 2 m. Swamp vegetation especially of Phragmites australis occurs in the sheltered areas around the lake. The swamp often grades to species-rich calcareous fen or freshwater marsh. Lowland wet grassland some of which floods in winter is found in abundance around the shore. Some of the islands are wooded.
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	This is the most important coastal wetland site in the country and regularly supports in excess of 50000 wintering waterfowl. It has internationally important populations of Calidris alpina Limosa limosa and Tringa totanus. A further 16 species have populations of national importance. The site is particularly significant for Calidris alpina (11% of national total) Pluvialis squatarola (7.5% of total) Vanellus vanellus (6.5% of total) Tringa totanus (6.1% of total) and Tadorna tadorna (6.0% of total). It has Cygnus cygnus Pluvialis apricaria and Limosa lapponica in significant numbers. The site was formerly frequented by a population of Anser albifrons flavirostris but these have now abandoned the area. The site provides both feeding and roosting areas for the wintering birds and habitat quality for most of the estuarine habitats is good.	The River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries form the largest estuarine complex in Ireland. The site comprises all of the estuarine habitat west from Limerick City and south from Ennis extending west as far as Killadysert and Foynes on the north and south shores of the Shannon respectively (a distance of some 25 km from east to west). Also included are several areas in the outer Shannon estuary notably Clonderalaw Bay and Poulmasherry Bay. The site has vast expanses of intertidal flats. The main macro-invertebrate community is a Macoma-Scrobicularia-Nereis community which provides a rich food resource for the wintering birds. Eelgrass (Zostera spp.) is present in places. The intertidal flats are often fringed with salt marsh vegetation areas which provide important high tide roost sites for the birds. In the innermost parts of the estuaries the tidal channels or creeks are fringed with species such as Phragmites australis and Scirpus spp. Spartina anglica is frequent in parts.
004234	Ballintemple and Ballygilgan SPA	The fields at Ballintemple and Ballygilgan support an internationally important population of Branta leucopsis (1838 - 4 year survey mean for the period 1993-2003). The population of Branta leucopsis at the site has increased in recent years (3930 in 2008 and c. 5000 in 2011) and is now the most important site in the country for this species. The geese feed for much of the winter on fields at Ballintemple and Ballygilgan which are their core feeding sites and roost on the nearby island of Inishmurray.	Ballintemple and Ballygilgan SPA comprises two separate areas of fields supporting agriculturally-improved grassland situated on the north side of Drumcliff Bay Co. Sligo.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000007	Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC	The site contains substantial areas of natural eutrophic lakes and bog woodland. Plant species of limited distribution in Ireland but which achieve local prominence include <i>Stratocites aloides</i> <i>Sagittaria saggitifolia</i> <i>Butomus umbellatus</i> <i>Rumex hydrolapathum</i> and two species of duckweed <i>Lemna gibba</i> and <i>Lemna polyrhiza</i> . The lake system provides optimum habitat for <i>Lutra lutra</i> and supports an important population. Part of the site is designated SPA. The Annex I <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> and <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> are both very stable in their numbers here. Wildfowl Sanctuaries occupy approximately 5% of the site. The area is also listed as a Ramsar Site. The Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs complex connects with the cross border Upper Lough Erne which is proposed as a SAC in Northern Ireland.	The Lough Oughter complex at over 5000 ha comprises a maze of small to medium sized lakes and river sections and is considered the best inland example of a flooded drumlin landscape. The River Erne is the main inflowing and outflowing river. The lakes are classified as naturally eutrophic. Most are relatively shallow (<10 m) with well developed marginal vegetation including swamp marshes and wet woodland. There are many small islands within the lakes.
000133	Donegal Bay (Murvagh) SAC	The site is a good example of a sheltered estuarine system with extensive intertidal sand and mud flats mostly of good quality. The Murvagh peninsula still has some areas of fixed dunes and humid dune slacks though these dune habitats are only of moderate quality. The population of <i>Phoca vitulina</i> is one of the largest in the country. The site is of some importance for estuarine birds and is visited by <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> . <i>Pyrola rotundifolia</i> a Red Data Book species is found on the site.	This site comprises the extreme inner part of Donegal Bay. Several large rivers notably the River Eske enter the site. It is typically estuarine in character with large expanses of intertidal sand and mud flats channels saltmarsh sand dunes and sandy and shingle beaches. Several grassy islands occur in the site. The site provides habitat for a diversity of estuarine bird species and the islands are used by <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> . The area is underlain by limestone and shale bedrock from the carboniferous era.
000191	St. John's Point SAC	The site is important for both terrestrial and marine habitats. It contains areas of species - rich limestone pavement. This is a rare habitat in Ireland and particularly so in the north-west. The associated dry calcareous grassland is of high quality and in places rich in orchid species. Several areas of species-rich unimproved wet <i>Molinia</i> meadows are found. This habitat is becoming increasingly rare in Ireland through grassland improvement. Small calcareous marshes and an alkaline fen are found on the site. St John's Point has very good examples of circalittoral rock communities that are exposed to wave action and contain a number of rare and uncommon species.	A narrow peninsula of carboniferous limestone projecting south-west into Donegal Bay. These limestone rocks are particularly rich in fossils. St. John's Point is exposed to prevailing wind and swells from the west. It drops steeply and in vertical cliffs to 40 m BCD. The predominant vegetation of the site is dry calcareous grassland but limestone pavement calcareous marshes lakes coastal heath and unimproved wet grassland also occur. Reef occurs around much of the site but is particularly well developed near the end of the peninsula. Here sea caves are also found.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		<p>Most notable are the shallow circalittoral communities that are characterized by the sea fan <i>Eunicella verrucosa</i> and its associated ophistobranch <i>Tritonia nilsodhneri</i> which are common although both are close to the northern limits of their range. Rare species include the sponge <i>Bienna variantia</i> the anemone <i>Aureliania heterocera</i> and the red alga <i>Odontalia dentata</i>. Additional interesting records for the area include the seaslug <i>Hancockia uncinata</i> the nocturnal crab <i>Bathynectes longipes</i> and the anthozoans <i>Paraerythropodium coralloides</i> and <i>Parazoanthus anguicomus</i>. Recent survey suggests that a series of small caves stretches along the south-east coast of the infralittoral and circalittoral reef from Black Rock to Portnagh Rock. These also shelter rare species and deserve further exploration. The shallow bay sediment communities in the site range from being sheltered from and exposed to wave action. They are principally composed of maerl gravel formed by <i>Lithothamnion corallioides</i> and populated by rare burrowing anemones (<i>Aureliania heterocera</i>) and starfish (<i>Luidia sarsi</i>). The site is remarkably undisturbed.</p>	
000622	Ballysadare Bay SAC	<p>This large site displays an excellent diversity of coastal habitats. The estuarine and intertidal sand and mud flat habitats are typical of the region and are extensive in area and of good quality. The sand dune system is highly dynamic with the tip of the peninsula actively growing and displaying a good though limited example of embryonic shifting dunes. The shifting marram dunes are fairly extensive in area and are also displaying signs of growth. An area of fixed dunes of moderate size also occurs which has a flora typical of western dunes. A small area of humid dune slack remains. Actively developing dune systems are rare in western Ireland. Site is important for occurrence of the Annex II mollusc <i>Vertigo angustior</i>. A nationally important colony of <i>Phoca vitulina</i> also occurs. An excellent diversity of waterfowl winter at site including two Annex I Bird Directive species (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> <i>Limosa lapponica</i>). Six other species winter in nationally important numbers and there is an internationally important population of <i>Branta bernicla horta</i>. A number of localised insect species are known from the site.</p>	<p>Ballysadare Bay is the most southerly of the three inlets of Sligo Bay. It is the estuary of the Ballysadare River which receives the flows of the Unshin Owenboy and Owenbeg rivers. The Ballysadare River flows through the small town of Ballysadare before entering the bay. It is a large site extending along a 10 km south-east to west-north-west axis from Ballysadare town to the sea at Marley's Point. The bay has an average width of c.2 km. A sand dune spit extends into the outer bay at Culleenamore restricting the outlet to the sea to a width of c.700 m. Other habitats present include salt marshes small saline lakes or ponds dry grassland wet grassland reedbeds and scrub. Recreation is a main landuse within the site.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000623	Ben Bulbin Gleniff and Glenade Complex SAC	<p>The site holds the finest examples of limestone cliffs in the country. These and the scree slopes below are home to extremely species-rich and diverse montane vascular plant bryophyte and lichen floras which include many Red Data Book species and species known only from this or one or two other sites in the country. The site holds a large number of petrifying springs an extensive area of dry heath and a small area of alpine heath; much of the blanket bog on the site is eroding and of rather low quality. Several populations of the rare mollusc <i>Vertigo geyeri</i> have recently been recorded from calcareous flushes within the site-these comprise the first records for Co. Leitrim. The occurrence of four pairs of <i>Falco peregrinus</i> breeding on the site is notable. The site is also utilised by <i>Lutra lutra</i>. The site has a little known but potentially interesting invertebrate fauna. The site is the type locality for the Ben Bulbin shale the Glencar limestone and the Dartry limestone.</p>	<p>The site comprises a high plateau of carboniferous limestone capped by shale standing 300-650 metres above the surrounding country and sloping gently to the south-east. The edges of the plateau form steep high cliffs below which is found a skirt of scree. The cliffs and scree hold a rich diversity of arctic-alpine plants; the summit of the plateau is less diverse but does have extensive areas of blanket bog and heath with rock outcropping frequently. A large number of streams drain the site many of which form waterfalls. Glencar Lough a medium-sized lake is found on the southern side of the site. Wet and dry grassland scrub broad-leaved deciduous flushes swallow holes and small areas of fen and limestone pavement are also found on the site. Disused barytes workings occur above Gleniff valley.</p>
002032	Boleybrack Mountain SAC	<p>This site supports an excellent diversity of montane habitats over a fairly extensive area. Active blanket bog dry heath and wet heath are particularly well represented with good examples also of <i>Molinia</i> meadows and dystrophic lakes. In addition the site contains some areas of scrub (at low elevations) streams and cliff. Although much of the surrounding low-lying land has been afforested with conifers the quality of the remaining upland area is good with relatively low levels of disturbance from damage such as grazing and burning. The site supports breeding <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> and <i>Lagopus lagopus</i>. It also has a number of scarce plant species for the area notably <i>Vaccinium vitis-idea</i> and <i>Vaccinium oxycoccus</i>. The site is also important from a scenic perspective and is one of a number of important upland heath/blanket bog sites which occur close to the border with Northern Ireland.</p>	<p>Boleybrack mountain is an extensive area of montane habitat which occurs along the Cavan/Leitrim border a few kilometres north of Lough Allen. The dominant bedrock within the site is a sedimentary gritstone which contains seams of coal in places. This coal has been mined in the past. The site is dominated by heath and blanket bog with dystrophic/oligotrophic lakes scrub and inland cliff covering a small proportion of the site area. Coniferous forestry is frequent on the lower slopes of the mountain and forms the site boundary in many places.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002303	Dunmuckrum Turloughs SAC	While small in area the turloughs in this site are of note as they are at the northern limit of the habitat in Ireland. The largest in the series has a varied morphology and good quality vegetation including an oligotrophic margin. The flora includes several unusual species characteristic of turloughs. The proximity of this site to the coast also results in peculiarities that distinguish these turloughs from the nearest turloughs in Sligo and Mayo to the south.	The site is situated in a karstic area of south Donegal. It comprises a group of four small turloughs which lie in a W-E line and are probably hydrologically connected. The westernmost turlough is the largest and best developed. The base remains wet throughout the year with water amongst the marsh vegetation but the sides dry out entirely and are covered by heathy grassland with outcropping limestone. Pools remain at the western end in summer and there is an obvious swallow hole with evidence of a seasonal stream. The second turlough in the series also has a permanent marsh at the base but the final two are smaller and dry out in summer. Typical turlough scrub woodland occurs at the flood line. For water quality reasons areas of improved grassland are included in the site.
002348	Clooneen Bog SAC	This is a relatively large midland raised bog complex which is one of the most northerly in the country. Although the high bog surface is rather dry and predominantly classified as degraded bog there is good habitat diversity with wet bog woodland pool systems and flush areas present. The area of bog woodland which is mainly of <i>Betula pubescens</i> is of particular interest as it ranks as one of the most extensive examples of the habitat in the country. <i>Rhynchosporion</i> vegetation appears to be well developed if somewhat limited in extent and contains the relatively rare <i>Rhynchospora fusca</i> .	Clooneen Bog is located on the east bank of the River Shannon approximately 3 km south-east of Roosky Co. Longford. The site contains a large area of rather dry uncut high bog surrounded by cutover bog. The majority of the high bog is classified as degraded raised bog with only a very small area of active bog. The cutover is now mostly semi-improved or wet grassland with a small area of improved grassland also present. Some <i>Betula pubescens</i> scrub also occurs on the cutover.
004035	Cummeen Strand SPA	Cummeen Strand is of importance for the diversity of wintering waterfowl and is an integral part of the larger unit of Sligo Bay. The site has an internationally important population of <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> and supports nationally important numbers of <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> and <i>Tringa totanus</i> . Both <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> and <i>Limosa lapponica</i> utilise the site though in relatively low numbers. The intertidal flats which have well-developed macro-invertebrate communities and <i>Zostera</i> beds provide good feeding grounds for the wintering birds. Birds roost on the salt marshes and upper shoreline though on high tides some may leave the site to roost elsewhere.	Cummeen Strand SPA comprises the greater part of Sligo Harbour the middle one of the three 'arms' forming Sligo Bay. The site extends for up to 7 km from east to west and has an average width of c.2.5 km. The site is the estuary of the Garavoge River a short slow-flowing river which flows from Lough Gill. The harbour is very enclosed with the mouth of the harbour being sheltered by two islands (Coney Island and Oyster Island). A large proportion of the estuary is intertidal (> 80%). Sediments are predominantly sands or coarser materials though muddy sands or muds also occur. <i>Zostera</i> beds are present. The intertidal sand and mud flats are fringed by salt marshes in places but mostly stony shoreline. Sligo Harbour is a regional port for the town of Sligo.



Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	Lough Derg is of importance for both breeding and wintering birds. The islands support nationally important breeding colonies of <i>Sterna hirundo</i> <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> and probably <i>Aythya fuligula</i> . It is a traditional site for nesting <i>Larus ridibundus</i> but there is no recent survey information. In winter the lake is particularly important for diving ducks with nationally important populations of <i>Aythya fuligula</i> and <i>Bucephala clangula</i> occurring. <i>Cygnus olor</i> also has a population of national importance whilst a range of other species occur in lesser numbers including <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> <i>Anas crecca</i> <i>Fulica atra</i> and <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> . A flock of <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> has traditionally used the site where they feed on grassy islands but birds have seldom been recorded in recent years.	Lough Derg is the largest of the Shannon Lakes being some 40 km long. Its maximum breadth across the Scarriff Bay-Youghal Bay transect is 13 km but for most of its length it is less than 5 km wide. The lake is relatively shallow at the northern end being mostly 6 m in depth but in the middle region it has an axial trench and descends to over 25 m in places. The narrow southern end of the lake has the greatest average depth with a maximum of 34 m. The greater part of the lake lies on Carboniferous limestone but the narrow southern section is underlain by Silurian strata. Most of the lower part of the lake is enclosed by hills on both sides the Slieve Aughty Mountains to the west and the Arra Mountains to the east. The northern end is bordered by relatively flat agricultural country. The lake shows the high hardness levels and alkaline pH to be expected from its mainly limestone catchment basin and it has most recently been classified as a mesotrophic system. The lake has many small islands especially on its western and northern sides. The shoreline is often fringed with swamp vegetation. Aquatic vegetation includes a range of charophyte species.
004068	Inishmurray SPA	Inishmurray is a traditional site for breeding terns though numbers vary considerably between years. In 1995 it held almost 5% of the national total for <i>Sterna paradisaea</i> and up to 2% of the national total for <i>Sterna hirundo</i> . The site supports a colony of <i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i> but there are no recent survey data. Earlier estimates indicated it could be between 100 and 1000 pairs in strength. Other breeding seabirds which have nationally important populations are <i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i> <i>Larus argentatus</i> and <i>Larus marinus</i> . Several further species <i>Larus canus</i> <i>Larus fuscus</i> and <i>Cephus grylle</i> have regionally important populations. Inishmurray supports a nationally important population of <i>Somateria mollissima</i> . The site is a wintering ground for <i>Branta leucopsis</i> . Numbers are of national importance though the birds are likely to be part of a larger population which frequents the mainland and is of international importance.	Inishmurray is an exposed low-lying island lying approximately 6 km off Streedagh Point in the outer part of Donegal Bay. It consists of a low reef of Carboniferous sandstone with a thin covering of soil often peaty in character. Wet grassland is the dominant habitat though dry grassland and scrub also occur. Several small ponds are present. There is a fine rocky shoreline and some low cliffs at the western end. The surrounding seas to a distance of 200 m from the shoreline where seabirds forage bathe and socialise are included in the site. The island has been uninhabited since the 1950s and is an important archaeological site being well-known for its early Christian remains.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	<p>This site is the largest area of semi-natural floodplain grassland in Ireland and has very many features of a natural ecosystem. Along with its main tributaries the River Suck and River Brosna it represents one of the most important wetland systems in the country. It is of International Importance for wintering waterfowl as numbers regularly exceed the 20000 threshold (mean of 34985 for the 5 winters 1994/94-1998/99). Of particular note is the presence of an Internationally Important population of <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>. A further five species have populations of national importance: <i>Cygnus olor</i> <i>Anas penelope</i> <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> and <i>Limosa limosa</i>. There is a well documented spring passage of <i>Limosa limosa</i> along the river valley. The Shannon callows are also of high importance for breeding birds. In particular it has the largest concentration of <i>Crex crex</i> in Ireland. Since 1991 a conservation programme involving annual monitoring of population size practical habitat management and publicity has been in operation. <i>Coturnix coturnix</i> a very rare species in Ireland also breeds in the grasslands. Several wader species notably <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> <i>Gallinago gallinago</i> and <i>Tringa totanus</i> have important breeding populations though these have declined substantially since the 1980s. The scarce breeding species <i>Anas clypeata</i> nests in small numbers each year. The callows is one of the very few sites in Ireland where <i>Limosa limosa</i> has bred. The habitats also support a range of ground nesting passerine species notably <i>Locustella naevia</i> and <i>Alauda arvensis</i>. In autumn and winter <i>Circus cyaneus</i> is a regular visitor.</p>	<p>The site follows the River Shannon from Athlone just below Lough Ree to Portumna just above Lough Derg a distance of over 50 km. It includes much of the flood plain of the river varying in width from approximately 0.5 km to up to 1.5 km in places. A weir at Meelick divides the flooding regime. The main habitat present is humid grassland improved to varying extents that is seasonally flooded. The less improved areas are species-rich. The grassland is used mainly for pasture but some is used for hay-making. The river channel is fringed by swamp and marsh vegetation. There is an extensive system of drainage channels many of which support a diverse flora. The callows often border raised bogs some of which are still intact.</p>
004187	Sligo/Leitrim Uplands SPA	<p>The cliffs hold nesting Chough a Red Data Book species that is listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive; 14 breeding pairs were recorded from the site in the 1992 survey and 15 in the 2002/03 survey. Chough forage mostly on unimproved closely grazed grassland and flocks of up to 29 have been seen. The land on the plateau is for the most part vegetated by heath and blanket bog which is largely unsuitable habitat for Chough.</p>	<p>The Sligo/Leitrim Uplands SPA is located north-east of the town of Sligo in the mountain range of Ben Bulbin Arroo and Cope's Mountain/Crockauns. The site straddles the Co. Sligo/Co. Leitrim border. The site includes six separate lengths of cliffs in these ranges including those of King's Mountain Benbulbin Benwiskin Gleniff Truskmore Tievebaun Glenade Glencar Arroo Mountain and Cope's Mountain/Crockauns. These uplands are formed of Carboniferous limestone capped in places with shales.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		The extensive uplands on the plateau provide excellent habitat for Peregrine; the cliffs are ideal nesting sites and five pairs were recorded in 2002.	They stand on a high plateau 300-450m above the surrounding countryside and the edges form lofty cliffs from 15 to 300m in height. Areas of scree occur below cliffs on slopes of 40-50 degrees.
000115	Ballintra SAC	This site contains 60% Annex I habitat - 32% of this is priority habitat. It is the only known Irish locality for <i>Helianthemum nummularium</i> which is an Irish Red Data Book species protected under the Flora Protection Order (1987). It is also one of the most northerly Irish outposts of typical limestone flora.	Ballintra is a low hill with almost bare limestone near the summit and scrub woodland on its sides. Areas of calcareous grassland also occur within the site. On the areas of deeper soil which are more peaty in nature a heathy vegetation occurs. Some of the denser areas of woodland have a rich ground flora.
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	This site is the largest area of semi-natural floodplain grassland in Ireland and Britain and has very many features of a natural ecosystem. It has been placed among the most 'natural' floodplains in western Europe. It is subject to regular and prolonged annual winter flooding. Wooded alluvial islands which flood regularly occur at one location. A number of Red Data Book and scarce plant species occur on the site the scarce species including <i>Leucojum aestivum</i> <i>Sium latifolium</i> <i>Botrychium lunaria</i> and <i>Lemna gibba</i> . In addition the site contains a very wide variety of native plant species. A small area of limestone pavement at Clorhane is of particular importance as it is the only example of this habitat in the region. Along with its tributary the Little Brosna (designated separately) this is one of the great waterfowl sites in Ireland with huge numbers of a wide range of species occurring in winter with a mean peak of 34985 waterbirds recorded from 1995/96 to 1999/00. This is the third highest for an inland site in Ireland. The highest is the Little Brosna which is an extension to the Middle Shannon Callows. Only three estuarine sites are higher. In 1996/97 one species was of International Importance (Whooper Swan) and six species were of National Importance. A small flock of <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> regularly use a few locations on the site and these are part of the Internationally Important flocks of both the Little Brosna and the River Suck. It is one of very few significant inland sites in Britain or Ireland for <i>Calidris alpina</i> . It is the top site in the country for <i>Cygnus olor</i> and close to that for <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> and <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> .	The River Shannon is the largest river in Ireland and its central route drains a large percentage of the whole country. It has proved too powerful to be tamed by drainage schemes in the past and this central section is still free to flood the surrounding lowlands in winter. It is a well-used agricultural resource of low intensity during the summer. This floodplain functions as a semi-natural meadow/marsh habitat (used for grazing or hay-making). There is an extensive system of surface drains. The site is linear running for about 50 km at an average width of about 0.75 km (but reaching 1.5 km in several places). For about half its length it borders raised bogs most of which are in the process of large-scale peat harvesting. Esker ridges lie adjacent to the callows in some places. There are areas of both relict and active levees. A weir at Meelick divides the flooding regime. Ecological diversity is caused and maintained by multiple ownership variation in the flooding regime due to the topography of the callows hundreds of kilometres of drainage ditches differences in the amount of peat and alluvium in the soils and by the extensive nature of the site. The main habitat on the site is humid grassland managed for hay and pasture and these areas have the same management regime as the lowland hay meadows and <i>Molinia</i> meadows.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		<p>The E.U. Birds Directive Annex I species <i>Circus cyaneus</i> regularly uses the site for hunting in autumn and winter. Perhaps even more important are its nesting <i>Crex crex</i> <i>Coturnix coturnix</i> and breeding waders. In 1987 1204 pairs of breeding waders were recorded (including adjacent parts of the Shannon) mainly <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> <i>Gallinago gallinago</i> <i>Numenius arquata</i> and <i>Tringa totanus</i>. <i>Crex crex</i> has one of its last strongholds here with 70 and 66 calling birds present in 1998 and 1999 respectively. The Shannon Callows is one of the few areas in Ireland where <i>Coturnix coturnix</i> breeds. Numbers vary between years but up to 14 males have been heard. There are high populations of ground-nesting passerines such as <i>Alauda arvensis</i> <i>Anthus pratensis</i> <i>Locustella naevia</i> and <i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i> on the site. The River Shannon Callows is a breeding site for two Red Data Book waterbird species: <i>Limosa limosa islandica</i> and <i>Anas clypeata</i>. The Red Data Book species <i>Anas acuta</i> has also bred on the site though its current status is unknown. The E.U. Birds Directive Annex I species <i>Falco columbarius</i> bred on the site in 1996. Large rivers flowing unfettered through lowland floodplains are now rare anywhere in Europe. This river and its associated habitats are of the highest conservation importance.</p>	
000428	Lough Melvin SAC	<p>Lough Melvin part of which lies in Northern Ireland is an important example of an oligotrophic-mesotrophic lake system. Sections of the main inflowing rivers and all of the outflowing rivers are included in site. It has a typical aquatic and emergent flora. The site is of great importance for fish conservation with three genetically distinct populations of brown trout as well as <i>Salvelinus alpinus</i> and important populations of <i>Salmo salar</i>. It may be one of the last examples in north-western Europe of a natural post-glacial salmonid lake. The site supports a population of <i>Lutra lutra</i> and has four Red Data Book plant species notably <i>Trollius europaeus</i>. <i>Martes martes</i> has been reported from the site in recent times.</p>	<p>Lough Melvin is a large lake over 12 km in length and up to 3 km in width. The lake lies in a glaciated valley with average depth of 8.5 m and a maximum of 45 m. The underlying rock is limestone. The lake is fed by several main rivers - the Ballagh the Glenaniff the County and the Roogagh (lies in Northern Ireland) plus numerous small streams. The lake drains into Donegal Bay via the Drowes River. Marginal vegetation is mainly wet grassland but there are significant areas of wet woodland and some swamp and fen vegetation. Several large islands occur. Landuse in surrounding areas is mainly agricultural though there are substantial areas of forestry. Some areas of bog and heath occur in the catchment.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000440	Lough Ree SAC	<p>One of the largest and most important lakes in Ireland Lough Ree is an excellent example of a natural eutrophic system. The woodlands at the site are considered the best in the midlands. The site also contains very good examples of degraded raised bog much of which retain a typical raised bog flora and which could be improved by restoration works. Bog woodland is also represented though some of this is planted <i>Pinus</i> species. A further area of wet woodland on cutover peat is notable for the abundance of <i>Frangula alnus</i>. Good to moderate examples of alkaline fens and calcareous dry grasslands also occur. Limestone pavement with species-rich woodland occurs at Rathcline. Several Red Data plant species occur. <i>Lutra lutra</i> is frequent on the site and the fish <i>Coregonus autumnalis pollan</i> has been recorded. It is an important bird site for wintering and breeding waterfowl and has a colony of <i>Sterna hirundo</i>. It is of particular importance for the breeding population of <i>Melanitta nigra</i> as it is one of only three sites for the species in Ireland. Water quality of the lake is considered good.</p>	<p>A large mesotrophic moderate-eutrophic lake situated in an ice deepened depression in carboniferous limestone on the River Shannon. Greater part is less than 10 m in depth but there are deep troughs from north to south of depths between 17-33 m. Lough Ree has a long and much indented shoreline mostly stony with some gravel and sand. In parts reed swamp alkaline fen bog freshwater marshes wet and dry grassland and wet woodland occurs. Numerous islands some wooded occur in the lake. Dry broad-leaved woodland of good quality is included in site. Lough Ree is surrounded by agricultural land of moderate to high intensity and is close to Athlone town. Eutrophication may be a problem but at present Lough Ree is less affected than other midland lakes notably Lough Derg.</p>
000625	Bunduff Lough and Machair/Trawalua/Mullaghmore SAC	<p>This site is of importance in terms of both habitat diversity and quality. The machair and alkaline fen habitats are particularly well developed. Much of the machair is wet in character and there are interesting transitional areas with the alkaline fen. The machair is considered one of the best examples in the north-west region. A very substantial area of fixed dunes occur which are well-developed and mostly intact. Also present are well developed marram dunes and Juniper scrub. Intertidal sandflat shallow bay and reef habitats are well represented with a well developed zonation of benthic communities and high species richness in the littoral sediments. <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i> has recently been found in the machair habitat. The site has a number of locally rare plant species including <i>Orobanche rubra</i> <i>Cuscuta epithimum</i> <i>Epipactis palustris</i> and <i>Ophrys apifera</i>. <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> and <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> both Annex I Bird Directive species are regular in winter. <i>Pyrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> breeds as well as several wader species notably <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> and small numbers of seabirds.</p>	<p>This site is located on the south side of Donegal Bay and c.18 km north of Sligo town. The part of the site west of Mullaghmore Head is very exposed to prevailing wind and swells from the Atlantic whereas the Head itself affords moderate shelter to the eastern part of the site. Bedrock is Middle Carboniferous limestone. The site is generally low-lying and includes a fine range of coastal habitats with open shallow marine areas intertidal sandy beaches bedrock shoreline various sand dune types including fixed dunes and machair. Bunduff Lough is a shallow coastal lake probably with a brackish influence and is fringed with swamp fen and dune grassland. Grazing is the main landuse within the site and area is used for water-based recreational activities.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
001403	Arroo Mountain SAC	The north-facing limestone cliffs of Arroo Mountain and the 'slips' below them are very important for the rich arctic-alpine vascular plant and bryophyte floras they support. A number of very rare species are found springs and flushes some of which have tufa formations occur amongst the calcareous rocky habitats. The main interest of the summit vegetation lies with the extensive area of good quality almost intact wet heath found there; here also are found several good but small examples of intact mountain blanket bog. Falco peregrinus nest on the cliffs while Pluvialis apricaria on blanket bog in the north-eastern section of the plateau.	A large mountain complex comprised of blanket bog wet and dry heath humid and dry calcareous grassland flushes streams small lakes wooded ravines limestone gorges limestone scree and steep limestone cliffs which have developed on the sides and summit of an undulating plateau of carboniferous limestone overlain by shale. Post-glacial slippage of sections of cliff has formed an interesting geomorphological feature at the northern end of the site. Numerous swallow holes are found on the plateau. The site includes several megalithic monuments and tombs of archaeological interest.
001818	Lough Forbes Complex SAC	Lough Forbes Complex is an extensive and important midland site which contains significant examples of the Annex I habitats natural eutrophic lake active raised bog alluvial woodlands degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. Other habitats of note occurring include mixed ash/oak woodland dry grassland and cutover raised bog. In many areas there are good examples of relatively undisturbed transitions from lake and river to adjoining terrestrial habitats such as wet grassland and raised bog. The lake callow and raised bog areas provide feeding and roosting sites for a flock of wintering Anser albifrons flavirostris. The site is within a breeding territory of Falco columbarius.	A complex of naturally eutrophic lake fed by the River Shannon and Rinn River with extensive reed bed development and natural transitions to flooded grasslands marsh and two active raised bogs. The Castle Forbes estate on the eastern shore of the lake is extensively planted with mature semi-natural woodland including some stands of old oak wood. The site is located in the north central midlands at a low elevation and overlies Carboniferous Limestone with a variable thickness of glacial tills.
002164	Lough Golagh and Breesy Hill SAC	The site supports a fairly large area of blanket bog though it is only of moderate quality owing mainly to peat cutting. The islands on Lough Golagh support a small colony of Sterna hirundo. Other species of note are Meles meles Rana temporaria and Lagopus lagopus.	This is a moderately sized upland site with blanket bog and associated habitats such as fen swamp and wet grassland. The bog is dominated by Molinia caerulea. Much of the site is underlain by acid gneiss. At the north of the site much of the lakes are underlain by both gneiss and limestone resulting in an interesting and diverse flora. Other habitats found at the site include rocky outcrops on the slopes of Breesy Hill and a small area of broad-leaved woodland in the western part of the site. Many trackways are present in the site.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004049	Lough Oughter SPA	Lough Oughter is of importance for a range of wintering waterfowl. Of particular note is an internationally important population of <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> that is based in the area and which use the lakes as a roost. A population of <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> of regional importance also roost on the lakes. The site supports nationally important wintering populations of four species: <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> <i>Cygnus olor</i> <i>Anas penelope</i> and <i>Bucephala clangula</i> plus a range of other wintering species such as <i>Anas crecca</i> and <i>Aythya fuligula</i> . Lough Oughter is at the centre of the breeding range of <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> in Ireland and the site supports in excess of 10% of the estimated national breeding total. A small colony of <i>Sterna hirundo</i> occurs within the site.	Lough Oughter is a medium-sized lake that extends over a wide area. Its situation in submerged drumlin country accounts for the extremely ramified nature of its basin. The main feeders to the lake are the River Erne and the Annalee River. These flow over relatively insoluble rock (Ordovician and Silurian strata) so that the lake water is only moderately hard despite the fact that most of the immediate surroundings are on Carboniferous limestone. Lough Oughter is a shallow lake (maximum depth 10 m) and is considered to be a naturally eutrophic system. Since the 1970s the lake has however shown clear signs of organic enrichment and has most recently been classified as hypertrophic (though chlorophyll levels have dropped markedly in recent years). The lakes have a well-developed aquatic flora. Around much of the shorelines there are swamp and marsh communities. In places wet woodland is well-developed at the lake margins.
004050	Lough Arrow SPA	Lough Arrow is an excellent site for breeding <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> the population being of national importance. A range of other duck species breed on the lake including <i>Melanitta nigra</i> and <i>Mergus serrator</i> . <i>Larus canus</i> and <i>Larus fuscus</i> breed in significant numbers on islands in the lake. The lake supports moderate numbers of wintering waterfowl. Diving ducks are well represented with <i>Aythya fuligula</i> and <i>Bucephala clangula</i> occurring in numbers of regional importance. Other species such as <i>Fulica atra</i> and <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> also occur as well as small numbers of <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> . The site has been poorly monitored in recent years and regular monitoring may show that some of the species have populations of national importance. Lough Arrow has good fish stocks including <i>Salmo trutta</i> and <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> .	Lough Arrow is a large limestone lake sheltered on three sides by hills. It has a small catchment and is fed largely by springs on the lake bed. Its average depth is 9 m to a maximum of 33 m. The lake is classified as a mesotrophic system. There is a well-developed submerged aquatic flora with a notable charophyte community. The shores of the lake are for the most part stony though several bays occur in which swamp vegetation is found in abundance. In places the reedbeds extend well out into the lake.
004129	Ballysadare Bay SPA	Ballysadare Bay is an important component of the larger Sligo Bay complex. It supports nationally important populations of four species: <i>Calidris alpina</i> <i>Limosa limosa</i> <i>Tringa totanus</i> and <i>Tringa nebularia</i> . It also has a good diversity of other waterfowl species including <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> <i>Mergus serrator</i> <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> and <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> . The estuarine habitat is of good quality and the site provides both feeding and roost sites for the birds.	Ballysadare Bay extends for about 10 km westwards from the town of Ballysadare and is the most southerly of three inlets comprising the larger Sligo Bay complex. The bay has an average width of c. 2 km. The estuarine channel of the Ballysadare River winds its way through the bay finally reaching the open sea near the sand spit at Culleenamore.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
			<p>The bay is underlain by sedimentary rocks of limestones sandstones and shales which are exposed as low cliffs and small sections of bedrock shore at several locations. The site contains extensive intertidal sand and mudflats which support good populations of macro-invertebrates. <i>Zostera</i> spp. and <i>Ruppia maritima</i> are present. Well-developed salt marshes occur at several locations around the bay. The site includes part of the Strandhill dune system and some areas of wet and dry grassland.</p>
000138	Durnesh Lough SAC	<p>An important example of a sedimentary lagoon noted for its large size. Despite the artificial inlet channel the lagoon is relatively well conserved. Flora is diverse with two species of <i>Ruppia</i> and the Red Data Book charophyte <i>Chara canescens</i>. Fauna is also diverse with 48 taxa recorded including six lagoonal specialists and at least two rare species (<i>Gammarus chevreuxi</i> <i>Cordylophora caspia</i>). Based on geomorphology flora and fauna the lagoon is ranked amongst the best 10 lagoons in the country. Site also has a good example of <i>Molinia</i> meadows. A nationally important population of <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> is regular at the site. <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> is also regular and at times occurs in numbers of international importance. A range of other waterfowl species occur in numbers of regional or local importance though numbers of <i>Cygnus olor</i> often exceed national importance.</p>	<p>Situated along the southern part of Donegal Bay site comprises a range of coastal and wetland habitats. The underlying geology is limestone but this is covered by a thick layer of clay drift deposits in the form of drumlins. Durnesh Lough is a large low salinity (0-7 ppt) shallow (&lt;1.5 m) sedimentary lagoon of a very unusual type in that the barrier is composed of a combination of drumlins high sand dunes and a remnant cobble barrier. The inlet is now an artificial pipe which runs through the sandhills and allows sea water to enter through a malfunctioning sluice. Swamp vegetation freshwater marsh poor fen and wet grassland occurs around the lagoon and also in low-lying areas to the west and south of Durnesh Hill. Site also includes sand dunes a cobble storm beach and intertidal sand flats. Some improved pasture is included for the benefit of geese and swans.</p>
000627	Cummeen Strand/Drum cliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC	<p>The estuarine and intertidal sand and mud flat habitats at this site are extensive in area generally of good quality and show a good diversity of species and biotopes. <i>Zostera</i> spp. occur. These habitats are considered typical for the north-west region. The fixed dunes and shifting <i>Ammophila</i> dunes are small in area and only of moderate quality though embryonic dunes are well represented. The site has a good example of petrifying springs with tufa formations with several species of bryophyte typical of the Cratoneurion. The springs occur along seepage zones in clay sea cliffs. The site supports an area of Juniper scrub. The site has a nationally important colony of <i>Phoca vitulina</i>.</p>	<p>This large coastal site is made up largely of two estuarine bays Sligo Harbour and Drumcliff Bay. These are the estuaries of the Garavoge and Drumcliff rivers respectively. The estuaries are well sheltered and have extensive intertidal sand and mud flats. Coney Island provides the main shelter for Sligo Harbour while a sandy/grassy spit protrudes from the Rosses peninsula and provides shelter for inner Drumcliff Bay. The site continues to the north-west of Drumcliff Bay to include the shallow marine waters of Brown's Bay. A series of small islands notably Ardbolin occur here. Other coastal habitats are represented including sand dunes salt marshes sandy and boulder beaches and bedrock shoreline. In addition there is a scattering of dry grassland wet grassland swamp vegetation and broad-leaved woodland. Improved grassland is included for the benefit of wintering geese.</p>



Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		<p>Site is important for occurrence of the Annex II mollusc <i>Vertigo angustior</i> and the lamprey species <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> and <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>. A good diversity of waterfowl winter at site notably internationally important populations of <i>Branta leucopsis</i> and <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>. Site has regular populations of <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> and <i>Limosa lapponica</i> both Annex I Bird Directive species and eight other species winter in nationally important numbers. <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> has a nationally important breeding colony and small numbers of other breeding seabirds occur.</p>	<p>The site is largely underlain by Carboniferous limestone but acidic rocks are also found at Rosses Point. An excellent series of fossilised corals occur at Serpent Rock in the north west of the site. The town of Sligo a substantial urban centre with a regional port is located along the eastern boundary of the Sligo Harbour section of the site. Agriculture is the dominant landuse in the surrounding catchments.</p>
000979	Corratirrim SAC	<p>The site supports a small but well developed area of limestone pavement which includes areas of 'clints' and 'grykes' and some shattered limestone. The site has a reasonably good limestone flora including the scarce <i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>. An important outlier for this habitat the site is the only documented example in eastern Ireland. Good transition is shown to associated habitats including acidic heath and grassland. The legally protected and Red Data species <i>Pseudorchis albida</i> has been recorded as well as a number of other scarce species for the county. The site is on the border with Co. Fermanagh Northern Ireland.</p>	<p>The site is located in the north-west of Co. Cavan where Carboniferous limestone underlies the shales and grits that form the Cuilcagh Mountains. At Corratirrim the limestone protrudes and results in an interesting diversity of habitats. In addition to limestone pavement the principal habitats are heath and acidic grassland on peat and mineral soils. In hollows and at the base of slopes the heath is wet and bog mosses (<i>Sphagnum</i> spp.) occur.</p>
001626	Annaghmore Lough (Roscommon ) SAC	<p>The site contains a good example of alkaline fen vegetation. While the extent of the habitat is relatively small it supports a range of typical species including scarce plants such as <i>Eriophorum latifolium</i> and several orchid species. Alkaline fen is nowadays a scarce habitat in Co. Roscommon. A population of <i>Vertigo geyeri</i> has been recorded at this site as recently as 2001. This is the only known location for this rare mollusc in Co. Roscommon and one of the few sites in western Ireland. Annaghmore Lough supports a good diversity of wintering waterfowl with nationally important populations of <i>Anas crecca</i> and <i>Anas clypeata</i> and small numbers of <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> and <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>. The birds commute to other wetlands in the district.</p>	<p>Annaghmore Lough is located 5 km north-west of Strokestown Co. Roscommon. It lies within a network of small lakes in a rolling drift-covered landscape. The shoreline slopes gently to the lake and these low-lying margins are extensively flooded in winter. In summer when water levels recede substantial areas of this shallow calcareous lake dry out leaving flat expanses of exposed marl. In addition to fen vegetation there are extensive areas of reed swamp and wet grassland around the margins of the lake. A stream exits the lake at the south-east and flows through a low-lying area of wet grassland - this floods regularly and has a turlough character. This site includes a smaller less calcareous lake Lough Nablaspargh to the south of Annaghmore. An area of cutover bog is associated with this lake. A small area of limestone pavement adds habitat diversity to the site.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
001656	Bricklieve Mountains & Keishcorran SAC	The site is important as it supports a very wide range of habitats. These include limestone cliffs extending 10-30m eutric scree the unusual combination of blanket bog and wet heath on limestone abundant dry heath a variety of grassland types including mineral rich acidic and wet and dry meadows scrub on the cliffs and scattered throughout the grasslands and a small patch of deciduous woodland. The fen at the south-west side of the site is very diverse and unusual in that it occurs as high as 118m. The site includes a fine turlough Lough Gowra at a very high altitude for the habitat(112m). Rare plants at the site include Red Data Book species <i>Draba incana</i> <i>Rorippa islandica</i> <i>Viola persicifolia</i> and <i>Pseudorchis albida</i> as well as the charophyte <i>Chara vulgaris</i> var. <i>papillata</i> and many rare mosses and liverworts. Lough na Leibe holds a good population of <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> . The site supports a population of <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> .	The site is a good example of a karst region and contains many sink holes caves dry valleys and pavements at heights up to 260m. The slopes bounding the Bricklieve Plateau display striking terraces broken by south-eastward trending gullies developed along minor fault-planes. Ecologically the site is extremely diverse and the most interesting features are the presence of peat and acidic grasslands on limestone and the occurrence of a fen at a relatively high altitude of 118 m. The site has many archaeologically interesting megalithic tombs some of considerable size and erected 4500 years ago before peat formed. A system of roads traverse the site and tourism is encouraged.
001919	Glenade Lough SAC	An interesting system considered more mesotrophic in physical and chemical characters than eutrophic. Has a wide diversity of vegetation from well developed Potamogeton communities to species more associated with nutrient poor water such as <i>Isoetes lacustris</i> . Also has <i>Najas flexilis</i> . Quality of system is good with no evidence of artificial nutrient inputs. Has a good population of <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> and is a site for a genetic research programme on Irish crayfish. Although small an important site of high quality.	Glenade Lough is situated on the upper reaches of the Bonet River within a valley between the Arroo and Benbulbin Mountain ranges. Site is underlain by carboniferous limestone which confers a calcareous nature to the lake. The water is clear well aerated and relatively nutrient poor. Lake shore is stony or sandy. Marginal vegetation is well developed with reed swamp calcareous fens and flushes and wet grassland. Broad-leaved woodland and dry grassland also occur. Surrounding areas are mainly of pasture though not intensively managed.
001976	Lough Gill SAC	An important example of a lake which appears to be naturally eutrophic. Quality generally good though blooms of blue-green algae in recent years indicate some artificial enrichment. Significant areas of alluvial forest occur along the Garvogue River ( <i>Osmunda</i> - <i>Salicetum atrocineria</i> type) and at the mouth of the River Bonet ( <i>Carici remotae</i> - <i>Fraxinetum</i> type). Old oak woodland of varying quality is well scattered along the shoreline and on some of the islands and is an important example of this habitat for western Ireland. At least six Red Data Book plant species have been recorded from site. Site has three species of lamprey and <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> .	Lough Gill is a moderate to large sized lake lying immediately east of Sligo town. It is fed by the River Bonet and drains into the sea via the Garvogue River a short wide and slow flowing river which passes through Sligo town. The lake lies along the junction between old metamorphic rocks to the south and limestone to the north. The water of the lake is thus influenced by both acidic and alkaline inputs although nearly all the basin lies over limestone. The lake is 8 km by 2-3 km and has an area of 1400 ha. It is a deep lake with maximum depth at 31 m. Islands are a feature of the lake. Much of the shoreline is wooded and there is also some swamp vegetation wet grassland and scrub along the shoreline.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		<p>The lake and its associated rivers support an important population of <i>Salmo salar</i>. <i>Lutra lutra</i> has a good population within the site. Of minor importance for birds though the site has a small breeding colony of <i>Sterna hirundo</i>. A wide range of rare or scarce invertebrates are known from the site as well as several Red Data Book mammal species including <i>Martes martes</i>.</p>	<p>The lake is an important salmonid and coarse fishery and is used for a range of recreational activities. The site also includes the Shanvans and Owenmore rivers.</p>
002202	Mount Jessop Bog SAC	<p>Mount Jessop Bog cSAC is a site of considerable conservation significance comprising raised bog a rare habitat in the EU and one that is becoming increasingly scarce and under threat in Ireland. It contains good examples of the EU Habitats Directive Annex I habitat (7120) Degraded Raised Bog (capable of regeneration) which is being restored to the priority Annex 1 habitat Active Raised Bog (7110) and a small area of the Annex 1 priority habitat Bog Woodland (91D0) which is developing on the cutover. The site already supports a good diversity of raised bog microhabitats including some hummock/hollow complexes and rewetted cutover bog. Ireland has a high proportion of the total EU resource of Atlantic raised bog (over 50%) and so has a special responsibility for its conservation at an international level. The site is being actively managed for conservation as part of the Coillte EU LIFE Project and most of the required restoration measures have already been carried out. Those measures that remain or are ongoing should be achievable with average effort. An After LIFE management plan is being developed by Coillte for the future conservation management of the SAC. The SAC is located within the raised bog Mount Jessop Bog NHA (001450) the conservation management of which should support the redevelopment of Active raised bog and Bog Woodland in the SAC.</p>	<p>Mount Jessop Bog SAC (002202) comprises 71.91 ha of raised bog (25.7 ha of high bog and 46.21 ha cutover) which occupies the south-eastern section of Mount Jessop Bog NHA (001450). Mount Jessop Bog NHA is a small Midland raised bog developed in a basin and surrounded by areas of higher mineral ground. The original area of the bog in the early 1800s was 195.8 ha but due to domestic turf cutting the high bog area in 2010 was 65.8 ha. The SAC is bordered by raised bog and cutover to the west and north and agricultural grassland to the east and south. Within the SAC approximately 31 ha (44%) both high bog and cutover was afforested with conifer plantations between 1973 and 1975. Only 11% (8.0 ha) remained open high bog. The remainder of the cutover developed either into birch and willow scrub (19.5 ha) or remained open areas (12.5 ha) dominated by heath and bog species especially those adjacent to the former turf cutting areas in the south east of the site which were being used as spread grounds. Turf cutting has not been observed on this site since the project commenced. On the remaining area of open high bog much of the vegetation is typical of Midland Raised Bog type. Some small hummocks of <i>S. austinii</i> and <i>S. fuscum</i> (s.l.) occur. In places Sphagnum hummocks supports the Midland raised bog indicator species Bog Rosemary (<i>Andromeda polifolia</i>) and Cranberry (<i>Vaccinium oxycoccos</i>). There is also a record of the liverwort <i>Pleurozia purpurea</i> in the NHA. This is one of the Western raised bog indicators suggesting that this bog has transitional features between the two types of raised bog in Ireland. Lodgepole Pine (<i>Pinus contorta</i>) which is invading the open bog is being controlled as part of the restoration plan for the site.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
			<p>The conifer plantations were felled and the intensive drainage system associated with the plantations were blocked by 2013 as part of an EU funded LIFE project so as to raise the water table and restore Active Raised Bog on the site. Prior to the felling there were relatively few bog species present in the plantations except along fire breaks and at plantation margins. With the clear-felling and blocking of drains there are indications that the high bog is re-wetting and water-levels in some areas now remain high throughout most of the year. Limited areas of wet flats and hollows are developing and more typical raised bog vegetation has returned. However the majority of the restored areas have not yet developed vegetation characteristic of the wet bog. Two areas covering 1.14 ha in the northern and western sections of the SAC have been identified by hydrological modelling and ground survey as Degraded raised bog (7120) habitat and are showing significant indications of recovery. The main areas are on the open bog to the west of the formerly afforested area and in the north west of the clear-felled area. These areas now have standing surface water in the hollows and pools for most of the year and considerable areas of regenerating Sphagnum species. It is considered that these areas will support some areas of Active raised bog within 10-20 years and that this habitat will continue to develop and spread over the following decades. In addition an area of developing Bog Woodland (91D0) (0.23 ha) exists on cutover in the south east of the site. This is expected to mature and develop further over time as the cutover rewets fully. It is also expected that 0.29 additional hectares of very wet clear-fell on cutover adjacent to the Bog Woodland will develop into Active Raised Bog in the medium to long term. Finally it is estimated that restoration works carried out on this site will benefit the conservation of 2 ha of Active raised bog and 0.25 ha Degraded Raised Bog in the adjacent area of Mount Jessop Bog NHA (001450). It is also expected that Wet Birch woodland will develop within 8.82 ha of very wet clear-fell on cutover adjacent to the Bog Woodland in the medium to long term. Some of it may develop into additional Bog Woodland (91D0) areas.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002241	Lough Derg North-East Shore SAC	This site supports a wide range of habitats including Alkaline fens Juniper scrub formations limestone pavement Yew woodlands alluvial woodlands and Cladium fen. It also supports the only known population in the country for the Irish Red Data Book species <i>Inula salicina</i> . Other scarce plant species found here include <i>Sorbus aria</i> and <i>Rhamnus catharticus</i> . The endangered fish species <i>Coregonus autumnalis</i> has its European stronghold in Lough Derg. The open water areas of the lake itself are important for wintering wildfowl. Goat island holds a breeding colony of <i>Sterna hirundo</i> . A subflock of <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> uses the callow lands around Slevoir Bay in Winter. A good population of <i>Cygnus olor</i> occurs.	This site incorporates part of the water body of Lough Derg and includes most of the northern lake shore and approximately one-third of the northeast shoreline. Lough Derg itself is the lowest order lake on the River Shannon and is one of the largest freshwater bodies in Ireland. Most of the lake overlies Carboniferous Limestone which outcrops along the shores but some old Red Sandstone occurs on the eastern side. The site is of high scenic value and is a well known angling and tourism area.
004097	River Suck Callows SPA	The River Suck Callows is an important site for wintering waterfowl with an internationally important population of <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> centred within the site. This is one of the largest flocks in the country outside of the Wexford Slob. Despite poor survey data for recent years it is known that at least three species have populations of national importance: <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> <i>Anas penelope</i> and <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> . <i>Cygnus columbarius bewickii</i> formerly occurred in significant numbers but has abandoned the site in line with a marked contraction of range at a national level. <i>Crex crex</i> formerly bred but not since the early 1990s. This site provides one of the few remaining examples in the country of a large river system of which parts still flood in a fairly natural way.	The River Suck is the largest tributary of the River Shannon. The site follows the river from Castlecoote near Fuerty to its confluence with the River Shannon a distance of approximately 70 km of river course. The main habitat is grassland improved to varying extents that is seasonally flooded. The less improved areas are species-rich. The grassland is used mainly for pasture but some is used for silage or occasionally hay-making. The river channel is fringed in places by swamp and marsh vegetation. The site adjoins several raised bogs and cutover bogs and there are turloughs in the vicinity.
004101	Ballykenny-Fisherstown Bog SPA	This site has important examples of several habitats listed on Annex I of the EU Directive notably active raised bog degraded raised bog naturally eutrophic lakes and old oak woodlands. The lake and callow grasslands provide good habitat for a range of wintering waterfowl species including regionally important flocks of <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> <i>Anas crecca</i> and <i>Anas penelope</i> . Species such as <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> and <i>Aythya fuligula</i> are also represented but in low numbers.	Site is situated in the north central midlands overlying Carboniferous limestone. Lough Forbes is a naturally eutrophic lake on the Shannon system and is fed also from the north by the River Rinn. The lake has well developed swamp vegetation and displays natural transition to seasonally flooded grassland marsh and raised bog. The raised bogs known as the Ballykenny-Fisherstown complex are separated by the Camlin River which has further areas of callow grassland. The Castle Forbes estate on the eastern shore of the lake is extensively planted with mature semi-natural woodland including some stands of old oak.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		The bogs were formerly used by wintering <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> but these appear to have been now abandoned in favour of grassland sites elsewhere. <i>Falco columbarius</i> has been recorded and may breed in the site. <i>Lagopus lagopus</i> occurs on the bogs.	
004145	Durnesh Lough SPA	The site is used as a roost site by a regionally important population of <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> . The flock has a number of grassland feeding sites in the vicinity of Donegal Bay and also resorts to inland bog. This is a traditional site for a nationally important population of <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> which has exceeded the threshold for international importance in the past. The site also has a substantial population of <i>Cygnus olor</i> . A range of other waterfowl species occurs notably diving ducks though all are in relatively low numbers.	Durnesh Lough is situated to the east of Rosstown on the southern side of Donegal Bay c. 10 km north of Ballyshannon in Co. Donegal. It is a large sedimentary lagoon which is separated from the sea by a barrier composed partly of drumlins and partly of high sand dunes with the remains of a cobble barrier occurring in places. The lagoon formerly had a natural outlet to the sea but the outlet is now an artificial channel and pipe running under the sand dunes which appears to allow a certain amount of seawater to enter. The underlying geology of the area is limestone but this is covered by a thick layer of clay drift deposits in the form of drumlins.
004151	Donegal Bay SPA	This site supports an excellent diversity of waterfowl species associated with shallow bays. It has an internationally important wintering population of <i>Gavia immer</i> and is one of the top sites in the country for this species. Also has one of the few regular populations of <i>Gavia arctica</i> in the country and a regionally important population of <i>Gavia stellata</i> . The site has nationally important populations of <i>Melanitta nigra</i> (up to 4.6% of all-Ireland total) and <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> . A range of other species associated with estuarine and shoreline habitats occur. The site provides both feeding and roost sites for most of the species. Habitat quality is mostly good. The site has a population of <i>Phoca vitulina</i> .	The Donegal Bay SPA is a very large marine dominated site. It extends from Doorin Point to the west of Donegal town to Tullaghan Point in Co. Leitrim a distance of approximately 15 km along its north-east/south-west axis. It varies in width from about 3 km to over 8 km. The site includes the estuary of the River Eske which flows through Donegal town and the estuary of the River Erne which flows through Ballyshannon. Much of the shoreline is rocky or stony with well-developed littoral reefs in places. There are also extensive stretches of sandy beach especially from the Murvagh peninsula southwards to Rosstown and at the outer part of the Erne estuary. Shingle or cobble beaches are also represented. There are extensive areas of intertidal flats associated with the Eske Estuary reflecting the very sheltered conditions in this part of the bay. These have been shown to be biotope rich. Elsewhere a narrow fringe of intertidal flats are exposed at low tides. Salt marshes are found in the sheltered conditions of the innermost part of the bay. A number of small grassy islands occur in the innermost part of the bay. The shallow bay waters overlies mostly sandy substrates though reefs occur in places.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
UK00300 47	Lough Melvin SAC	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Salmo salar for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.	<p>The lough itself is characterised by open water plant communities typical of mesotrophic (unenriched) conditions, a narrow fringe of emergent swamp and fen and a number of wooded islands. In addition, some of the surrounding lands contain traditionally managed grasslands including Fen Meadow that are rich in plant species. The wide range of habitats is reflected in the diversity of plant and animal communities present. Lough Melvin is of particular importance for its fish population.</p> <p>The water volume of Lough Melvin is 15.8 million m<sup>3</sup> and has a flushing rate of 360 days. The water is in a relatively pristine state, as it has not been artificially enriched by pollutants, being dilute in both major ion and nutrient chemistry. Calcium concentration is 19.3mg/l (1988), slightly below normal for lowland lakes in Northern Ireland reflecting the relative preponderance of inert rocks in the catchment. Total phosphorus concentration is 19 g/l (1989), not as enriched as most lowland lakes and low enough to categorise the water as mesotrophic. This probably reflects the small size of the catchment, as well as the population and land-use within it.</p>
UK00166 03	Cuilcagh Mountain SAC	Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. European dry heaths for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Alpine and Boreal heaths for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Blanket bogs for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.	The SAC contains important geological and physiographical Earth Science features, including the only Gritstone edge and pavement in Northern Ireland. The complete Carboniferous Leitrim Group is represented, with its inherent stratigraphy including important fossiliferous sequences; this extended stratigraphy is of international significance. There are numerous examples of active weathering, pseudo-karst processes within the peat and of karst geomorphology. The list of rare and notable species includes bryophytes (e.g. Bazzania tricrenata, Dicranum scottianum, and Marsupella sphacelata) and higher plants (e.g. Salix herbacea, Diphasiastrum alpinum, Carex bigelowii and Asplenium viride). Lough Atona contains notable invertebrates (e.g. Gyrimus natator and Glaenocoris propinqua). The site is also important for breeding birds, especially Golden Plover Pluvialis apricaria and Merlin Falco columbarius.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
UK00303 00	West Fermanagh Scarplands SAC	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition-type vegetation for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. which is considered to be rare as its total extent in the United Kingdom is estimated to be less than 100 hectares. Alkaline fens for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Limestone pavements for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Blanket bogs for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.	The site has a unique combination of geology, physiography, habitats, flora and fauna features. It has an unparalleled range of habitats and associated vegetation communities occurring in Northern Ireland including base-rich broadleaved woodland, wet and dry acid heath and calcareous heath, blanket bog, fenmeadow, calcareous and mesotrophic grassland, petrifying springs, flushes both acid and alkaline, natural dystrophic, mesotrophic and eutrophic open water bodies with accompanying aquatic macrophyte communities, swamp and poor acid fen. Such diversity results in the presence of a large number of rare and notable higher plants, lichens, fungi and invertebrates. In addition to having an unparalleled range of habitats and associated vegetation communities, the site is also a major landscape feature of this region. The Western Fermanagh Scarpland geology is relatively simple but has a major influence on the plant communities that grow there. The rocks are Carboniferous in age, some 335 million years old, and date from a time when Ireland lay near the equator. Page 5 of 89 Three major cave systems occur within the site; with over 14-km of surveyed passage in total together with a range of surface karst features.
UK00166 07	Pettigoe Plateau SAC	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. European dry heaths for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Blanket bogs for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.	The area around Croagh Mountain contains outcrops displaying a wide variety of lithologies and structures typical of the Lough Derg Group. This is a series of mainly siliceous psammitic rocks containing minor intrusive basic igneous components. Late-phase feldspar-rich pegmatite veins are represented. The area of blanket bog has a wide range of the structural features associated with this habitat: including a large number of well-developed pool complexes, frequent acid flushes, basin mires, ladder fens and bog plains. The bog vegetation is characterised by luxuriant Sphagnum mosses, dwarf-shrubs with associated species demonstrating a strong oceanic influence. Amongst the lakes included in the designation, several are clean soft-water types supporting a well-developed isoetid component in their aquatic vegetation. Page 5 of 52 The site contains a number of other notably scarce plant species and is also important for birds. It provides breeding habitat for a number of species and is especially important as the Irish stronghold for breeding Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> .



Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
			In addition, amongst the over-wintering birds, Pettigoe Plateau frequently supports Greenland White-fronted Geese <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> .
UK90200 51	Pettigoe Plateau SPA	During the breeding season the area regularly supports: <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> [North-western Europe - breeding] 3% of the all-Ireland breeding population Two count mean, 1987 & 1995	Pettigoe Plateau lies between Beleek and Pettigoe to the north of the western tip of Lower Lough Erne, Co. Fermanagh. The Plateau, with its mosaic of lakes, peatlands and forests extends across the border into Co. Donegal. The area of blanket bog has a wide range of the structural features associated with this habitat including pool complexes, acid flushes, basin mires, ladder fens and bog plains. A number of notable lakes are also present.
UK00300 45	Largalinnny SAC	Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.	Largalinnny is a complex site with a variety of interests. Geological interest relates to the Upper Visean Glenade Sandstone Formations and Upper Visean Limestone Formations with rich silicified fossil fauna (the latter around Carrick Lough). Physiographical interest relates to the scarp and dip control of slope. Botanical interest relates to the complex mosaic of habitats present, including heathland, oligotrophic and mesotrophic waterbodies and in particular, broadleaved semi-natural woodland. Rare species include rare higher plants, and notable lichen and bryophyte communities. In addition, there are notable assemblages of Odonata and Lepidoptera.
UK00166 19	Monawilkin SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates ( <i>Festuco-Brometalia</i> ) for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.	In addition to the floral interest, the south-facing limestone scarp is the best inland site for Lepidoptera in Northern Ireland. There are recent records for a total of 23 butterfly species, and the site is the only known location in NI for the Small Blue <i>Cupido minimus</i> . The site has recently, post declaration, been shown to be of national importance for its assemblage of grassland fungi. The Freshwater Crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> occurs in Monawilkin Lough. Small exposures of the Glencar Limestone Formation, of Lower Carboniferous age, have yielded an exceptionally rich silicified fauna dominated by bryozoa and brachiopods. This material has formed the basis of numerous descriptive publications covering more than 130 species, for 29 of which this is the type locality.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
UK00301 16	Cladagh (Swanlinbar) River SAC	<p>The river is of particular importance for its associated fauna, as it is one of the few rivers in Northern Ireland that still retains a significant and viable population of the Fresh Water Pearl Mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>.</p> <p>Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.</p>	<p>Within County Fermanagh the 14.88km length of river has two distinct forms. The upper half is typical of fast-flowing dynamic rivers with beds of Stream Water Crowfoot <i>Ranunculus penicillatus</i> var. <i>penicillatus</i>, whilst the lower half of the river is slow-flowing and very deeply dredged as it nears Upper Lough Erne.</p>
UK00302 12	Moninea Bog SAC	<p>Active raised bogs for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.</p>	<p>The peat deposits are deep and permanently waterlogged and the main feature of interest is a large intact dome supporting a good surface microtopography. In addition, a number of notable plant species have been recorded including <i>Sphagnum fuscum</i>, <i>S. imbricatum</i> and <i>S. pulchrum</i>.</p>
UK00166 14	Upper Lough Erne SAC	<p>Natural eutrophic lakes with <i>Magnopotamion</i> or <i>Hydrocharition</i>-type vegetation for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>) for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. <i>Lutra lutra</i> for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.</p>	<p>The open waters of the main lough and smaller satellite loughs contain a variety of aquatic communities typical of natural eutrophic lakes. In addition, the shallow sheltered shores support extensive swamp, fen and marsh communities. Behind the open grazed foreshore is species-rich grassland, which occasionally extends back into the old adjacent field systems. Alluvial woodland is found where the shoreline is ungrazed or only very lightly grazed, while occasionally the dryer soils of the drumlins behind support a natural Oak woodland; this is particularly well developed within the Crom Estate to the south and the small island to the north of the Lough. Such diversity of good habitats and communities is reflected in the very large number of rare and notable plants and insects flourishing here: the woods being particularly important for breeding passerines and home for some notable mammals.</p>
UK90200 71	Upper Lough Erne SPA	<p>Upper Lough Erne contributes to the maintenance of the geographic range of the Annex 1 Greenland white-fronted goose population of Northern Ireland through supporting regionally important numbers. It also supports an important assemblage of breeding birds including common tern and in the past supported breeding corncrake.</p>	<p>The open waters of the main lough and smaller satellite loughs contain a variety of aquatic communities typical of natural eutrophic lakes. In addition, the shallow sheltered shores support extensive swamp, fen and marsh communities. Behind the open grazed foreshore is species-rich grassland, which occasionally extends back into the old adjacent field systems.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		<p>Both are Annex 1 species. Over winter the area regularly supports: <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> (Iceland/UK/Ireland) 3.4% of the all-Ireland population 5 year peak mean, 1991/2-1995/6</p>	<p>Alluvial woodland is found where the shoreline is ungrazed or only very lightly grazed, while occasionally the dryer soils of the drumlins behind support a natural Oak woodland; this is particularly well developed within the Crom Estate to the south and the small island to the north of the Lough. Wintering Whooper Swan generally utilise improved or semi-improved grassland close to water bodies used for roosting. Foraging in flooded fields and of emergent vegetation in shallower lakes is common.</p> <p>The site regularly supports large numbers of over-wintering and breeding birds important in an all-Ireland context in addition to internationally important numbers of wintering Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>, which has been recognised by its SPA designation.</p>

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

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000584	Cuilcagh - Anierin Uplands SAC	Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains ( <i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i> ) [3110], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Slender green feather-moss ( <i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i> ) [6216], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels ( <i>Androsacetalia alpinae</i> and <i>Galeopsietalia ladani</i> ) [8110], European dry heaths [4030], Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	A01, D01.02, G05.07, A07, G05.09, B, I02, G05.01, A04.01.02, H01.05, A04.01.03, D01.01, B01.02, B02.01, F03.02.02, A04.02.03, J01, G01.02, H05.01, K01.01, G01.03.02, C01.03	Cultivation, Roads, motorways, Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, Fences, fencing, Sylviculture, forestry, Problematic native species, Trampling, overuse, Intensive sheep grazing, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Intensive horse grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), Forest replanting, Taking from nest (e.g. falcons), Non intensive horse grazing, Fire and fire suppression, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Garbage and solid waste, Erosion, Off-road motorized driving, Peat extraction
000638	Union Wood SAC	Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]	B06, B02.01.01, G01.02, I01, B02.02, G05.09	Grazing in forests or woodland, Forest replanting (native trees), Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Invasive non-native species, Forestry clearance, Fences, fencing
001673	Lough Arrow SAC	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp. [3140]	A10.01, D03.01.02, G02, X, J02.01.03, I01	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Piers or tourist harbours or recreational piers, Sport and leisure structures, No threats or pressures, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Invasive non-native species
001680	Streedagh Point Dunes SAC	Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> - white dunes [2120], Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> ) [1410], Narrow-	G01.02, G05.01, G02.08, X, G01.01, C01.01.01, G01.03.02	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Trampling, overuse, Camping and caravans, No threats or pressures, Nautical sports, Sand and gravel quarries, Off-road motorized driving

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		moulted whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo angustior</i> ) [1014], Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritima</i> ) [1330]		
001898	Unshin River SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates ( <i>Festuco-Brometalia</i> ) * important orchid sites [6210], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ( <i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinion caeruleae</i> ) [6410], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355]	I01, B02, A04.02.02, A02.01, J02.10	Invasive non-native species, Forest and Plantation management & use, Non intensive sheep grazing, Agricultural intensification, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes
001992	Tamur Bog SAC	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010], Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150]	A05.02, X, J01.01, C01.03.02, I01	Stock feeding, No threats or pressures, Burning down, Mechanical removal of peat, Invasive non-native species
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritima</i> ) [1330], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ( <i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0], Estuaries [1130], Freshwater pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> ) [1029], Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> ) [1410], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230], Coastal lagoons [1150], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095], Bottlenose dolphin ( <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> ) [1349], Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time [1110], Reefs [1170], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], <i>Molinia</i> meadows on	F02.03, E03, I01, A08, B, E01, F03.01, D01.01, J02.01.02, J02.12.01, G01.01, F01, J02.01.01, J02.10, H04, A04, C01.03.01, K02.03, C01.01.02	Leisure fishing, Discharges, Invasive non-native species, Fertilisation, Sylviculture, forestry, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Hunting, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Nautical sports, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Polderisation, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Air pollution, air-borne pollutants, Grazing, Hand cutting of peat, Eutrophication (natural), Removal of beach materials

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]		
002346	Brown Bog SAC	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	J02.15, X, K01.03	Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, No threats or pressures, Drying out
004013	Drumcliff Bay SPA	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144]	F01, A08, E01.03, G01.02, A04	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fertilisation, Dispersed habitation, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Grazing
004064	Lough Ree SPA	Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis) [A004]	B, A04, I01, F02.03, G01.02, F03.01, G01.01, A08	Sylviculture, forestry, Grazing, Invasive non-native species, Leisure fishing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Hunting, Nautical sports, Fertilisation
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149], Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Pintail (Anas acuta)	F01, E02, G01.01, D03.02, E01, E03, A08	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Industrial or commercial areas, Nautical sports, Shipping lanes, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Discharges, Fertilisation

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		[A054], Teal ( <i>Anas crecca</i> ) [A052], Scaup ( <i>Aythya marila</i> ) [A062], Shoveler ( <i>Anas clypeata</i> ) [A056], Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140], Grey Plover ( <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> ) [A141], Shelduck ( <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> ) [A048], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]		
004234	Ballintemple and Ballygilgan SPA	Barnacle goose ( <i>Branta leucopsis</i> ) [A045]	X, D04.01, E01	No threats or pressures, Airport, Urbanised areas, human habitation
000007	Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC	Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Bog woodland [91D0], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150]	A10.01, G01, J02.01.03, M01.03, I01, H01.05, B01.02, H01.04, H01.03, B01.01, E01.03	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Flooding and rising precipitations, Invasive non-native species, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), Diffuse pollution to surface waters via storm overflows or urban run-off, Other point source pollution to surface water, Forest planting on open ground (native trees), Dispersed habitation
000133	Donegal Bay (Murvagh) SAC	Harbour seal ( <i>Phoca vitulina</i> ) [1365], Humid dune slacks [2190], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> ( <i>Salicion arenariae</i> ) [2170], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]	G01, C01.01.02, G02.08, K01.01, F01.01, A04.01.01, G05.01, J02.12.01, J02.01.03	Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Removal of beach materials, Camping and caravans, Erosion, Intensive fish farming, intensification, Intensive cattle grazing, Trampling, overuse, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits
000191	St. John's Point SAC	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330], Reefs [1170], Alkaline fens [7230], Marsh Fritillary ( <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> ) [1065], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates ( <i>Festuco-Brometalia</i> ) * important orchid sites [6210], Limestone pavements [8240], Molinia meadows on	G01.02, G01.07, F04.02.02, A04.02.01, G05.01, G01.03.02	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Scuba diving, snorkelling, Hand collection, Non intensive cattle grazing, Trampling, overuse, Off-road motorized driving

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]		
000622	Ballysadare Bay SAC	Estuaries [1130], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110], Harbour seal (Phoca vitulina) [1365], Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail (Vertigo angustior) [1014], Humid dune slacks [2190], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria - white dunes [2120]	G01.02, G05.01, G02.01, E01.02, J02.12.01, K01.01, F02, A04.03, I01, F01.03, J02.01.02	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Trampling, overuse, Golf course, Discontinuous urbanisation, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Erosion, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Invasive non-native species, Bottom culture, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh
000623	Ben Bulbin Gleniff and Glenade Complex SAC	Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110], Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Geyer`s whorl snail (Vertigo geyeri) [1013], European dry heaths [4030], Alkaline fens [7230], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (Thlaspietalia rotundifolii) [8120], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]	A04.01.02, D01.01, A04.03, L05, K01.01, I01, C01.03.02, X, G01.03.02	Intensive sheep grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Collapse of terrain, landslide, Erosion, Invasive non-native species, Mechanical removal of peat, No threats or pressures, Off-road motorized driving



Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002032	Boleybrack Mountain SAC	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], European dry heaths [4030], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinia caerulea</i> ) [6410]	C03.03, B, C01.01.01, C01.03.02, A04.01.02, A04.02.02, J02.06.02, B01, G01.02, J01.01, A04.02.01, D01, I02, A07, F03.02.04, F03.02.02, A04.03, B02, K03.02, D02.02, A10	Wind energy production, Sylviculture, forestry, Sand and gravel quarries, Mechanical removal of peat, Intensive sheep grazing, Non intensive sheep grazing, Surface water abstractions for public water supply, Forest planting on open ground, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Burning down, Non intensive cattle grazing, Roads, paths and railroads, Problematic native species, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, Predator control, Taking from nest (e.g. falcons), Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Forest and Plantation management & use, Parasitism (fauna), Pipe lines, Restructuring agricultural land holding
002303	Dunmuckrum Turloughs SAC	Turloughs [3180]	K02, A10.01, A08, A02.01, X	Biocenotic evolution, succession, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Fertilisation, Agricultural intensification, No threats or pressures
002348	Clooneen Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Bog woodland [91D0], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	A09, C01.03.02, A03, A04.02.01	Irrigation, Mechanical removal of peat, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Non intensive cattle grazing
004035	Cummeen Strand SPA	Light-bellied Brent Goose ( <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> ) [A046], Oystercatcher ( <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> ) [A130], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Redshank ( <i>Tringa totanus</i> ) [A162]	E02, F02.03, D01.02, D03.02, J02.01.02, F01, A08, H, E01	Industrial or commercial areas, Leisure fishing, Roads, motorways, Shipping lanes, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fertilisation, Pollution, Urbanised areas, human habitation
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Tufted Duck ( <i>Aythya fuligula</i> ) [A061], Cormorant ( <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> ) [A017], Common tern ( <i>Sterna hirundo</i> ) [A193], Goldeneye ( <i>Bucephala clangula</i> ) [A067]	A08, F03.01, G01.01, F02.03	Fertilisation, Hunting, Nautical sports, Leisure fishing
004068	Inishmurray SPA	Barnacle goose ( <i>Branta leucopsis</i> ) [A045], Arctic tern ( <i>Sterna paradisaea</i> ) [A194], Shag ( <i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i> ) [A018], Herring Gull ( <i>Larus argentatus</i> ) [A184]	X, G01.02	No threats or pressures, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles

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004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	Wigeon ( <i>Anas penelope</i> ) [A050], Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> ) [A156], Black-headed Gull ( <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> ) [A179], Corncrake ( <i>Crex crex</i> ) [A122], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140], Whooper Swan ( <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> ) [A038], Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) [A142]	G01.02, A03, E01, A08, A04.03, D01.05, A04, F03.01, F02.03, D01.01, G01.01	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Fertilisation, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Bridge, viaduct, Grazing, Hunting, Leisure fishing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Nautical sports
004187	Sligo/Leitrim Uplands SPA	Chough ( <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> ) [A346], Peregrine falcon ( <i>Falco peregrinus</i> ) [A103]	A04, B01, G01.02, I01, G01.04, C01.01, E01.01, C01.03.02, G02.08, K01.01, C01.01.01, A04.03	Grazing, Forest planting on open ground, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Invasive non-native species, Mountaineering, rock climbing, speleology, Sand and gravel extraction, Continuous urbanisation, Mechanical removal of peat, Camping and caravans, Erosion, Sand and gravel quarries, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing
000115	Ballintra SAC	European dry heaths [4030], Limestone pavements [8240]	B07, A04.02.01, K02.01	Forestry activities not referred to above, Non intensive cattle grazing, Species composition change (succession)
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinia caerulea</i> ) [6410], Lowland hay meadows ( <i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i> ) [6510], Limestone pavements [8240], Alkaline fens [7230], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ( <i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0]	A03.03, J02.11, J02.05, A04.03, G01, A10.01, A04.02.05, A03, J02.01, A04.01, A07, D01.01, B06, K03.04, G05.01, B02.02, C01.03.02, J02.05.02, J02.04.01, F03.01, A08	Abandonment or lack of mowing, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Non intensive mixed animal grazing, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Intensive grazing, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Grazing in forests or woodland, Predation, Trampling, overuse, Forestry clearance, Mechanical removal of peat, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Flooding, Hunting, Fertilisation
000428	Lough Melvin SAC	Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinia caerulea</i> ) [6410], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or <i>Isoeto-Nanojuncetea</i> [3130]	B02, I01, A08, A04, A10.01, H01.05	Forest and Plantation management & use, Invasive non-native species, Fertilisation, Grazing, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities

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000440	Lough Ree SAC	Alkaline fens [7230], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Bog woodland [91D0], Limestone pavements [8240]	F03.01, A03.03, A08, E01.03, D03.01.02, H02.06, J02.11.02, B02, H06.03, G01.02, A04, I01, L08, F02.03, H01.08, J02.04, G02.09, G01.01, K03.05	Hunting, Abandonment or lack of mowing , Fertilisation, Dispersed habitation, Piers or tourist harbours or recreational piers, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Other siltation rate changes, Forest and Plantation management & use, Thermal heating of water bodies, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Grazing, Invasive non-native species, Inundation (natural processes), Leisure fishing, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Flooding modifications, Wildlife watching, Nautical sports, Antagonism arising from introduction of species
000625	Bunduff Lough and Machair/Trawalla/Mullaghmore SAC	Machairs * in Ireland [21A0], Reefs [1170], Alkaline fens [7230], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> - white dunes [2120], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Petalwort ( <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i> ) [1395], Humid dune slacks [2190], Marsh Fritillary ( <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> ) [1065]	J02.12.01, J02.01.03, G01.02, F03.02.04, A08, A05.02, A10.01, A04.01.01, K01.01, A02.01, A04.02.02	Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Predator control, Fertilisation, Stock feeding, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Intensive cattle grazing, Erosion, Agricultural intensification, Non intensive sheep grazing
001403	Arroo Mountain SAC	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], European dry heaths [4030], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels ( <i>Thlaspietea rotundifolii</i> ) [8120], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010]	C01.03.02, B02, J01.01, A04.02.02, I01, C01.01.01, C01.03.01, D01.01, L05, G01.03.02, K01.01	Mechanical removal of peat, Forest and Plantation management & use, Burning down, Non intensive sheep grazing, Invasive non-native species, Sand and gravel quarries, Hand cutting of peat, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Collapse of terrain, landslide, Off-road motorized driving, Erosion

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001818	Lough Forbes Complex SAC	Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ( <i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150], Natural eutrophic lakes with <i>Magnopotamion</i> or <i>Hydrocharition</i> - type vegetation [3150], Active raised bogs [7110]	F02.03, I01, A04.03, J02.15, G02.09, F03.01, J02.07.02, A03.02, A03.03, H02.06	Leisure fishing, Invasive non-native species, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Wildlife watching, Hunting, Groundwater abstractions for public water supply, Non intensive mowing, Abandonment or lack of mowing, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities
002164	Lough Golagh and Breesy Hill SAC	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	D01.01, C01.03.02, F02.03, X	Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Mechanical removal of peat, Leisure fishing, No threats or pressures
004049	Lough Oughter SPA	Great Crested Grebe ( <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> ) [A005], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Wigeon ( <i>Anas penelope</i> ) [A050], Whooper Swan ( <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> ) [A038]	F03.01, F02.03, G01.01, A08, A05.01, B	Hunting, Leisure fishing, Nautical sports, Fertilisation, Animal breeding, Sylviculture, forestry
004050	Lough Arrow SPA	Little Grebe ( <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> ) [A004], Tufted Duck ( <i>Aythya fuligula</i> ) [A061], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	A08, F02.03	Fertilisation, Leisure fishing
004129	Ballysadare Bay SPA	Dunlin ( <i>Calidris alpina</i> ) [A149], Bar-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa lapponica</i> ) [A157], Light-bellied Brent Goose ( <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> ) [A046], Redshank ( <i>Tringa totanus</i> ) [A162], Grey Plover ( <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> ) [A141], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	E01.01, F03.01, F01, A08	Continuous urbanisation, Hunting, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fertilisation
000138	Durnesh Lough SAC	Coastal lagoons [1150], <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinion caeruleae</i> ) [6410]	A04.02.01, F03.01, G01, A08, E01.03, E03.01	Non intensive cattle grazing, Hunting, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Fertilisation, Dispersed habitation, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste
000627	Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> - white dunes [2120], <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110], Narrow-mouthed whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo angustior</i> ) [1014], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095], Petrifying springs with tufa	J02.12.01, G02.01, A02.01, J01.01, D03.01, G02.09, E01.03, G05.01, J02.11.01, G02.08, E03.03, G01.03.02,	Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Golf course, Agricultural intensification, Burning down, Port areas, Wildlife watching, Dispersed habitation, Trampling, overuse, Dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Camping and caravans, Disposal of inert materials, Off-road motorized driving, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles,

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Harbour seal ( <i>Phoca vitulina</i> ) [1365], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Estuaries [1130]	G01.02, I01, F01.01, D03	Invasive non-native species, Intensive fish farming, intensification, Shipping lanes, ports, marine constructions
000979	Corratirrim SAC	Limestone pavements [8240]	X, A04.01.04, I01, G01, A10, H02.06, G05.07, I02, A05.02, A07, B01, A10.02, B02.01.02, A10.01	No threats or pressures, Intensive goat grazing, Invasive non-native species, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Restructuring agricultural land holding, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, Problematic native species, Stock feeding, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, Forest planting on open ground, Removal of stone walls and embankments, Forest replanting (non native trees), Removal of hedges and copses or scrub
001626	Annaghmore Lough (Roscommon) SAC	Geyer`s whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo geyeri</i> ) [1013], Alkaline fens [7230]	A04.02.01, A02, A04.03, J01	Non intensive cattle grazing, Modification of cultivation practices, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Fire and fire suppression
001656	Bricklieve Mountains & Keishcorran SAC	Marsh Fritillary ( <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> ) [1065], Lowland hay meadows ( <i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i> ) [6510], Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels ( <i>Thlaspietea rotundifolii</i> ) [8120], White-clawed crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> ) [1092], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Turloughs [3180]	A04.02.01, A10, A04.01.02, D01.01, A10.01, J01.01, C01.03.02, F06, A02.01	Non intensive cattle grazing, Restructuring agricultural land holding, Intensive sheep grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Burning down, Mechanical removal of peat, Hunting, fishing or collecting activities not referred to above, Agricultural intensification

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
001919	Glenade Lough SAC	Slender naiad ( <i>Najas flexilis</i> ) [1833], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], White-clawed crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> ) [1092]	I01, B02.02, B04	Invasive non-native species, Forestry clearance, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals (forestry)
001976	Lough Gill SAC	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095], White-clawed crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> ) [1092], Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> ) [1096], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates ( <i>Festuco-Brometalia</i> ) * important orchid sites [6210], Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ( <i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0]	B06, J02.10, I01, D01.01, B, J02.05.02, E01.03, E01.01, A10.01, X, E03.03, G01.01.01	Grazing in forests or woodland, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Invasive non-native species, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Sylviculture, forestry, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Dispersed habitation, Continuous urbanisation, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, No threats or pressures, Disposal of inert materials, Motorized nautical sports
002202	Mount Jessop Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Bog woodland [91D0]	I02, J02.15, J01.01, B02.02, I01	Problematic native species, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Burning down, Forestry clearance, Invasive non-native species
002241	Lough Derg North-East Shore SAC	Limestone pavements [8240], Alkaline fens [7230], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ( <i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0], <i>Taxus baccata</i> woods of the British Isles [91J0], Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i> [7210], <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]	K02.03, G01, M01.03, J02.01.03, A04.02.05, M01.02, I01, J02.10, I02, H01.08, A08, B02.01.01, J02, D03.01.02, H01, G02.09, M01.01, A10.01, K02.01, A04.01, D01.01, C01	Eutrophication (natural), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Flooding and rising precipitations, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Non intensive mixed animal grazing, Droughts and less precipitations, Invasive non-native species, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Problematic native species, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Fertilisation, Forest replanting (native trees), Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Piers or tourist harbours or recreational piers, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Wildlife watching, Temperature changes (e.g. rise

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
				of temperature & extremes), Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Species composition change (succession), Intensive grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Mining and quarrying
004097	River Suck Callows SPA	Greenland White-fronted Goose ( <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> ) [A395], Wigeon ( <i>Anas penelope</i> ) [A050], Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) [A142], Whooper Swan ( <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> ) [A038]	G01.01, F03.01, F02.03, A03, E01.03, A08, A04, B	Nautical sports, Hunting, Leisure fishing, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Dispersed habitation, Fertilisation, Grazing, Sylviculture, forestry
004101	Ballykenny-Fisherstown Bog SPA	Greenland White-fronted Goose ( <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> ) [A395]	G01.01, A04, F02.03, F03.01, B	Nautical sports, Grazing, Leisure fishing, Hunting, Sylviculture, forestry
004145	Durnesh Lough SPA	Greenland White-fronted Goose ( <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> ) [A395], Whooper Swan ( <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> ) [A038]	G01.02, A08, E03, A04, K02.03	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Fertilisation, Discharges, Grazing, Eutrophication (natural)
004151	Donegal Bay SPA	Sanderling ( <i>Calidris alba</i> ) [A144], Common Scoter ( <i>Melanitta nigra</i> ) [A065], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Light-bellied Brent Goose ( <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> ) [A046], Great Northern Diver ( <i>Gavia immer</i> ) [A003]	F01, D01.02, G01.02, G01.01, E01.01, A04, A08	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Roads, motorways, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Nautical sports, Continuous urbanisation, Grazing, Fertilisation
UK0030047	Lough Melvin SAC	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinia caerulea</i> ) [6410], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoetes-Nanojuncetea [3130]	A08, B02, A04, I01, H01.05, A10.01	Fertilisation, Forest and Plantation management & use, Grazing, Invasive non-native species, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub
UK0016603	Cuilcagh Mountain SAC	Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains ( <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> ) [3110], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Slender green feather-moss ( <i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i> ) [6216], Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental	A01, G05.07, H05.01, A04.02.03, D01.01, A04.01.02, K01.01, B, C01.03, J01, A04.01.03, G05.01, G01.02, G01.03.02, H01.05, F03.02.02, D01.02,	Cultivation, Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, Garbage and solid waste, Non intensive horse grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Intensive sheep grazing, Erosion, Sylviculture, forestry, Peat extraction, Fire and fire suppression, Intensive horse grazing, Trampling, overuse, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Off-road motorized driving, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Taking from nest (e.g.

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		Europe [6230], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], European dry heaths [4030], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	I02, G05.09, B02.01, B01.02, A07	falcons), Roads, motorways, Problematic native species, Fences, fencing, Forest replanting, Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals
UK0030300	West Fermanagh Scarplands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Limestone pavements [8240], 9180 Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines [9180]	B02, K04, A04, G05, B03, B06, F03, G01, H01, H02, H04, I01, J01, J02, K02	Forestry plantation management and use, interspecific floral relations, grazing, forest exploitation, outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), pollution to groundwater (point sources and diffuse sources), air pollution, air-borne pollutants, invasive non-native species, fire and fire suppression, human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, biocenotic evolution, succession, interspecific floral relations
UK0016607	Pettigoe Plateau SAC	Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	B02, B06, F03, G01, G02, H01, H04, I01, J02	Grazing, roads, paths, outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, interpretative centres, air pollution, air-borne pollutants, problematic native species, fire and fire suppression, succession
UK9020051	Pettigoe Plateau SPA	Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]	F03.01, F02.03, I01, A04, G01.01, G01.02, B, A08	Hunting, invasive non-native species, grazing, sports, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles, forestry, fertilisation
UK0030045	Largaliny SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	B02, B06, F03, H04, I01	Forest and plantation management & use, grazing in forests/ woodland, hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), air pollution, air-borne pollutants, invasive non-native species
UK0016619	Monawilkin SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210]	A04, B02, G01, H04, I01, K02	Grazing, outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, air pollution, air-borne pollutants, invasive non-native species, biocenotic evolution, succession



Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
UK0030 116	Cladagh (Swanlinbar) River SAC	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Freshwater pearl mussel Margaritifera margaritifera [1029]	B02, C01, C03, F02, H01, I01, J02, M01	Forest and plantation management & use, mining and quarrying, renewable abiotic energy use, fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), invasive non-native species, human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, changes in abiotic conditions
UK0030 212	Moninea Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110]	A04, H04, J01, J02, K02	Grazing, air pollution, air-borne pollutants, fire and fire suppression, human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, biocenotic evolution, succession
UK0016 614	Upper Lough Erne SAC	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], 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], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355]	B02, B06, F03, G01, G02, H01, H04, I01, J02	Forest and plantation management & use, grazing in forests/ woodland, hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, sport and leisure structures, pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), air pollution, air-borne pollutants, invasive non-native species, human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
UK9020 071	Upper Lough Erne SPA	Whooper swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]	A02, A04, D02, G01, H01, M01, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, grazing, utility and service lines, outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), changes in abiotic conditions, changes in biotic conditions

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

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Geyer's Whorl Snail ( <i>Vertigo geyeri</i> )	[1013]	Loss of riverside and canalside habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail ( <i>Vertigo angustior</i> )	[1014]	Loss of riverside and canalside habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Freshwater Pearl Mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> )	[1029]	In stream works, hydrological and morphological alterations, sediment and enrichment, pollution due urbanisation etc. Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
Marsh Fritillary ( <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> )	[1065]	Declines in habitat quality lead to species decline.	Habitat management; land use change and drainage.
White-clawed Crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> )	[1092]	Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Invasive species, disease, surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
Sea Lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> )	[1095]	Barriers to upstream migration (e.g. weirs), which limit access to spawning beds and juvenile habitat are main threats to this species.	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity.
Brook Lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> )	[1096]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
River Lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> )	[1099]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
Salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )	[1106]	Marine survival rates are of concern for the populations.	Disease, parasites and barriers to movement.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	[1110]	None identified by the NPWS in the 2019 publication of the Status of EU protected habitats and species in Ireland.	None identified.
Estuaries	[1130]	Pollution, fishing /aquaculture and habitat quality.	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	[1140]	Aquaculture, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works and invasive species, particularly cord-grass; hard coastal defence structures; sea-level rise.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.
Coastal lagoons	[1150]	Eutrophication. Modification of hydrological flow and drainage.	Erosion and silting up. Accumulation of seaweed. Land use management resulting in hydrological interactions.
Large shallow inlets and bays	[1160]	Pressures on the habitat include nutrient enrichment, dredging and invasive alien species. Overall Status is assessed as Bad and deteriorating, a genuine decline since the 2013 assessment of Inadequate and improving and is based on more detailed information.	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity, surface water runoff, discharge etc. On site management activities.
Reefs	[1170]	Professional fishing; taking for fauna; taking for flora; water pollution; climate change; and change in species composition.	Sensitive to disturbance and pollution.
Perennial vegetation of stony banks	[1220]	Disruption of the sediment supply, owing to the interruption of the coastal processes, caused by developments such as car parks and coastal defence structures including rock armour and sea walls. The removal of gravel.	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity and gravel removal.
Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	[1230]	A number of significant pressures were identified, including trampling by walkers, invasive non-native species, gravel extraction, and sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change. There have been no significant losses in sea cliff habitat since the Directive came into force.	Land use activities such as tourism and/or agricultural practices. Direct alteration to the habitat or effects such as burning or drainage.
Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	[1310]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Marine water dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Infilling, reclamation, invasive species.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i> )	[1330]	Overgrazing; erosion; invasive species, particularly common cordgrass ( <i>Spartina anglica</i> ); infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Overgrazing, erosion and accretion.
Bottlenose Dolphin ( <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> )	[1349]	Pressures acting on the species in Irish waters mainly involve commercial vessel-based activities such as impacts arising from geophysical seismic exploration or from local/regional prey removal from fisheries.	Large vessel movement effecting distributions. Prey availability, reduction in available habitat and water quality.
Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> )	[1355]	Decrease in water quality: Use of pesticides; fertilization; vegetation removal; professional fishing (including lobster pots and fyke nets); hunting; poisoning; sand and gravel extraction; mechanical removal of peat; urbanised areas; human habitation; continuous urbanization; drainage; management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes; and canalization or modifying structures of inland water course.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Sensitivity to pollution.
Harbour Seal ( <i>Phoca vitulina</i> )	[1365]	Distance to human activities, accidental entanglement in fishing gear competition for prey resources, illegal killing, pollution and habitat degradation.	Prey availability, reduction in available habitat and water quality.
Petalwort ( <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i> )	[1395]	There are no significant impacts affecting this species.	None identified.
Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> )	[1410]	Over-grazing by cattle or sheep; infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development and reclamation.
Slender Naiad ( <i>Najas flexilis</i> )	[1833]	Enrichment from human induced pressures leading to eutrofication.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
Embryonic shifting dunes	[2110]	Natural erosion processes exacerbated by recreation and sand extraction. Coastal protection interfering with natural processes.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Shifting dunes along the shoreline with white dunes ( <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> )	[2120]	Recreation and coastal defences, which may interfere with local sediment dynamics.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	[2130]	Recreation; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing: non-native plant species, particularly sea buckthorn ( <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> ).	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Dunes with willow scrub ( <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> and <i>Salicion arenariae</i> )	[2170]	Agricultural improvement; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing; forestry; recreational activity.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Humid dune slacks	[2190]	Agricultural improvement; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing; forestry; recreational activity.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management. Sensitive to hydrological change.
Machairs (* in Ireland)	[21A0]	Unsuitable grazing pressures are the key concern.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management. Mismanaged recreational activity.
Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains ( <i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i> )	[3110]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation ( <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or <i>Isoeto-Nanojuncetea</i> )	[3130]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of muskgrass ( <i>Chara</i> spp.)	[3140]	Hydrological changes, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Natural eutrophic lakes with <i>Magnopotamion</i> or <i>Hydrocharition</i> - type vegetation	[3150]	Hydrological changes, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	[3160]	Nutrient alterations; management shifts in the associated peatland habitat, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Turloughs	[3180]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Water courses of plain to montane levels with vegetation (Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion)	[3260]	Hydrological and morphological changes, water quality, enrichment, and surface water discharges from industrial site and/or agriculture.	Surface water dependent Highly sensitive to hydrological change and direct physical interactions.
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	[4010]	Reclamation, afforestation and burning; overstocking; invasion by non-heath species; exposure of peat to severe erosion.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
European dry heaths	[4030]	Afforestation, overburning, over-grazing, under-grazing and bracken invasion.	Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
Alpine and Boreal heaths	[4060]	Abandonment; overgrazing; burning; outdoor recreation; quarries; communication networks; and wind farm developments.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	[5130]	Overgrazing, erosion, scrub clearance, inappropriate land use management, and succession processes.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites	[6210]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	[6230]	Bracken encroachment, succession, inappropriate grazing, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-	[6410]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)			
Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	[6430]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	[6510]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Active raised bogs	[7110]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	[7120]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Blanket bogs (* if active bog)	[7130]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Transition mires and quaking bogs	[7140]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	[7150]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface and ground water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Calcareous fens with species of mariscus sedge and bog cotton (Cladium mariscus and Caricion davallianae)	[7210]	Hydrological changes, pollution to surface waters, urbanisation, roads development, groundwater interactions, grazing and cultivation practices and the inappropriate use of pesticides.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	[7220]	Ground water interactions, on site management activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Alkaline fens	[7230]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)	[8110]	Overgrazing, undergrazing and succession were recorded as medium-importance pressures in this reporting period, and Structure and functions were again assessed as Inadequate, the trend is considered to be stable rather than improving. This change is due to improved knowledge and the habitat is considered to have been stable since before the last assessment.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (Thlaspietea rotundifolii)	[8120]	Overgrazing and pressures associated with the non-native invasive species New Zealand willowherb (Epilobium brunnescens).	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8210]	Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8220]	Pressures associated with the non-native invasive species New Zealand willowherb (Epilobium brunnescens).	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Limestone pavements	[8240]	Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	[8330]	There are no pressures acting on this resource.	There are no pressures acting on this resource.
Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	[91A0]	The introduction of alien species; sub-optimal grazing patterns; general forestry management; increases in urbanisation and human habitation adjacent to oak woodlands; and the construction of communication networks through the woodland.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.
Bog woodland	[91D0]	The introduction of alien species; sub-optimal grazing patterns; general forestry management; increases in urbanisation and human habitation adjacent to oak woodlands; and the construction of communication networks through the woodland.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.



Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	[91J0]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.
Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines	[9180]	Forest and plantation management; interspecific floral relations; hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals; grazing by livestock; discharges (household/ industrial); invasive alien species; other changes to ecosystems; forest exploitation; grazing in forests and woodland; roads, railroads and paths.	
Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	[91E0]	Inappropriate grazing levels; invasive species; and clearance for agriculture or felling for timber.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Changes in management.

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

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A003	Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>	C03, F02, G01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A004	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis ruficollis</i>	G01, H01, H03, J02	Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A005	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus cristatus</i>	F01, F02, G01, H01, H03	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution
A017	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo carbo</i>	C03, F02, F03, G01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A018	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis aristotelis</i>	C03, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine water pollution
A038	Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	A02, A11, C03, D02, G01, H07	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Other forms of pollution
A045	Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	A11, C03, D02	Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines
A046	Light-Bellied Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>	A02, A11, C03, D02, F01, G01, G05, H03, H07, I01, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Other Human intrusions and disturbances, Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Invasive non-native species, Other Ecosystem Modifications

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A048	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	F01, F02, G01, H03, M01	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Changes in abiotic conditions
A050	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, I01, J02, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Invasive non-native species, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A052	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca crecca</i>	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A053	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos</i>	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A054	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A056	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution
A061	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	C03, F03, G01, H01, H07, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Other forms of pollution, Changes in biotic conditions

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A062	Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>	C03, F01, F02, F03, G01, H01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution
A065	Common Scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra nigra</i>	A04, C03, F02, G01, H01, H03, I01, K03, M02	Grazing, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Invasive non-native species, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
A067	Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Changes in biotic conditions
A103	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus peregrinus</i>	C03, F03, J03, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in biotic conditions
A122	Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>	A03.01, A04.01, K03.04, M01.03	Intensive Mowing or intensification, Intensive grazing, Predation, Flooding and rising precipitations
A125	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra atra</i>	C03, G01, H01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish)
A130	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A137	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A140	European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	A02, A04, B01, C01, C03, F01, G01, H03, J01, K03, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Forest planting on open ground, Mining and quarrying, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Fire and Fire suppression, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
A141	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A142	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	A02, C03, F01, G01, H03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A143	Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A144	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	C03, F01, G01, H03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Changes in abiotic conditions
A149	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A156	Black-Tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa islandica</i>	A02, C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A157	Bar-Tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A160	Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata arquata</i>	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A162	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A164	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	C03, F01, G01, H03, J02, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Changes in abiotic conditions
A179	Black-Headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	A04, C03, F02, H03, J03, M01	Grazing, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A184	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	C03, F02, H03, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A193	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	C03, D01, D03, G01, I01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Shipping lanes, ports, marine constructions, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species
A194	Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	C03, D01, G01, I01, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species, Changes in abiotic conditions
A346	Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	A02, A04, E06, G01	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Other urbanisation, industrial and similar activities, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities

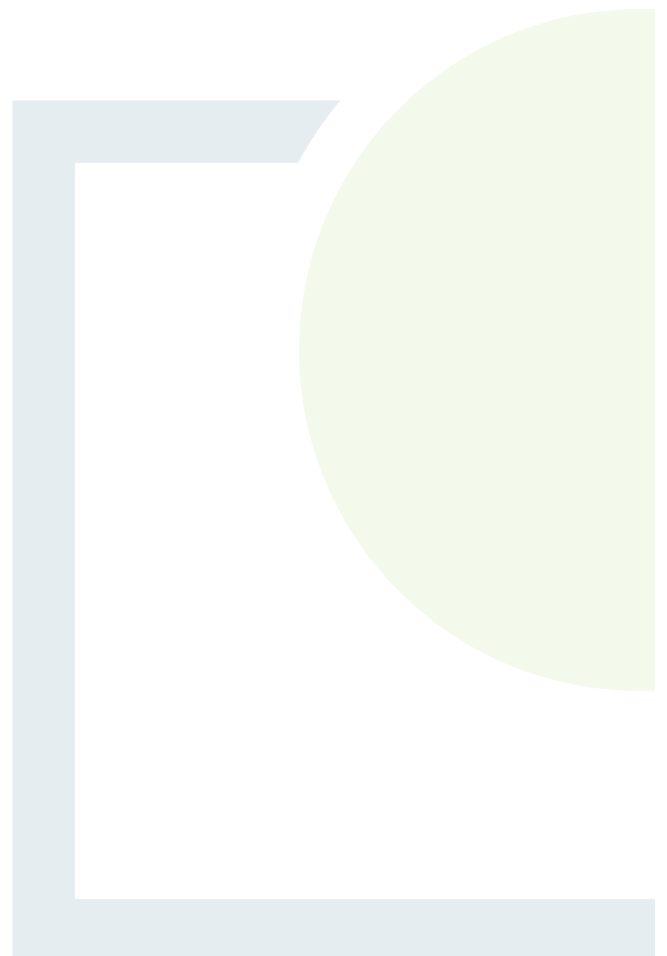
Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A395	Greenland White-Fronted Goose	Anser albifrons flavirostris	A02, A04, A06, A11, B01, C03, D02, D05, F01, F03, G01, H03, H07, K03, M01, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Annual and perennial non-timber crops, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Forest planting on open ground, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Improved access to site, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in abiotic conditions, Changes in biotic conditions



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## APPENDIX 2

Relationship with other plans  
and programmes





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

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>European Level</b>			
<b>SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out an environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission.</li> <li>• Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects.</li> <li>• Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme.</li> <li>• Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive.</li> <li>• Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.</li> <li>Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.</li> <li>Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of community interest.</li> <li>Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present.</li> <li>Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats.</li> <li>• Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1.</li> <li>• Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas).</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU Bathing Water Directive (revised) 2006 [2006/7/EC]</b>	The purpose of this Directive is to preserve, protect and improve the quality of the environment and to protect human health by complementing Directive 2000/60/EC	<p>This Directive lays down provisions for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the monitoring and classification of bathing water quality;</li> <li>• the management of bathing water quality; and</li> <li>• the provision of information to the public on bathing water quality</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)</b>	Reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and - preventing further such pollution.	Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme is designed to prevent pollution of surface waters and groundwater from agricultural sources and to protect and improve water quality. Ireland's third NAP came into operation in 2014. Each Member State's NAP must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a limit on the amount of livestock manure applied to the land each year</li> <li>• set periods when land spreading is prohibited due to risk</li> <li>• set capacity levels for the storage of livestock manure</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions</b>	The purpose of this Directive is lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection.	The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• energy;</li> <li>• metal production and processing;</li> <li>• minerals;</li> <li>• chemicals;</li> <li>• waste management;</li> <li>• and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs.</li> </ul> <p>All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.</p>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Directive aims at reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and</li> <li>• the environment by introducing different targets, tools and measures such as Integrated Pest</li> <li>• Management (IPM) or National Action Plans (NAPs).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Framework Directive applies to pesticides which are plant protection products.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>EU Renewable Energy Directive (EU/2018/2001)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This Directive sets an overall European renewable energy target of 32% by 2030 and includes rules to ensure the uptake of renewables in the transport sector and in heating and cooling.</li> <li>• The directive sets common principles and rules for renewable energy support schemes, sustainability criteria for biomass and the right to produce and consume renewable energy and to establish renewable energy communities.</li> <li>• It also establishes rules to remove barriers, stimulate investments and drive cost reductions in renewable energy technologies and empowers citizens and businesses to participate in the clean energy transformation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Directive promotes cooperation amongst EU countries (and with countries outside the EU) to help them meet their renewable energy targets.</li> <li>• The Directive specifies national renewable energy targets for each country, taking into account its starting point and overall potential for renewables.</li> <li>• EU countries set out how they plan to meet these targets and the general course of their renewable energy policy in national renewable energy action plans.</li> <li>• Progress towards national targets is measured every two years when EU countries publish national renewable energy progress reports.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Directive 2018/2001 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (recast)</b></p>	<p>This Directive establishes a common framework for the promotion of energy from renewable sources. It sets a binding European Union target for the overall share of energy from renewable sources in the Union's gross final consumption of energy in 2030: Member States shall collectively ensure that the share of energy from renewable sources in the Union's gross final consumption of energy in 2030 is at least 32%. Support schemes for energy from renewable sources shall be adopted by Member States.</p> <p>Provisions on joint projects between Member States and between Member States and third countries are laid down too.</p>	<p>The Directive lays down rules on financial support for electricity from renewable sources, on self-consumption of such electricity, on the use of energy from renewable sources in the heating and cooling sector and in the transport sector, on regional cooperation between Member States, and between Member States and third countries, on guarantees of origin, on administrative procedures and on information and training. It also establishes sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria for biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels. The latter include fuels produced from waste, from agricultural biomass and from forest biomass.</p> <p>The Commission shall monitor the origin of biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels consumed in the European Union and the impact of their production, including the impact as a result of displacement, on land use in the Union and in the main third countries of supply.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (2014/94/EU)</b></p>	<p>This Directive establishes a common framework of measures for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure in the Union in order to minimise dependence on oil and to mitigate the environmental impact of transport.</p>	<p>This Directive sets out minimum requirements for the building-up of alternative fuels infrastructure, including recharging points for electric vehicles and refuelling points for natural gas (LNG and CNG) and hydrogen, to be implemented by means of Member States' national policy frameworks, as well as common technical specifications for such recharging and refuelling points, and user information requirements.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p><b>Energy Efficiency Directive (EU) 2023/1791</b></p>	<p>The new directive introduces a series of measures to help accelerate energy efficiency, including embracing the “energy efficiency first” principle in the energy and non-energy policies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing an EU legally binding target to reduce the EU’s final energy consumption by 11.7% by 2030 (relative to the 2020 reference scenario). This includes for each Member State the requirement to set its indicative national contribution based on objective criteria reflecting national circumstances. If the national contributions do not add up to the EU target, an ambition gap mechanism is applied by the Commission.</li> <li>• Increasing annual energy savings from 0.8% (at present) to 1.3% (2024-2025), then 1.5% (2026-2027) and 1.9% from 2028 onwards. That’s an average of 1.49% of new annual savings for the period from 2024-2030.</li> <li>• Obliging Member States to prioritise vulnerable customers and social housing within the scope of their energy savings measures.</li> <li>• Introducing an annual energy consumption reduction target of 1.9% for the public sector as a whole.</li> <li>• Extending the annual 3% buildings renovation obligation to all the levels of public administration.</li> <li>• Introducing a different approach, based on energy consumption, for business to have an energy management system or to carry out an energy audit.</li> <li>• Bringing in a new obligation to monitor the energy performance of data centres, with an EU-level database collecting and publishing data.</li> <li>• Promoting local heating &amp; cooling plans in larger municipalities.</li> <li>• Progressively increasing the efficient energy consumption in heat or cold supply, also in district heating.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)</b>	<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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:</li> <li>• Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals;</li> <li>• The Union's Civil Protection Mechanism;</li> <li>• The Security Union Agenda including CBRN-E and Protection of critical infrastructure;</li> <li>• Policy on environmental liability and on the protection of the environment through criminal law;</li> <li>• Safety of offshore oil and gas operations.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>



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<b>EU Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (2014/89/EU)</b>	<p>This Directive establishes a framework for maritime spatial planning aimed at promoting the sustainable growth of maritime economies, the sustainable development of marine areas and the sustainable use of marine resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each Member State shall establish and implement maritime spatial planning.</li> <li>• In doing so, Member States shall take into account land-sea interactions.</li> <li>• The resulting plan or plans shall be developed and produced in accordance with the institutional and governance levels determined by Member States. This Directive shall not interfere with Member States' competence to design and determine the format and content of that plan or those plans.</li> <li>• Maritime spatial planning shall aim to contribute to the objectives listed in Article 5 and fulfil the requirements laid down in Articles 6 and 8.</li> <li>• When establishing maritime spatial planning, Member States shall have due regard to the particularities of the marine regions, relevant existing and future activities and uses and their impacts on the environment, as well as to natural resources, and shall also take into account land-sea interactions.</li> <li>• Member States may include or build on existing national policies, regulations or mechanisms that have been or are being established before the entry into force of this Directive, provided they are in conformity with the requirements of this Directive.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>UK Marine Policy Statement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieving a sustainable marine economy</li> <li>• Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society</li> <li>• Living within environmental limits</li> <li>• Promoting good governance</li> <li>• Using sound science responsibly</li> </ul>	<p>The MPS will facilitate and support the formulation of Marine Plans, ensuring that marine resources are used in a sustainable way in line with the high level marine objectives and thereby:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote sustainable economic development;</li> <li>• Enable the UK's move towards a low-carbon economy, in order to mitigate the causes of climate change and ocean acidification and adapt to their effects;</li> <li>• Ensure a sustainable marine environment which promotes healthy, functioning marine ecosystems and protects marine habitats, species and heritage assets; and</li> <li>• Contribute to the societal benefits of the marine area, including the sustainable use of marine resources to address local social and economic issues</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aims to provide the legal mechanism to help ensure clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas by putting in place a new system for improved management and protection of the marine and coastal environment.</li> </ul>	<p>The Marine Act comprises eight key elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marine Management Organisation (MMO)</li> <li>• Strategic Marine Planning System</li> <li>• Streamlined Marine Licensing System</li> <li>• Marine Nature Conservation</li> <li>• Fisheries Management and Marine Enforcement</li> <li>• Migratory and Freshwater Fisheries</li> <li>• Coastal Access</li> <li>• Coastal and Estuarine Management</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>Marine (Northern Ireland) Act 2013</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aims to provide for marine plans in relation to the Northern Ireland inshore region; to provide for marine conservation zones in that region; to make further provision in relation to marine licensing for certain electricity works in that region; and for connected purposes.</li> </ul> <p>This Act may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.</p>	<p>The Marine Act sets out a new framework for Northern Ireland’s seas based on a system of marine planning that will balance conservation, energy and resource needs; improved management for marine nature conservation and the streamlining of marine licensing for some electricity projects. The main provisions of the Act are outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marine Planning</li> <li>Nature Conservation</li> <li>Marine Licensing</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 - Bringing nature back into our lives (European Commission, 2020)</b>	<p>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.</p>	<p>The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea, building upon existing Natura 2000 areas, with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value.</li> <li>• An EU Nature Restoration Plan - a series of concrete commitments and actions to restore degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, and manage them sustainably, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss.</li> <li>• A set of measures to enable the necessary transformative change: setting in motion a new, strengthened governance framework to ensure better implementation and track progress, improving knowledge, financing and investments and better respecting nature in public and business decision making.</li> <li>• Measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge, demonstrating that the EU is ready to lead by example towards the successful adoption of an ambitious global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity.</li> </ul>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>EU Green Infrastructure Strategy</b>	<p>Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas.</li> <li>• Supporting EU-level GI projects.</li> <li>• Improving access to finance for GI projects.</li> <li>• Improving information and promoting innovation.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>UNESCO (1972) The Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>links concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties; and</li> <li>recognizes the way in which people interact with nature, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sets out the duties of States Parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them;</li> <li>each country pledges to conserve not only the World Heritage sites situated on its territory, but also to protect its national heritage;</li> <li>encourages to integrate the protection of the cultural and natural heritage into regional planning programmes, set up staff and services at their sites, undertake scientific and technical conservation research and adopt measures which give this heritage a function in the day-to-day life of the community.</li> </ul>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>UN (1992) The Convention on Biological Diversity</b>	<p>An overall objective is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.</p>	<p>The Convention has three main goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity);</li> <li>the sustainable use of its components; and</li> <li>the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources.</li> </ul>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>UN (1992) Framework Convention on Climate Change</b>	<p>It is aimed at stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.</p>	<p>The Convention acknowledges the vulnerability of all countries to the effects of climate change and calls for special efforts to ease the consequences, especially in developing countries which lack the resources to do so on their own.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>UN Kyoto Protocol (2nd Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement)</b>	<p>The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II).</li> <li>• EU member states implement measures to improve on or compliment the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Binding legislation which aims to ensure the European Union meets its climate and energy targets for 2020.</li> <li>• Aims to achieve a 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels.</li> <li>• Aims to raise the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20%.</li> <li>• Achieve a 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency.</li> </ul>	<p>Four pieces of complimentary legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reform of the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) to include a cap on emission allowances in addition to existing system of national caps.</li> <li>• Member States have agreed national targets for non-EU ETS emissions from countries outside the EU.</li> <li>• Meet the national renewable energy targets of 16% for Ireland by 2020.</li> <li>• Preparing a legal framework for technologies in carbon capture and storage.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>EU 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 2030 Framework for climate and energy, including EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period between 2020 and 2030 that has been agreed by European countries.</li> <li>• Targets include a 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels, at least a 27% share of renewable energy consumption and at least 27% energy savings compared with the business-as-usual scenario.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030:</li> <li>• A reformed EU emissions trading scheme (ETS).</li> <li>• New indicators for the competitiveness and security of the energy system, such as price differences with major trading partners, diversification of supply, and interconnection capacity between EU countries.</li> <li>• First ideas for a new governance system based on national plans for competitive, secure, and sustainable energy. These plans will follow a common EU approach. They will ensure stronger investor certainty, greater transparency, enhanced policy coherence and improved coordination across the EU.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p><b>The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC) (EU Air Framework Directive)</b></p> <p><b>Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive).</li> <li>• Sets new air quality objectives for PM2.5 (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives.</li> <li>• Accounts for the possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values.</li> <li>• Allows the possibility for time extensions of three years (PM<sub>10</sub>) or up to five years (NO<sub>2</sub>, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission.</li> <li>• The Fourth Daughter Directive lists pollutants, target values and monitoring requirements for the following: arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sets objectives for ambient air quality designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole.</li> <li>• Aims to assess the ambient air quality in Member States on the basis of common methods and criteria.</li> <li>• Obtains information on ambient air quality in order to help combat air pollution and nuisance and to monitor long-term trends and improvements resulting from national and community measures.</li> <li>• Ensures that such information on ambient air quality is made available to the public.</li> <li>• Aims to maintain air quality where it is good and improving it in other cases.</li> <li>• Aims to promote increased cooperation between the Member States in reducing air pollution.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>



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<p><b>Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)</b></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and</li> <li>• Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks</li> <li>• Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess all water courses and coast lines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above.</li> <li>• Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain “good status” of water bodies.</li> <li>• Promote sustainable water usage.</li> <li>• The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive</li> <li>• Sampling Drinking Water Directive</li> <li>• Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive</li> <li>• Shellfish Directive</li> <li>• Freshwater Fish Directive</li> <li>• Groundwater Directive</li> <li>• Dangerous Substances Directive</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive.</li> <li>• Achieve "good status" for all waters.</li> <li>• Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts.</li> <li>• Involve the public and streamline legislation.</li> <li>• Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas.</li> <li>• Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas.</li> <li>• Recover costs for water services.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect, control and conserve groundwater.</li> <li>• Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>Drinking Water Directive (2020/2184)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The recast Drinking Water Directive is the EU's main law on drinking water. It concerns the access to, and the quality of water intended for human consumption to protect human health.</li> <li>The EU adopted the recast Drinking Water Directive in December 2020 and the Directive entered into force in January 2021. Member States have to transpose the Directive into national law and comply with its provisions by 12 January 2023. The recast Drinking Water Directive will further protect human health thanks to updated water quality standards, tackling pollutants of concern, such as endocrine disruptors and microplastics, and leading to even cleaner water from the tap for all.</li> </ul>	<p>Key features of the revised Directive are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reinforced water quality standards, in line or, in some cases, even more stringent than the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommendations</li> <li>tackling emerging pollutants, such as endocrine disruptors and PFAs, as well as microplastics</li> <li>a preventive approach favouring actions to reduce pollution at source by introducing the risk-based approach</li> <li>measures to ensure better access to water, particularly for vulnerable and marginalised groups</li> <li>measures to promote tap water, including in public spaces and restaurants, to reduce (plastic) bottle consumption</li> <li>harmonisation of the quality standards for materials and products in contact with water</li> <li>measures to reduce water leakages and to increase transparency of the sector</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors.</li> <li>The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urban waste water entering collecting systems shall before discharge, be subject to secondary treatment.</li> <li>Annex II requires the designation of areas sensitive to eutrophication which receive water discharges.</li> <li>Establishes minimum requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems in specified agglomerations to include special requirements for sensitive areas and certain industrial sectors.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p><b>Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC and Directive 2013/30/EU</b></p>	<p>Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive.</li> <li>• The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator.</li> <li>• The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met.</li> <li>• The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives that are not of significant relevance to the SEA for the Guidelines. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p><b>Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC), as amended</b></p>	<p>The aim of the European Union's ambitious Marine Strategy Framework Directive is to protect more effectively the marine environment across Europe.</p>	<p>The Directive provides various requirements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of an initial assessment of Irish marine waters;</li> <li>• Establishment of establish environmental targets and indicators;</li> <li>• Establishment of a monitoring programme;</li> <li>• Establishment of a programme of measures; and</li> <li>• Implementation of the programme of measures and monitoring programme.</li> </ul> <p>Implementation of the Directive is contributed towards by a set of detailed criteria and methodological standards that were revised in 2017 leading to a Commission Decision on “laying down criteria and methodological standards on good environmental status of marine waters and specifications and standardised methods for monitoring and assessment and repealing Decision 2010/477/EU”. Annex III “Indicative lists of characteristics, pressures and impacts” of the Directive was amended in 2017.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)</b></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)</b>	<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The reinforcement and promotion of policies for protecting and enhancing the heritage within the territories of the parties.</li> <li>• The affirmation of European solidarity with regard to the protection of the heritage and the fostering of practical co- operation between states and regions.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes ('Dublin Principles')</b>	<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (I) Document and understand industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes and their values;</li> <li>• (II) Ensure effective protection and conservation of the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes;</li> <li>• (III) Conserve and maintain the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; and</li> <li>• (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.</li> </ul>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro 2005)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Recognise individual and collective responsibility towards cultural heritage.</li> <li>• Emphasise that the conservation of cultural heritage and its sustainable use have human development and quality of life as their goal.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Greater synergy of competencies among all the public, institutional and private actors concerned.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>European Landscape Convention 2000</b>	<p>The developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, together with the practices followed in town and country planning, transport, networks, tourism and recreation, and at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases accelerated the transformation of landscapes. The Convention expresses a concern to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. It aims to respond to the public's wish to enjoy high quality landscapes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes.</li> <li>• Organise European co-operation on landscape issues.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>



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<p><b>The Seventh Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community (2013-2020)</b></p>	<p>It identifies three key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital</li> <li>• to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy</li> <li>• to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment- related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing</li> </ul>	<p>Four so called "enablers" will help Europe deliver on these objectives (goals):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better implementation of legislation.</li> <li>• Better information by improving the knowledge base.</li> <li>• More and wiser investment for environment and climate policy.</li> <li>• Full integration of environmental requirements and considerations into other policies.</li> </ul> <p>Two additional horizontal priority objectives complete the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To make the Union's cities more sustainable.</li> <li>• To help the Union address international environmental and climate challenges more effectively.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats)</b>	<p>The convention has three main aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats</li> <li>• to promote cooperation between states</li> <li>• to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species</li> </ul>	<p>The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek to ensure the conservation of nature in their countries, paying particular attention to planning and development policies and pollution control.</li> <li>• Look at implementing the Bern Convention in central Eastern Europe and the Caucasus.</li> <li>• Take account of the potential impact on natural heritage by other policies.</li> <li>• Promote education and information of the public, ensuring the need to conserve species is understood and acted upon.</li> <li>• Develop an extensive number of species action plans, codes of conducts, and guidelines, at their own initiative or in co- operation with other organisations.</li> <li>• Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Bali Road Map (2007)</b>	<p>The overall goals of the project are twofold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase national capacity to co-ordinate ministerial views, participate in the UNFCCC process, and negotiate positions within the timeframe of the Bali Action Plan; and</li> <li>• To assess investment and financial flows to address climate change for up to three key sectors and/or economic activities.</li> </ul>	<p>The Bali Action Plan is centred on four main building Blocks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mitigation</li> <li>• adaptation</li> <li>• technology</li> <li>• financing</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>Cancun Agreements (2010)</b>	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitigation</li> <li>• Transparency of actions</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Finance</li> <li>• Adaptation</li> <li>• Forests</li> <li>• Capacity building</li> </ul>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Doha Climate Gateway (2012)</b>	<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The following actions were committed to by governments at this conference:</li> <li>• Set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015 (to come into effect in 2020);</li> <li>• Complete the work under Bali Action Plan and to focus on new completing new targets;</li> <li>• Strengthen the aim to cut greenhouse gases and help vulnerable countries to adapt;</li> <li>• Amend Kyoto Protocol to include a new commitment period for cutting down the greenhouse gases emissions; and</li> <li>• Provide the financial and technology support and new institutions to allow clean energy investment and sustainable growth in developing countries.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>EU Common Agricultural Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve agricultural productivity, so that consumers have a stable supply of affordable food; and</li> <li>• To ensure that EU farmers can make a reasonable living.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring viable food production that will contribute to feeding the world’s population, which is expected to rise considerably in the future;</li> <li>• Climate change and sustainable management of natural resources;</li> <li>• Looking after the countryside across the EU and keeping the rural economy alive.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006)(as amended)</b>	Aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances.	The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration,</li> <li>• Evaluation,</li> <li>• Authorisation; and</li> <li>• Restriction of chemicals.</li> </ul> REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<b>Stockholm Convention</b>	The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Reduce or eliminate releases from unintentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex C to the Convention</li> <li>• Ensure that stockpiles and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs are managed safely and in an environmentally sound manner</li> <li>• To target additional POPs</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Ramsar Convention</b>	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” .	<p>Under the “three pillars” of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work towards the wise use of all their wetlands;</li> <li>• Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the “Ramsar List”) and ensure their effective management;</li> <li>• Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<b>OSPAR Convention</b>	<p>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.</p>	<p>OSPAR's work is organised under six strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity and Ecosystem Strategy</li> <li>• Eutrophication Strategy</li> <li>• Hazardous Substances Strategy</li> <li>• Offshore Industry Strategy</li> <li>• Radioactive Substances Strategy</li> <li>• Strategy for the Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme</li> </ul> <p>These six strategies fit together to underpin the ecosystem approach. For each strategy a programme of work is designed and implemented annually.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>European 2020 Strategy for Growth</b>	<p>Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe’s social market economy for the 21st century and puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation;</li> <li>• Sustainable growth: promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy;</li> <li>• Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion.</li> </ul>	<p>In order to reach these priorities, the Commission proposes five quantitative targets to fulfil by 2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed;</li> <li>2. 3% of the EU’s GDP should be invested in R&amp;D;</li> <li>3. the “20/20/20” climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right);</li> <li>4. the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree;</li> <li>5. 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty.</li> </ol>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>The European Green Deal (EGD) 2019</b>	The deal sets out how to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, boosting the economy, improving people’s quality of life, caring for nature and leaving no one behind.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It sets out a roadmap with actions to boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy, restore biodiversity and cut pollution.</li> <li>• It outlines investments required, financing tools available and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition.</li> <li>• In order to meet the goal to become climate neutral by 2050 as part of the European Green Deal, the European Union (EU) Commission proposed on 4th March 2020 to bring about the first European Climate Law and legally bind the target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package</b>	Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU.	The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030 and contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p><b>European Commission’s Communication on the energy transition of the fisheries and aquaculture sector as part of its Fisheries Policy Package</b></p>	<p>The main objectives of the measures defined in this communication are to promote the use of cleaner energy sources and reduce dependency on fossil fuels in the fisheries and aquaculture sector, in line with one of the ambitions of the European Green Deal to reach climate neutrality in the EU by 2050.</p>	<p>The communication defines various measures to support the sector in accelerating its energy transition, by improving fuel efficiency and switching to renewable, low-carbon power sources. A summary of the measures broadly proposed by the communication is presented below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of an Energy Transition Partnership for EU Fisheries and Aquaculture for the purpose of promoting collaboration and stakeholder engagement</li> <li>• Promotion of new innovative technologies and ways of operating</li> <li>• Improving energy efficiency</li> </ul> <p>Moving to renewable and zero or low-carbon energy sources (e.g., use of alternative fuels).</p>	<p>The communication noted the current dependency of the sector on fossil fuel based energy (e.g., marine diesel). It defines a vision for climate-neutral fisheries and aquaculture.</p>



Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>National Level</b>			
<b>Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, the National Planning Framework, and the National Development Plan (2021 - 2030)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Planning Framework is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of to the year 2040. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for people, and to protect and enhance the environment - from villages to cities, and everything around and in between.</li> <li>The National Development Plan sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the successful implementation of the new National Planning Framework. This will guide national, regional and local planning and investment decisions in Ireland over the next two decades, to cater for an expected population increase of over 1 million people.</li> </ul>	<p>The National Planning Framework published alongside the National Development Plan yields ten National Strategic Outcomes as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Compact Growth</li> <li>2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility</li> <li>3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities</li> <li>4. Sustainable Mobility</li> <li>5. A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills</li> <li>6. High-Quality International Connectivity</li> <li>7. Enhanced Amenity and Heritage</li> <li>8. Transition to a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Society</li> <li>9. Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources</li> <li>10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services</li> </ol>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040 [In Preparation]</b>	<p>The PLUTO will take account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies and will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term;</li> <li>Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and,</li> <li>Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040.</li> </ul>	<p>In preparation.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)</b>	<p>The core principle objectives of this Act are to amend the Planning Acts of 2000 – 2022 with specific regard given to supporting economic renewal and sustainable development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Additionally, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for a range of classes and large scale projects.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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).</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011, as amended)</b>	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Waste Management Act 1996, as amended</b>	To make provision in relation to the prevention, management and control of waste; to give effect to provisions of certain acts adopted by institutions of the European communities in respect of those matters; to amend the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992, and to repeal certain enactments and to provide for related matters.	The Waste Management Act contains a number of key legal obligations, including requirements for waste management planning, waste collection and movement, the authorisation of waste facilities, measures to reduce the production of waste and/or promote its recovery.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009 (S.I 296 of 2009)</b>	The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels	Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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).</li> <li>• Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of measures to achieve these objectives.</li> <li>• Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2016 (S.I. No. 366 of 2016)</b></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>S.I. No. 113/2022 - European Union (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2022</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the Regulations is to provide a basic set of measures to ensure the protection of waters, including drinking water sources, against pollution caused by nitrogen and phosphorus from agricultural sources, with the primary emphasis on the management of livestock manures and other fertilisers. The set of measures also provide some basic safeguards against possible harmful impacts on water quality arising from agricultural expansion. This basic set of measures has been strengthened over the last two reviews and this new programme provides a further strengthened set of measures to help reduce nitrogen and phosphorus losses from agriculture and contribute to improvements in water quality.</p>	<p>The Regulations include measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Periods when land application of fertilisers is prohibited</li> <li>• Limits on the land application of fertilisers</li> <li>• Storage requirements for livestock manure; and</li> <li>• Monitoring of the effectiveness of the measures in terms of agricultural practice and impact on water quality.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>National legislation transport the Industrial Emissions Directive:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992, amended by the Protection of the Environment Act 2003; and</li> <li>• Environmental Protection Agency (Integrated Pollution Control) (Licensing) Regulations 2013.</li> <li>• European Union (Environmental Impact Assessment)(Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992)(Amendment ) Regulations 2020</li> </ul>	<p>The purpose of this Directive is lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection. This legislation transposes the provision of the Directive</p>	<p>The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• energy;</li> <li>• metal production and processing;</li> <li>• minerals;</li> <li>• chemicals;</li> <li>• waste management;</li> <li>• and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs.</li> </ul> <p>All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 2020.</li> <li>• European Union (Industrial Emissions) Regulations 2013</li> <li>• Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing)Regulations 2013.</li> <li>• Environmental Protection Agency (Licensing Fees) Regulations 2013</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Bathing Water Quality Regulations 2008 (S.I. 79 of 2008)</b></p>	<p>These Regulations provide for transposition of the EU Bathing Water Directive 2006 (Directive 2006/7/EC of 15 February 2006) which aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve health protection for bathers</li> <li>• To establish a more pro-active approach to management of bathing waters, and</li> <li>• To promote increased public involvement and dissemination of information to the public.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Regulations establish a new classification system for bathing water quality based on four classifications “poor”, “sufficient”, “good” and “excellent” and generally require that a classification of at least “sufficient” be achieved by 2015 for all bathing waters.</li> <li>• Local authorities must take appropriate measures with a view to improving waters which are classified as “poor” and increasing the number of bathing waters classified as “good” or “excellent”.</li> <li>• A permanent advice against bathing must be issued in a case where a bathing water is classified as “poor” for five consecutive years.</li> <li>• Local authorities are required annually to identify bathing waters, establish a monitoring calendar, carry out the specified monitoring, report the results to the EPA, carry out appropriate management measures where necessary and provide information to the public.</li> <li>• There must be public participation in the identification of waters and the general implementation of the Regulations.</li> <li>• The EPA is required by the Regulations to classify bathing waters, generally on the basis of the monitoring results for the four preceding bathing seasons, and to publish an annual report in relation to bathing water quality.</li> <li>• Monitoring by local authorities is to commence not later than 2011 with a view to ensuring that a classification is assigned to bathing waters not later than 2015.</li> <li>• Private controllers of access lands may be required to contribute towards the costs incurred by a local authority or the EPA.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>



Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Bathing Water Quality (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (S.I 351 of 2011)</b>	This Regulation defines further the minimum number of bathing water samples required to carry out a bathing water quality assessment.	Further defines the minimum number of bathing water samples required to carry out a bathing water quality assessment.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021</b>	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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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,</li> <li>• The policy of the Government on climate change,</li> <li>• Climate justice,</li> <li>• Any existing obligation of the State under the law of the European Union or any international agreement referred to in section 2; and</li> <li>• The most recent national greenhouse gas emissions inventory and projection of future greenhouse gas emissions, prepared by the Agency.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Climate Action Plan 2023</b>	The Climate Action Plan 2023 provides a detailed plan for taking decisive action to achieve a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and setting Ireland on a path to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Programme for Government and set out in the Climate Act 2021.	The Plan lists the actions needed to deliver on our climate targets and sets indicative ranges of emissions reductions for each sector of the economy. It will be updated annually, to ensure alignment with Ireland's legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral ceilings	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Ireland's Second National Implementation Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals (2022 - 2024)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Implementation Plan 2022 - 2024 is in direct response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a whole-of-government approach to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</li> <li>• The first version of the Plan (2018 – 2020) provided a 'SDG Matrix' which identifies the responsible Government Departments for each of the 169 targets. It also included a 'SDG Policy Map' indicating the relevant national policies for each of the targets.</li> </ul>	<p>The Plan identifies five strategic objectives to guide implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To embed the SDG framework into the work of Government Departments to achieve greater Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development;</li> <li>• To integrate the SDGs into Local Authority work to better support the localisation of the SDGs;</li> <li>• Greater partnerships for the Goals;</li> <li>• To further incorporate the principle of Leave No One Behind into Ireland's Agenda 2030 implementation and reporting mechanisms; and</li> <li>• Strong reporting mechanisms</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Clean Air Strategy for Ireland (2023)</b>	<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through this document Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation.</li> <li>• The Strategy should also help tackle climate change.</li> <li>• The Strategy considers a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture.</li> <li>• In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people’s health is paramount, this is a strong theme of the Strategy.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>EirGrid ’s Grid25 Strategy and associated Grid25 Implementation Programme 2017 - 2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EirGrid ’s mission is to develop, maintain and operate a safe, secure, reliable, economical and efficient transmission system for Ireland.</li> <li>• “Our vision is of a grid developed to match future needs, so it can safely and reliably carry power all over the country to the major towns and cities and onwards to every home, farm and business where the electricity is consumed and so it can meet the needs of consumers and generators in a sustainable way.”</li> </ul>	<p>Grid25, EirGrid ’s roadmap to upgrade the electricity transmission grid by 2025, continues to be implemented so as to increase the capacity of the grid, to satisfy future demand, and to help Ireland meet its target of 40 per cent of electricity from renewable energy by 2020.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in activity tourism</li> <li>• to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors,</li> <li>• domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity;</li> <li>• Greenways that provide a substantially segregated offroad experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do;</li> <li>• Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and</li> <li>• Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>National Water Resources Plan (2021)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p>The key objectives of the plan are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account normal and extreme weather conditions</li> <li>• Assess the current and future water demand from homes, businesses, farms, and industry</li> <li>• Consider the impacts of climate change on Ireland’s water resources</li> <li>• Develop a drought plan advising measures to be taken before and during drought events</li> <li>• Develop a plan detailing how we deal with the material that is produced as a result of treating drinking water</li> <li>• Identify, develop and assess options to help meet potential shortfalls in water supplies</li> <li>• Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p><b>National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Development 2030</b></p>	<p>This multi-annual National Strategic Plan Sustainable Aquaculture Development (2022 – 2030) (NSPSA) overlaps with the EU’s new ‘Strategic guidelines for a more sustainable and competitive EU aquaculture for the period 2021 to 2030’, as well as the programming period (2021 to 2027) of the European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF). As such, this plan provides the strategic vision and framework for funding under EMFAF, as well as other EU and national initiatives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop ‘Designated Marine Area Plans’ (DMAPs) for aquaculture to ensure that the sector is championed in Ireland’s Marine Spatial Plan to facilitate investment in different forms of sustainable aquaculture.</li> <li>• More vigilant and responsive monitoring if aquatic diseases and food safety risks.</li> <li>• Develop a comprehensive human capacity plan for Irish aquaculture to promote the sector as an attractive career option, develop leadership, management and business capacity in the sector and provide the necessary skills required over the strategy time period.</li> <li>• Provide coordinated messaging on the sustainable, low carbon nature of Irish aquaculture production, supported by independent certification and open dialogue.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p><b>Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p>This Strategy therefore addresses issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements;</li> <li>• The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects;</li> <li>• Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms;</li> <li>• Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety;</li> <li>• Ensuring a fit for purpose sector supported by a highly skilled workforce achieving high quality and standards; and</li> <li>• Ensuring opportunities are provided to unemployed former construction workers to contribute to the recovery of the sector.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character Assessment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.”</li> </ul>	<p>The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement the European Landscape Convention by integrating landscape into the approach to sustainable development;</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>



Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2021 - 2027</b></p>	<p>This Plan sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous plan and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous plan was published.</p> <p>Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996 as amended, sets out the overarching objectives for the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan. In this context, the following objectives are included as priorities for the revised Plan period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To prevent and reduce the generation of hazardous waste by industry and society generally;</li> <li>• To maximise the collection of hazardous waste with a</li> <li>• view to reducing the environmental and health impacts of any unregulated waste;</li> <li>• To strive for increased self-sufficiency in the management of hazardous waste and to minimise hazardous waste export;</li> <li>• To minimise the environmental, health, social and economic impacts of hazardous waste generation and management.</li> </ul>	<p>The revised Plan makes 20 recommendations under the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy and Regulation</li> <li>• Prevention</li> <li>• Collection and Treatment</li> <li>• Implementation</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>National Ports Policy 2013</b>	<p>The core objective of National Ports Policy is to facilitate a competitive and effective market for maritime transport services.</p>	<p>National Ports Policy introduces clear categorisation of the ports sector into Ports of National Significance (Tier 1), Ports of National Significance (Tier 2) and Ports of Regional Significance.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>National Aviation Policy 2015</b>	<p>Specifically, the principal goals of this National Aviation Policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To enhance Ireland’s connectivity by ensuring safe, secure and competitive access responsive to the needs of business, tourism and consumers;</li> <li>• To foster the growth of aviation enterprise in Ireland to support job creation and position Ireland as a recognised global leader in aviation; and</li> <li>• To maximise the contribution of the aviation sector to Ireland’s economic growth and development.</li> </ul>	<p>The National Aviation Policy commits to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining safety as the number one priority in Irish aviation and ensuring that safety regulation is robust, effective and efficient;</li> <li>• Creating conditions to encourage the development of new routes and services, particularly to new and emerging markets;</li> <li>• Ensuring a high level of competition among airlines operating in the Irish market;</li> <li>• Optimising the operation of the Irish airport network to ensure maximum connectivity to the rest of the world;</li> <li>• Ensuring that the regulatory framework for aviation reflects best international practice and that economic regulation facilitates continued investment in aviation infrastructure at Irish airports to support traffic growth;</li> <li>• Supporting the aircraft leasing and aviation finance sectors to maintain Ireland’s leading global position in these spheres; and</li> <li>• Maintaining a safe and innovative general aviation sector to support Ireland’s broader aviation industry</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines</b>	The Department produces a range of guidelines designed to help planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála, developers and the general public and cover a wide range of issues amongst others, architectural heritage, child care facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density.	The Minister issues statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act which planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to in the performance of their planning functions.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025</b>	The vision is: “A Healthy Ireland, where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone’s responsibility.”	These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life</li> <li>• Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities</li> <li>• Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing</li> <li>• Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p><b>National Marine Planning Framework 2021</b></p>	<p>The NMPF is a key consideration for decision makers on all marine authorisations. The NMPF creates the overarching framework for decision making that is consistent, evidence based, and secures a sustainable future for the maritime area.</p>	<p>The National Marine Planning Framework is a succinct strategic document that will deal with, inter alia, the following environmental, social and economic issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key marine activities such as fisheries, tourism, transport, offshore renewable energy generation, oil and gas exploration and production, aquaculture, and how they interact;</li> <li>• Climate change and related impacts;</li> <li>• Communities and health;</li> <li>• Cultural heritage;</li> <li>• Marine environment and biodiversity;</li> <li>• Transboundary interactions with other jurisdictions.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025</b></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overseas tourism revenue of €5 billion per year net of inflation excluding carrier receipts;</li> <li>• 250,000 people employed in tourism; and</li> <li>• 10 million overseas visitors to Ireland per year.</li> </ul>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>Tourism Strategy for Northern Ireland: 10 Year Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This Strategy will be published in 2024.</li> <li>• The plan sets out a 10-year plan for the growth of the tourism sector in Northern Ireland., with an aim to increase the value of tourism to the economy by 50-75% compared to 2019.</li> <li>• Vision is to “Establish Northern Ireland as a year-round world class destination which is renowned for its authentic experiences, landscape, heritage and culture and which benefits communities, the economy and the environment, with sustainability at its core.” This Plan may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.</li> </ul>	<p>The strategic goals and core themes of the Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Innovative</li> <li>• Inclusive</li> <li>• Sustainable</li> <li>• Attractive</li> <li>• Collaborative</li> </ul> <p>The document identifies the key challenges and drivers for growth.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012</b>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Sets out the challenges facing us and how we might address them in making sure that quality of life and general wellbeing can be improved and sustained in the decades to come.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) 2021</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NIFTI is the Department of Transport's framework for prioritising future investment in the land transport network to support the delivery of the National Strategic Outcomes.</li> <li>The NIFTI will guide transport investment in the years ahead to enable the National Planning Framework, support the Climate Action Plan, and promote social, environmental and economic outcomes throughout Ireland.</li> </ul>	<p>The four investment priorities stated in NIFTI are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mobility of people and goods in urban areas.</li> <li>Protection and renewal.</li> <li>Enhanced regional and rural connectivity.</li> <li>Decarbonisation.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2018 and associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans (including transport)</b>	<p>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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adaptation under this Framework should seek to minimise costs and maximise the opportunities arising from climate change.</li> <li>Adaptation actions range from building adaptive capacity (e.g. increasing awareness, sharing information and targeted training) through to policy and finance based actions.</li> <li>Adaptation actions must be risk based, informed by existing vulnerabilities of our society and systems and an understanding of projected climate change.</li> <li>Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Governments White Paper 'Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future' (2015 – 2030)</b>	<p>The White Paper sets out a vision and a framework to guide Irish energy policy between now and 2030. A complete energy policy update informed by the vision to transform Ireland into a low carbon society and economy by 2050.</p>	<p>2030 will represent a significant milestone, meaning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced GHG emissions from the energy sector by between 80% and 95%</li> <li>Ensuring that secure supplies of competitive and affordable energy remain available to citizens and businesses.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p><b>Wildlife Act of 1976</b></p> <p><b>Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000</b></p>	<p>The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems</li> <li>• Give statutory protection to NHAs</li> <li>• Enhances wildlife species and their habitats</li> <li>• Includes more species for protection</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Actions for Biodiversity (2017-2021) Ireland's National Biodiversity Plan</b></p>	<p>Sets out strategic objectives, targets and actions to conserve and restore Ireland's biodiversity and to prevent and reduce the loss of biodiversity in Ireland and globally.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To mainstream biodiversity in the decision-making process across all sectors.</li> <li>• To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity.</li> <li>• To increase awareness and appreciation of biodiversity and ecosystems services.</li> <li>• To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider countryside.</li> <li>• To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the marine environment.</li> <li>• To expand and improve on the management of protected areas and legally protected species.</li> <li>• To substantially strengthen the effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>National Broadband Plan (2012)</b>	Sets out the strategy to deliver high speed broadband throughout Ireland.	The Plan sets out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High Speed Broadband.</li> <li>• Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered.</li> <li>• The strategy and interventions that will underpin the successful implementation of these targets.</li> <li>• A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.



Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>The Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sets out comprehensive mechanisms for the incorporation of flood risk identification, assessment and management into the planning process.</li> <li>• Ensures flood risk is a key consideration in preparing land use plans and in the assessment of planning applications.</li> <li>• Implementation of the Guidelines is through actions at national, regional, local authority and site-specific levels.</li> <li>• Planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are required to have regard to the Guidelines in carrying out their functions under the Planning Acts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding.</li> <li>• Avoid new developments increasing flood risk elsewhere, including that which may arise from surface water run-off.</li> <li>• Ensure effective management of residual risks for development permitted in floodplains.</li> <li>• Avoid unnecessary restriction of national, regional or local economic and social growth.</li> <li>• Improve the understanding of flood risk among relevant stakeholders.</li> <li>• Ensure that the requirements of EU and national law in relation to the natural environment and nature conservation</li> <li>• are complied with at all stages of flood risk management.</li> </ul> <p>The 2009 Flood Risk Management Guidelines were amended by Circular PL 2/2014 (Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government) that provides advice on the use of OPW flood mapping in assessing planning applications and clarifies some advice from the 2009 Guidelines.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of 2003)</b></p> <p><b>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014)</b></p> <p><b>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009)(as amended)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation.</li> <li>• Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implements River basin districts and characterisation of RBDs and River Basin Management Plans.</li> <li>• Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on RBDs.</li> <li>• Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies.</li> <li>• Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body.</li> <li>• Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances.</li> <li>• Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater.</li> <li>• Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies.</li> <li>• Outlines surface water quality standards.</li> <li>• Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p><b>Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 to 1990</b></p>	<p>The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division.</p>	<p>The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosecute for water pollution offences.</li> <li>• Attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters.</li> <li>• Issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution.</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• Seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects.</li> <li>• Prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p><b>Water Services Act 2007</b></p> <p><b>Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012</b></p> <p><b>Water Services Act (No. 2) 2013</b></p> <p><b>Water Services Act 2017</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides the water services infrastructure.</li> <li>• Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services.</li> <li>• Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and wastewater supply.</li> <li>• Irish Water was given the responsibility of the provision of water and wastewater services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland.</li> </ul>	<p>Key strategic objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring Irish Water delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector.</li> <li>• Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services.</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary wastewater treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive.</li> <li>• Promoting water conservation through Irish Water’s Capital Investment Plan, the Rural Water Programme and other measures.</li> <li>• Monitoring the on-going implementation of septic tanks inspection regime and the National Inspection Plan for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems.</li> <li>• Ensuring a fair funding model to deliver water services.</li> <li>• Overseeing the establishment of an economic regulation function under the CER.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>Irish Water’s (now known as Uisce Eireann) Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and associated Proposed Capital Investment Plan (2020 - 2024)</b>	This Water Services Strategic Plan sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040. It details current and future challenges which affect the provision of water services and identifies the priorities to be tackled in the short and medium term.	Six strategic objectives as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet Customer Expectations.</li> <li>• Ensure a Safe and Reliable Water Supply.</li> <li>• Provide Effective Management of Wastewater.</li> <li>• Protect and Enhance the Environment.</li> <li>• Support Social and Economic Growth.</li> <li>• Invest in the Future.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Areas 2017 - 2022</b>	Aims to meet nature conservation obligations while having regard to national and local economic, social and cultural needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the implications of management choices for water levels, quantity and quality are fully explored, understood and factored into policy making and land use planning.</li> <li>• Review the current raised bog NHA network in terms of its contribution to the national conservation objective for raised bog habitats and determine the most suitable sites to replace the losses of active raised bog habitat and high bog areas within the SAC network and to enhance the national network of NHAs.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Food Harvest 2020</b>	Food Harvest 2020 is a roadmap for the Irish food industry, as it seeks to innovate and expand in response to increased global demand for quality foods. It sets out a vision for the potential growth in agricultural output after the removal of milk quotas.	Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<b>Agri-vision 2015 Action Plan</b>	Outlines the vision for agricultural industry to improve competitiveness and response to market demand while respecting and enhancing the environment	Not applicable	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS)</b>  <b>Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS)</b>  <b>Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection.</li> <li>• GLAS is the new replacement for REPS and AEOS which are both expiring.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation.</li> <li>• Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats.</li> <li>• Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment.</li> <li>• Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans.</li> <li>• Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>National Rural Development Programme</b>	<p>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</p>	<p>At a more detailed level, the programme also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation;</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as</li> <li>• non-agricultural activities</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Forestry Programme 2023 – 2027</b>	<p>The new Forestry Programme 2023-2027 came into force in 2023, as soon as State Aid approval by the European Commission has been received. The new Programme sets out increased support for a number of schemes.</p>	<p>The proposed Forestry Programme 2023-2027 contains a series of eight different interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forest creation;</li> <li>• Agroforestry;</li> <li>• Infrastructure and technology investments;</li> <li>• Sustainable forest management;</li> <li>• Developing skills and empowering the forest sector for sustainable forest management;</li> <li>• Open forests - social, cultural and heritage forests;</li> <li>• Climate resilient reforestation;</li> <li>• Reconstruction.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>River Basin Management Plan</b>	River Basin Management Plans set out the measures planned to maintain and improve the status of waters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aim to protect and enhance all water bodies in the RBD and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Water Framework Directive.</li> <li>• Identify and manages water bodies in the RBD.</li> <li>• Establish a programme of measures for monitoring and improving water quality in the RBD.</li> <li>• Involve the public through consultations.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.



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<p><b>National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)</b></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Objectives of the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To give direction to Ireland’s approach to peatland management.</li> <li>• To apply to all peatlands, including peat soils.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• To ensure that Ireland’s peatlands are sustainably managed so that their benefits can be enjoyed responsibly.</li> <li>• To inform appropriate regulatory systems to facilitate good decision making in support of responsible use.</li> <li>• To inform the provision of appropriate incentives, financial supports and disincentives where required.</li> <li>• To provide a framework for determining and ensuring the most appropriate future use of cutover and cutaway bogs.</li> </ul> <p>To ensure that specific actions necessary for the achievement of its objectives are clearly identified and delivered by those involved in or responsible for peatlands management or for decisions affecting their management.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme</b>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 - 2020</b>	<p>The Draft Bioenergy Plan sets out a vision as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p>Three high level goals of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To harness the market opportunities presented by bioenergy in order to achieve economic development, growth and jobs.</li> <li>• To increase awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits of developing bioenergy.</li> <li>• To ensure that bioenergy developments do not adversely impact the environment and its living and non-living resources.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCA) 2016</b>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017- 2030</b>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AFV forecasts</li> <li>• Electricity targets</li> <li>• Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets</li> <li>• Hydrogen targets</li> <li>• Biofuels targets</li> <li>• LPG targets</li> <li>• Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Food Wise 2025 (DAFM)</b>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 85% increase in exports to €19 billion.</li> <li>• 70% increase in value added to €13 billion.</li> <li>• 60% increase in primary production to €10 billion.</li> <li>• The creation of 23,000 additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high end value added product development.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) NI</b>	<p>The SPPS consolidates some twenty separate policy publications into one document and sets out strategic subject planning policy for a wide range of planning matters. It also provides the core planning principles to underpin delivery of the two-tier planning system with the aim of furthering sustainable development.</p>	<p>The overall objective of the planning system is to further sustainable development and improve well-being for the people of the North.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>National Policy Framework For Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p>This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce overall travel demand</li> <li>• Maximise the efficiency of the transport network</li> <li>• Reduce reliance on fossil fuels</li> <li>• Reduce transport emissions</li> <li>• Improve accessibility to transport</li> </ul> <p>These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>National Coastal Change Management Strategy</b></p>	<p>The Government has adopted a policy to assess and manage coastal flood risk with regard to both existing risk and the potential impacts of climate change.</p> <p>This strategy will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a framework to determine the key decisions to be taken on how Ireland could best manage its coast, being aware of the future risks and the associated planning requirements.</li> <li>• Provide a framework to best inform both where and how decisions regarding appropriate development / projects along the coast should be taken in the future, in coordination with investment in flood risk management.</li> </ul>	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancing governance and capacity building (a dual approach of both mitigation and adaptation measures)</li> <li>• Understanding the risk and identifying potential risk management options</li> </ul> <p>Developing management (a dual approach of both mitigation (tackling the cause) and adaptation measures) to coastal change</p>	<p>Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage (2019)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heritage in Ireland ranges from private homes, commercial and public buildings, national monuments, underwater and buried archaeology and the physical and cultural settings of all of these.</li> <li>This plan considers not only those structures and sites that have been statutorily listed, but all man-made assets that have historical, aesthetic and cultural value, but does not consider natural heritage.</li> </ul> <p>Aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build adaptive capacity within the sector</li> <li>Reduce the vulnerability of built and archaeological heritage to climate change</li> <li>Identify and capitalise on the various potential opportunities for the sector</li> </ul>	<p>The five adaptation goals for built and archaeological heritage in Ireland are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve understanding of each heritage resource and its vulnerability to climate change</li> <li>To develop and mainstream sustainable policies and plans for climate-change adaptation of built and archaeological heritage</li> <li>To conserve Ireland’s heritage for future generations</li> <li>To communicate and transfer knowledge</li> <li>To exploit the opportunities for built and archaeological heritage to demonstrate value and secure resources</li> </ol>	<p>Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Heritage related legislation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Monuments Act 1930 as amended;</li> <li>• Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999; and</li> <li>• The Heritage Act 2018.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the LACAPs. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage.</li> </ul>	<p>Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the LACAPs. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>
<p><b>All-Island Strategic Rail Review</b></p>	<p>The Review aims to inform policy and future strategy for the railways in both jurisdictions on the island of Ireland.</p>	<p>The Review sets out six high-level goals which aim to use rail as effectively as possible to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contribute to decarbonisation;</li> <li>• improve All Island connectivity between major cities;</li> <li>• enhance regional accessibility;</li> <li>• stimulate economic activity;</li> <li>• encourage sustainable mobility; and achieve economic and financial feasibility.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Ireland’s 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023 - 2030</b></p>	<p>Ireland’s 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) 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.</p>	<p>It will continue to implement actions within the framework of five strategic objectives, while addressing new and emerging issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objective 1 - Adopt a Whole of Government, Whole of Society Approach to Biodiversity</li> <li>• Objective 2 - Meet Urgent Conservation and Restoration Needs</li> <li>• Objective 3 - Secure Nature’s Contribution to People</li> <li>• Objective 4 - Enhance the Evidence Base for Action on Biodiversity</li> <li>• Objective 5 - Strengthen Ireland’s Contribution to International Biodiversity Initiatives</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Regional/ County/Local Level			
<p><b>Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies</b></p>	<p>The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies provide a long-term regional level strategic planning and economic framework in support of the implementation of the National Planning Framework.</p>	<p>The Eastern and Midland Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its 12 constituent local authorities: Fingal County Council; Dublin City Council; South Dublin County Council; Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council; Louth County Council; Kildare County Council; Meath County Council; Wicklow County Council; Longford County Council; Laois County Council; Offaly County Council; and Westmeath County Council.</p> <p>The Southern Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its nine constituent local authorities: Waterford City and County Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Tipperary County Council, Wexford County Council, Kerry County Council, Clare County Council, Limerick City and County Council, Kilkenny County Council and Carlow County Council.</p> <p>The Northern and Western Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy includes provisions for its eight constituent local authorities: Donegal County Council, Leitrim County Council, Sligo County Council, Cavan County Council, Monaghan County Council, Mayo County Council, Roscommon County Council, and Galway County Council.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>



Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Regional Development Strategy 2035 (Northern Ireland)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spatial strategy for the future development of Northern Ireland.</li> <li>• Strategic planning framework to facilitate and guide public and private sectors.</li> </ul> <p>This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.</p>	<p>Aims to provide long-term policy direction with a strategic spatial perspective.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Greater Dublin Area (GDA) Transport Strategy (2022-2042)</b></p>	<p>It sets out how transport will be developed across the region, covering Dublin, Meath, Wicklow and Kildare, over the period of the strategy and has been approved by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport in accordance with the relevant legislation.</p> <p>This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.</p>	<p>They set out a number of core principles deriving from the strategic vision, which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dublin as the capital city of Ireland and a major European centre shall grow and progress, competing with other cities in the EU, and serving a wide range of international, national, regional and local needs.</li> <li>• The Dublin and Mid-East Regions will be attractive, vibrant locations for industry, commerce, recreation and tourism and will be a major focus for economic growth within the Country.</li> <li>• The GDA, through its ports and airport connections will continue to be the most important entry/exit point for the country as a whole, and as a Gateway between the European Union and the rest of the World. Access to and through the GDA will continue to be a matter of national importance.</li> <li>• Development in the GDA shall be directly related to investment in integrated high quality public transport services and focused on compact urban form.</li> <li>• Development within the existing urban footprint of the Metropolitan Area will be consolidated to achieve a more compact urban form.</li> <li>• Development in the Hinterland Area will be focused on the high quality integrated growth and consolidation of development in key identified towns, separated from each other by extensive areas of strategic green belt land devoted to agriculture and similar uses.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Transport Strategy for the Cork Metropolitan Area 2040</b>	<p>The Strategy addresses all transport modes, and its objective will be to provide a long-term strategic planning framework for the integrated development of transport infrastructure and services in the Cork Metropolitan Area, over the next two decades.</p> <p>This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.</p>	<p>It will be used to inform transport investment levels and investment prioritisation over both the longer and shorter terms and will be able to inform sustainable integrated land use and transport policy formulation at the strategic (Metropolitan Area) level and at the local level.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sets out a ten year cycling strategy for Counties Dublin, Kildare, Meath and Wicklow</li> <li>• Plan to increase regions cycle network dramatically</li> <li>• The Plan refers to the EuroVelo International Cycle Route Network of the European Cyclists Federation is a network of 15 long distance cycle routes connecting and uniting the whole European continent. Two of these routes are in Ireland</li> <li>• including EV2 from Galway through Dublin to London, Berlin, Warsaw and Moscow.</li> </ul> <p>This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.</p>	<p>Aims to identify and determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Urban Cycle Network at the Primary, Secondary and Feeder level</li> <li>• The Inter-Urban Cycle Network linking the relevant sections of the Urban Network including the elements of the National Cycle Network within the Greater Dublin Area including linkages to key transport locations outside of urban areas such as airports and ports</li> <li>• The Green Route Network being cycle routes for development of tourist, recreational and leisure purposes.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Dublin to Galway Greenway Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a segregated cycling and walking trail to international standards, extending from Dublin City to Galway which is of a scale that will allow Ireland to harness the potential of an identified growing tourism market for cycling.</li> <li>This route forms part of an interconnected National Cycle Network of high quality, traffic free, inter urban routes, which will establish Ireland as a quality international tourism destination for a broad range of associated recreational activities and pursuits.</li> </ul> <p>This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.</p>	<p>To provide a segregated, substantially off road cycle route from Dublin City to Clifden via Galway City, maximising the use of – where feasible – existing and approved routes and disused railway line corridors and to also use existing plans and/or permitted projects where these have been subject to a consent process that has previously included the carrying out or screening for SEA, EIA and AA.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Local Transport Plans and Strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Transport Plans and Strategies relevant to a particular local authority functional area provide a more granular framework for the delivery of sustainable transport systems in accordance with higher-level plans.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To promote sustainable transport.</li> <li>To promote integrated and proper transport planning.</li> <li>To promote safe travel.</li> <li>To promote active travel infrastructural development.</li> </ul> <p>To encourage modal shift.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>Water Quality Management Plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the quality of waters covered by the plan is maintained.</li> <li>• Maintain and improve the quantity and quality of water included in the Plan scope.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring of water bodies against quality standards.</li> <li>• Outlines management programmes for water catchments.</li> <li>• Purpose is to maintain and improve the quantity and quality of groundwater.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Port Masterplans (such as Dublin Port Masterplan 2040 and 2017 Review)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Masterplan sets out a vision for the operations of the port and land utilisation.</li> <li>• The Masterplan is a non-statutory plan which has nonetheless been framed within the context of EU, national, regional and local development plan policies.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs</b>	<p>Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site</li> <li>• To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest</li> <li>• To describe the site and its management</li> <li>• To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site</li> <li>• To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• These objectives are used when carrying out appropriate assessments for plans and projects that might impact on these sites.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<b>Groundwater Protection Schemes</b>	A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.	A Groundwater Protection Scheme aims to maintain the quantity and quality of groundwater, and in some cases improve it, by applying a risk assessment-based approach to groundwater protection and sustainable development.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP)</b>	The overarching vision for each LECP is: “to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities”	The purpose of the LECP, as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, 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 of the relevant local authority area, both by itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Development Plans, Local Area Plans, Planning Schemes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outlines planning objectives for land use development (including transport objectives).</li> <li>• Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies.</li> <li>• Sets out the policies and proposals to guide development in the specific Local Authority area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies future infrastructure, development and zoning required.</li> <li>• Protects and enhances amenities and environment.</li> <li>• Guides planning authority in assessing proposals.</li> <li>• Aims to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development.</li> <li>• Aims to promote sustainable development.</li> <li>• Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<b>Green Infrastructure Plans/Strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotes the maintenance and improvement of green infrastructure in an area.</li> <li>Aims to protect and enhance biodiversity and habitats.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Biodiversity Action Plans</b>	Aims to protect, conserve, enhance and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services across all spectrums.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outlines the status of biodiversity and identifies species of importance.</li> <li>Outlines objectives and targets to be met to maintain and improve biodiversity.</li> <li>Aims to increase awareness.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Heritage Plans</b>	Aims to highlight the importance of heritage at a strategic level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage and promote heritage as well as increased awareness.</li> <li>Aim to conserve and protect heritage.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>County Landscape Character Assessments</b>	Characterises the geographical dimension of the landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area.</li> <li>Guides strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub- Basin Management Plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifies the current status of the species and the reason for loss or decline.</li> <li>Identifies measure required to improve or restore current status.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifies pressures on Freshwater Pearl Mussels for each of the designated populations in Ireland.</li> <li>Outlines restoration measures required to ensure favourable conservation status.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Local Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produced by Local Authorities.</li> <li>Outlines areas local flood risk.</li> <li>Sets out measures to manage and prevent flood risk at a local level.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.



Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Shellfish Pollution Reduction Programmes</b>	Aims to improve water quality and ensure the protection or improvement of designated shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth and contribute to the high quality of shellfish products directly edible by man.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifies key and secondary pressures on water quality in designated shellfish areas.</li> <li>Outlines specific measures to address identified key and secondary pressures on water quality.</li> <li>Addresses the specific pressures acting on water quality in each area.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Regional Waste Management Plans</b>	These plans (for the Connacht-Ulster, Southern, and Eastern-Midlands regions) give effect to national and EU waste policy, and address waste prevention and management (including generation, collection and treatment) over the period 2015-2021.	To manage wastes in a safe and compliant manner, a clear strategy, policies and actions are required.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Noise Action Plans</b>	The Noise Action Plans are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, Statutory Instrument 140 of 2006. These Regulations give effect to the EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. This Directive sets out a process for managing environmental noise in a consistent manner across the EU and the Noise Regulations set out the approach to meeting the requirements of the Directive in Ireland.	<p>The main purpose of the Noise Action Plan is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures which may be considered to address noise problems</li> <li>Address strategic noise issues by requiring competent authorities to draw up action plans to manage noise issues and their effects</li> <li>Reduce noise, where possible, and maintain the environmental acoustic quality where it is good</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Newry Mourne and Down Local Development Plan</b></p>	<p>Northern Irish Local Development Plans plans set out how an area should look in the future by deciding the type and scale of development and where buildings should be allowed.</p> <p>The aim of the plans is to make sure there is enough land available for the area's housing, employment and community facilities, while protecting important landscape and environmental features.</p> <p>Through the development plan, councils can identify the best locations for new homes, businesses and infrastructure while also protecting places of value to people or wildlife. The plans are an important consideration in dealing with planning applications and should help guide decision making.</p>	<p>The LDP provides a plan framework to support economic and social needs in the local authority functional area, in line with regional strategies and policies, while providing the delivery of sustainable development. The LDP will inform the general public, statutory authorities, developers and other interested bodies of the policy framework and land use proposals that will guide development decisions; and will be the primary consideration in the determination of planning applications for the development or use of land in the District.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>
<p><b>Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Local Development Plan</b></p>	<p>Northern Irish Local Development Plans plans set out how an area should look in the future by deciding the type and scale of development and where buildings should be allowed.</p> <p>The aim of the plans is to make sure there is enough land available for the area's housing, employment and community facilities, while protecting important landscape and environmental features.</p> <p>Through the development plan, councils can identify the best locations for new homes, businesses and infrastructure while also protecting places of value to people or wildlife. The plans are an important consideration in dealing with planning applications and should help guide decision making.</p>	<p>The LDP provides a plan framework to support economic and social needs in the local authority functional area, in line with regional strategies and policies, while providing the delivery of sustainable development. The LDP will inform the general public, statutory authorities, developers and other interested bodies of the policy framework and land use proposals that will guide development decisions; and will be the primary consideration in the determination of planning applications for the development or use of land in the District.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Fermanagh Local Development Plan</b>	<p>Northern Irish Local Development Plans plans set out how an area should look in the future by deciding the type and scale of development and where buildings should be allowed.</p> <p>The aim of the plans is to make sure there is enough land available for the area's housing, employment and community facilities, while protecting important landscape and environmental features.</p> <p>Through the development plan, councils can identify the best locations for new homes, businesses and infrastructure while also protecting places of value to people or wildlife. The plans are an important consideration in dealing with planning applications and should help guide decision making.</p>	<p>The LDP provides a plan framework to support economic and social needs in the local authority functional area, in line with regional strategies and policies, while providing the delivery of sustainable development. The LDP will inform the general public, statutory authorities, developers and other interested bodies of the policy framework and land use proposals that will guide development decisions; and will be the primary consideration in the determination of planning applications for the development or use of land in the District.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>
<b>Mid Ulster Local Development Plan</b>	<p>Northern Irish Local Development Plans plans set out how an area should look in the future by deciding the type and scale of development and where buildings should be allowed.</p> <p>The aim of the plans is to make sure there is enough land available for the area's housing, employment and community facilities, while protecting important landscape and environmental features.</p> <p>Through the development plan, councils can identify the best locations for new homes, businesses and infrastructure while also protecting places of value to people or wildlife. The plans are an important consideration in dealing with planning applications and should help guide decision making.</p>	<p>The LDP provides a plan framework to support economic and social needs in the local authority functional area, in line with regional strategies and policies, while providing the delivery of sustainable development. The LDP will inform the general public, statutory authorities, developers and other interested bodies of the policy framework and land use proposals that will guide development decisions; and will be the primary consideration in the determination of planning applications for the development or use of land in the District.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>The Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 (as amended)</b>	<p>Provides for the protection of birds, certain other animals and wild plants. Includes various offences, such as intentional killing, injury, and destruction of place of shelter. Amendments to the 1985 order are made with respect to birds, enabling licences to be granted for killing wild birds and animals whilst increasing protection for birds more generally.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of wild birds, their nests and eggs, the prohibition of certain methods of killing or taking wild birds and the sale of live or dead wild birds or eggs.</li> <li>• Protection of captive birds.</li> <li>• Prohibition of certain methods of killing or taking wild animals, the use of spring traps, and the sale of live or dead wild animals as well as providing protection for wild plants and prohibiting the sale of invasive, non-native species.</li> <li>• Also covers: the protection of deer, the sales and purchases of venison and the prevention of poaching; the possession of pesticides harmful to wildlife; wildlife refuges; and the possession of articles for purposes of committing certain offences.</li> <li>• With regard to enforcement, it includes details regarding the power of wildlife inspector to enter premises and to examine specimens and take samples, false statements made for obtaining registration or licence and penalties and forfeitures.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>
<b>The Wildlife and Natural Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011</b>	<p>This Act requires every public body to promote the conservation of biodiversity and defines functions of public bodies in Northern Ireland with respect to the conservation of biodiversity. It also contains provisions for the conservation of wild fauna and flora and habitats. The Act amends the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 and the Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To make provision about biodiversity.</li> <li>• To amend the wildlife (Northern Ireland) order 1985 and part 4 of the environment (Northern Ireland) order 2002.</li> <li>• To abolish game licences and game dealers' licences.</li> <li>• To prohibit hare coursing events.</li> <li>• To amend the game preservation act (Northern Ireland) 1928; and for connected purposes.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended)</b></p>	<p>These regulations transpose the requirements of the EC 'Habitats' Directive and aspects of the 'Wild Birds' Directive in relation to Northern Ireland.</p> <p>Provide for the protection of sites in the UK that support habitats and species in need of conservation across Europe and full protection of species of European importance whether occurring within designated sites or not.</p>	<p>Protects certain birds, plants, animals, marine life and their habitats, including Natura 2000 sites, through creating criminal offences and changing planning requirements.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>
<p><b>The Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002</b></p>	<p>The Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 is the primary piece of environmental legislation in Northern Ireland. The order sets out a range of requirements for the protection and management of the environment, including the prevention and control of pollution, the conservation of natural habitats and biodiversity, and the regulation of waste management.</p> <p>The order applies to a wide range of activities, including industrial and commercial activities, waste management, agriculture, and construction. It also establishes the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), which is responsible for enforcing the order and regulating activities that may have an impact on the environment. The NIEA has the power to investigate environmental incidents, issue enforcement notices, and prosecute individuals and organisations that breach environmental regulations.</p>	<p>The Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 places a range of obligations on individuals and organisations to protect and manage the environment. These obligations include reporting environmental incidents, obtaining permits, and complying with environmental standards. Evidence requirements under the order may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reporting requirements</li> <li>2. Permit requirements</li> <li>3. Compliance monitoring</li> <li>4. Enforcement action</li> </ol>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>The Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017</b></p>	<p>The purpose of these regulations is to promote sustainable development by considering and mitigating the potential environmental effects of projects before they are approved. The regulations require a systematic and transparent assessment process, enabling decision-makers to make informed choices based on the environmental implications of proposed developments.</p>	<p>The regulations apply to a wide range of projects, including infrastructure developments, industrial facilities, energy projects, and certain agricultural and waste management activities.</p> <p>The regulations mandate that developers or project proponents carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as part of the planning process. The EIA involves the identification, prediction, and evaluation of potential environmental effects, such as impacts on air, water, biodiversity, human health, and cultural heritage. The assessment also considers alternative options and potential mitigation measures.</p> <p>Additionally, the regulations emphasize public participation, ensuring that affected individuals and organizations have the opportunity to provide input and express their concerns during the assessment process.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>
<p><b>The Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) for Northern Ireland</b></p>	<p>The SPPS is a statement, consolidating some twenty separate policy publications into one document, of the Department’s policy on important planning matters that should be addressed across Northern Ireland. It also provides the core planning principles to underpin delivery of the two-tier planning system with the aim of furthering sustainable development. It sets the strategic direction for councils to bring forward detailed operational policies within their new Local Development Plans.</p>	<p>The provisions of the SPPS must be taken into account in the preparation of Local Development Plans, and are also material to all decisions on individual planning applications and appeals.</p> <p>The SPPS has a policy objective to “seek to further the conservation, enhancement and restoration of the abundance, quality, diversity and distinctiveness of the region’s natural heritage”.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 2: Natural Heritage (2013)</b>	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 2 sets out the Department of the Environment’s planning policies for the conservation, protection and enhancement of Northern Ireland’s natural heritage. PPS 2 replaces ‘Planning and Nature Conservation (1997)’ and supersedes Policies SP16 and DES4 in ‘A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland (1993).	Objectives of PPS2 include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to seek to further the conservation, enhancement and restoration of the abundance, quality, diversity and distinctiveness of the region’s natural heritage; and</li> <li>• to contribute to rural renewal and urban regeneration by ensuring developments take account of the role and value of biodiversity in supporting economic diversification and contributing to a high quality environment.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
<b>Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 18: Renewable Energy</b>	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 18 sets out the Department’s planning policy for development that generates energy from renewable resources and that requires the submission of a planning application. In addition the PPS encourages the integration of renewable energy technology and greater application of the principles of Passive Solar Design in the design, siting and layout of new development.	The aim of this Statement is to facilitate the siting of renewable energy generating facilities in appropriate locations within the built and natural environment in order to achieve Northern Ireland’s renewable energy targets and to realise the benefits of renewable energy. The objectives of the Statement are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to ensure that the environmental, landscape, visual and amenity impacts associated with or arising from renewable energy development are adequately addressed;</li> <li>• to ensure adequate protection of the Region’s built and natural, and cultural heritage features; and</li> <li>• to facilitate the integration of renewable energy technology into the design, siting and layout of new development and promote greater application of the principles of Passive Solar Design.</li> </ul>	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Biodiversity Strategy for NI to 2020</b>	A strategy for Northern Ireland to meet its international obligations and local targets to protect biodiversity and ensure that the environment can continue to support our people and economy.	The objectives of the Biodiversity Strategy are to: i) maintain healthy ecosystems, ii) address adverse pressure, iii) increase prosperity and well-being, and iv) engage society in biodiversity conservation and develop partnerships.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
<b>Draft Environment Strategy</b>	The Environment Strategy is intended to be an overarching document setting out Northern Ireland’s environmental priorities for the coming decades and will form part of the Green Growth agenda.	This Strategy focuses on several Strategic Context/Drivers: i) Sustainability ii) Global Climate & Biodiversity Action iii) Green Growth Strategy iv) Environmental Governance & Co-operation v) Agriculture & Environment vi) Marine Environment vii) Built & Historic Environment	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
<b>Northern Ireland Peatland Strategy 2021-2040</b>	The strategy identifies the ecosystem services provided by healthy peatlands, including climate regulation and adaptation, specialised biodiversity, good water quality, flood alleviation and a historical archive. The strategy also highlights the role peatlands play as a unique landscape for recreation and education.	The document outlines six strategic objectives: i) Conserve peatlands & prevent degradation ii) Restoration of degraded areas to functioning peatland ecosystems (designated & non-designated sites) iii) Supporting Sustainable Peatland Management iv) Knowledge Sharing & Research v) Communication, Education & Access vi) Governance, Implementation & Funding	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.



Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>The Draft Green Growth Strategy</b></p>	<p>The Strategy establishes Northern Ireland’s Green Growth vision and principles and sets out commitments to tackling the climate crisis.</p>	<p>One of the key commitments of the Green Growth Strategy is to develop Northern Ireland’s first Climate Action Plan. 10 Executive Commitments have been set out in the Strategy.</p> <p>Green Growth considers climate targets but also the wider environment and green jobs.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>
<p><b>Northern Ireland Energy Strategy 2050</b> <b>(Northern Ireland Energy Strategy ‘Path to Net Zero Energy’)</b></p>	<p>The Strategy sets a long-term vision of net zero carbon and affordable energy for Northern Ireland.</p> <p>It is also about growing the economy and supporting the 10X Economic Vision.</p>	<p>The energy strategy sets a target of 70% of local electricity supplies coming from renewable sources by 2030 and includes a plan to fully decarbonise by 2050.</p> <p>The Energy Strategy is centred around delivering on five key principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Placing you at the heart of our energy future</li> <li>• Grow the green economy</li> <li>• Do more with less</li> <li>• Replace fossil fuels with renewable energy</li> <li>• Create a flexible, resilient and integrated energy system</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>The Draft Marine Plan for Northern Ireland 2018</b></p>	<p>The Plan informs and guides the regulation, management, use and protection of Northern Ireland’s marine area. It is a single document made up of two plans, one for the inshore region and one for the offshore region.</p>	<p>Marine Plan Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote the sustainable development of productive activities, which support employment at all skill levels while fully considering the requirements of other marine interests.</li> <li>• To help realise the potential of energy resources and energy storage within the marine area, while fully considering the requirements of other marine interests.</li> <li>• To promote the development of vibrant, accessible and sustainable coastal communities.</li> <li>• To promote the marine resource, its recreational value and its wider economic, environmental and social benefits to all.</li> <li>• To promote the preservation and enjoyment of marine related heritage assets.</li> <li>• To promote a healthy, resilient and adaptable marine ecosystem and an ecologically coherent network of Marine Protected Areas.</li> <li>• To contribute towards climate change mitigation and adaptation measures.</li> <li>• To continue to develop a sound marine evidence base in a co-ordinated manner, to increase understanding and to support the development, monitoring and review of marine plans.</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Towards an Integrated Coastal Zone Management Strategy for Northern Ireland 2006 - 2026</b></p>	<p>Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) aims to establish sustainable levels of economic and social activity in our coastal areas while protecting the coastal environment.</p> <p>ICZM seeks to reconcile the different policies that have an effect on the coast and to establish a framework that facilitates the integration of the interests and responsibilities of those involved in the development, management and use of the coast.</p>	<p>The Strategy is based on the several key principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable development</li> <li>• Precautionary principle</li> <li>• Ecosystem approach</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>
<p><b>Northern Irish Local Development Plans for Northern Irish local authorities bordering Ireland</b></p>	<p>These Northern Ireland plans make sure there is enough land available for each area's housing, employment and community facilities, while protecting important landscape and environmental features.</p>	<p>Northern Irish Local Development Plans for Northern Irish local authorities bordering Ireland include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council's Local Development Plan 2030</li> <li>• Mid Ulster District Council's Local Development Plan 2030</li> <li>• Derry City and Strabane District Council's Local Development Plan 2032</li> <li>• Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Local Development Plan 2030</li> <li>• Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Local Development Plan 2030</li> </ul>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>

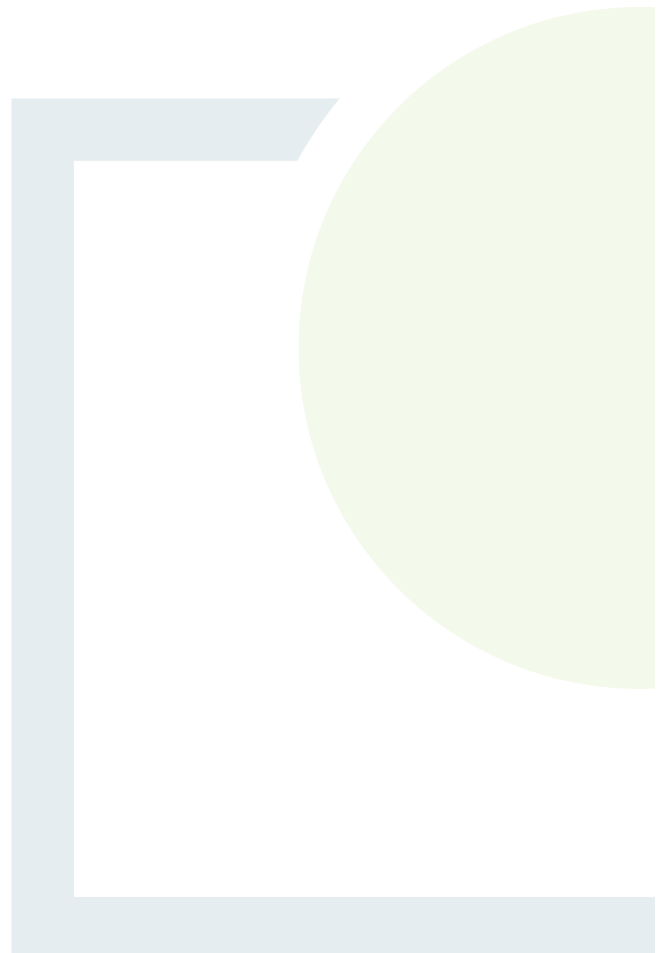
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Northern Ireland River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NI River Basin Management Plans take an integrated approach to the protection, improvement and sustainable use of the water environment.</li> <li>• They apply to groundwater and to all surface water bodies, including rivers, lakes, transitional (estuarine) and coastal waters out to one nautical mile.</li> <li>• River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) as required by the regulations were published in 2009 and 2015 for each River Basin District within Northern Ireland.</li> </ul>	<p>The Plans identified where Northern Ireland’s water environment is in good or excellent condition and set out objectives for improvement or prevention of deterioration.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.</p>



CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING,  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE  
& PLANNING

## Appendix 3

Appropriate Assessment  
Screening of Plan  
Modifications





CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING,  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE &  
PLANNING

# APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

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AA Screening Report For Modifications To  
The Local Authority Climate Action Plan  
2024 - 2029

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Prepared for:  
Leitrim County Council



**Comhairle Chontae Liatroma**  
**Leitrim County Council**

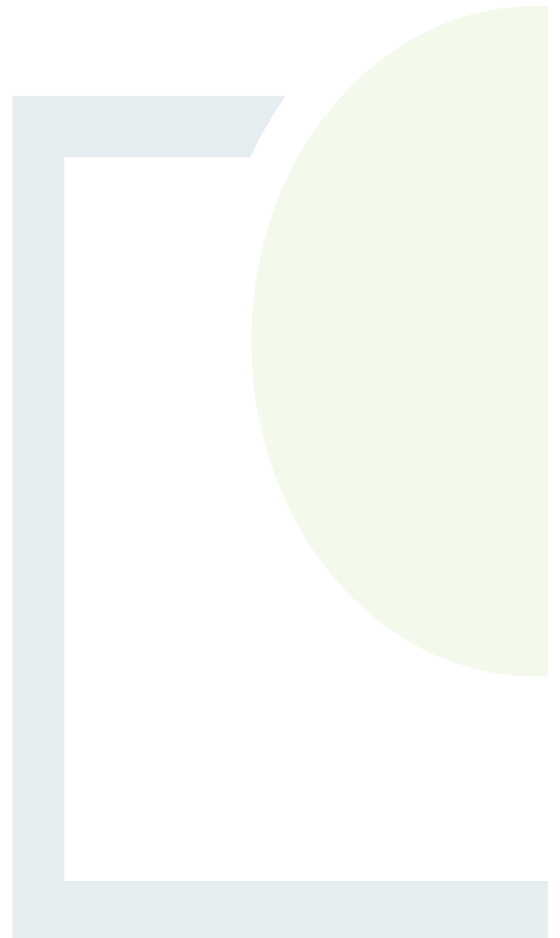
Date: February 2024

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

T: +353 21 496 4133 | E: [info@ftco.ie](mailto:info@ftco.ie)

CORK | DUBLIN | CARLOW

[www.fehilytimoney.ie](http://www.fehilytimoney.ie)



## Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for Modifications to the Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029

### REVISION CONTROL TABLE, CLIENT, KEYWORDS AND ABSTRACT

User is responsible for Checking the Revision Status of This Document

Rev. No.	Description of Changes	Prepared by:	Checked by:	Approved by:	Date:
1	Final	EV/NSC/AMW/MG	RD	AT	15/02/2024

**Client:** Leitrim County Council

**Keywords:** Appropriate Assessment Screening Report, Appropriate Assessment, AA, Natura Impact Report, LACAP, Climate Action Plan Implementation Plan.

**Abstract:** Fehily Timoney and Company is pleased to submit this AA Screening Report for Modifications to the Local Authority Climate Action 2024 - 2029 to Leitrim County Council.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

This is the Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report for modifications to the Leitrim County Council (LCC) Local Authority Climate Action Plan (referred to as either the 'LACAP' or the 'Plan') 2024 - 2029.

Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 sets out the provisions governing the establishment and operation of a LACAP. The broad purpose of a LACAP will be to define adaptation and mitigation measures at local level to support the reduction of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions within a local authority as an organization and throughout the local community. LACAPs shall be implemented over a five-year period.

### 1.2 Plan-making Process to Date

A draft version of the LACAP was prepared. This document was accompanied by a Draft Natura Impact Report (NIR) which considered, evaluated and presented the environmental effects of the Draft LACAP on European sites and presented mitigation measures to avoid or minimise identified effects. This AA process was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Habitats Directive<sup>1</sup> and transposing national legislation.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) was also undertaken on the Draft LACAP in accordance with the requirements of the SEA Directive<sup>2</sup> and transposing national legislation. A Draft SEA Environmental Report which considered the effects of the Draft LACAP on the environment was therefore prepared also. The Draft NIR suitably informed this report.

A period of consultation has been undertaken in relation to the Draft LACAP, the Draft SEA Environmental Report and the Draft NIR. Statutory environmental authorities, interested stakeholders and members of the public were invited to make submissions in connection with the Draft LACAP and the associated Draft SEA Environmental Report and Draft NIR.

All submissions made on this documentation have been reviewed by LCC. These submissions were taken into consideration prior to finalisation of the LACAP. LCC have prepared a Report on submissions received during public consultation of the draft plan. This document details the submissions received, LCC responses to the submissions, and Plan Action modifications arising following consideration of the submissions.

### 1.3 Purpose of this Assessment

An AA Screening Assessment must be carried out on all modifications made to the Draft LACAP Actions arising following consideration of submissions. The purpose of this assessment is to identify whether the Plan Action modifications will result in additional effects on European sites not previously considered in the AA process to date, and to inform whether or not a full AA is required on the Plan Action modifications. This AA Screening Assessment considers changes the binding 'Actions' defined within the Plan.

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<sup>1</sup> Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.

<sup>2</sup> Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment



This report documents the AA Screening undertaken to identify the need for full AA in this case. This report accompanies the documented Plan Action modifications.

This report should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

1. The Leitrim County Council LACAP 2024 - 2029.
2. The Draft NIR for the Leitrim County Council LACAP 2024 - 2029.
3. The Draft SEA Environmental Report for the Leitrim County Council LACAP 2024 - 2029.
4. Leitrim County Council LACAP Report on submissions received during public consultation of the draft plan.
5. The SEA Screening Report for modifications to Leitrim County Council LACAP 2024 - 2029.



## 2. APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Legislative Requirements

Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats Directive) provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. 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 (Habitats Directive as above and 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 among them. These two designations are collectively known and referred to as European sites.

Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans and projects likely to affect such sites. Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for AA. These requirements are implemented in the Republic of Ireland by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). Specifically, Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive states:

*"Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (Natura 2000 sites) but likely to have significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public".*

Therefore, the AA process is an assessment of the following key concepts:

- Whether a plan or project can be excluded from AA requirements because it is directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site.
- Whether the project will have a potentially significant effect on a European site, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, in view of the site's conservation objectives or if residual uncertainty exists regarding potential impacts.

The provisions of Article 6(3) do not apply where the proposed plan or project is ‘connected with or necessary to the management of the site’. Where a formal consent process applies, the AA process is concluded by the relevant competent authority making a determination in accordance with article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive.

### 2.2 Guidance

The assessment was conducted in accordance with the following guidance:

- 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, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg (European Commission, 2002).



- This document was updated by Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites - Methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. Commission Notice (2021) Brussels, 28.9.2021 C(2021) 6913 final;
- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin (2009, updated 2010);
- Commission Notice: Managing Natura 2000 sites. The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. European Commission (2018). Brussels, (2019/C 33/01). OJ C 33, 25.1.2019;
- Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats. Version EUR 28. European Commission 2013;
- OPR Practice Note PN01 Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management, Office of the Planning Regulator (2021).

The AA screening is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological and hydrological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and 'grey' literature was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife Website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives. The EPA Envision Map-viewer ([www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie)) and available reports were also reviewed:

- Definitions of conservation status, integrity and significance used in this assessment are defined in accordance with 'Managing Natura 2000 sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC' (EC, 2000).
- The conservation status of a natural habitat is defined as the sum of the influences acting on a natural habitat and its typical species that may affect its long-term natural distribution, structure and functions as well as the long-term survival of its typical species;
- The conservation status of a species is defined as the sum of the influences acting on the species concerned that may affect the long-term distribution and abundance of its population;
- The integrity of a European Site is defined as the coherence of the site's ecological structure and function, across its whole area, or the habitats, complex of habitats and/or populations of species for which the site is or will be classified; and
- Significant effect should be determined in relation to the specific features and environmental conditions of the protected site concerned by the plan or project, taking particular account of the site's conservation objectives.

### 2.3 Assessment Process and Approach

A Draft NIR has been produced for the LCC Draft LACAP. This report contains the information on the receiving environment, European sites, and potential effects of the Draft LACAP on European sites. The report also defines mitigation measures designed to avoid and minimise effects on European sites. The information contained in this Draft NIR has been referred to during the carrying out of the AA Screening Assessment documented in this report.

This assessment commences with a description of the Plan Action modifications being considered. The type of impacts that are likely due to the Plan Action modifications are then identified and evaluated having regard to nature and characteristics of the Plan Action modifications. The overall AA process will be completed in a revised full NIR at the end of the plan development process incorporating all interim steps, modifications and reports/assessments.



An ecological desktop study has been completed for the AA Screening Assessment of the Plan Action modifications, which comprised the following elements:

- Identification of European sites that may be impacted by Plan Action modifications.
- Identification of European sites pathways.
- Review of the NPWS site synopses and conservation objectives for relevant European sites.
- Examination of available information on protected species.

This desktop assessment mainly involved a review of the Draft NIR produced for the Draft LACAP.

The process of determining the likelihood of significant effects from a plan or a project on European sites is an iterative process centred around a Source-Pathway-Receptor (S-P-R) model. In order for an effect to be established, all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence or removal of one of the elements of the mechanism is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

- Source(s) – e.g., pollutant run-off, noise, removal of vegetation etc.;
- Pathway(s) – ecological connectivity linkages e.g., groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and,
- Receptor(s) – ecological resources supporting the qualifying habitats and species of European sites.

In the context of this report, a receptor is an ecological feature that is known to be utilised by the Qualifying Interests (QI) or Special Conservation Interests (SCI) of a European site. A source is any identifiable element of the Plan Action modifications that is known to interact with ecological processes. A pathway is any connection or link between the source and the receptor<sup>3</sup>.

An important element of the AA process is the identification of the Conservation Objectives, QIs and/ or SCIs of European sites requiring assessment. QIs are the habitat features and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive for which each European site has been designated and afforded protection. SCIs are wetland habitats and bird species listed within Annexes I and II of the Birds Directive. It is also vital that the threats to the ecological / environmental conditions that are required to support QIs and SCIs are considered as part of the assessment.

The likelihood of significant effects, including in-combination effects, on European Sites is then interrogated having regard to the nature and characteristics of Plan Action modifications, environmental pathways, and the sensitivity of relevant European sites.

Where significant effects are determined to be likely, or where there is uncertainty regarding the likelihood of significant effects, the Plan Action modification must be will be subject to Stage 2 AA and the preparation of a Natura Impact Report (NIR).

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<sup>3</sup> Qualifying interest or special conservation interests of the European site in question and the known sensitivities of these key ecological receptors



Having regard to the European Commission Communication on the Precautionary Principle (European Commission, 2000) the:

*“absence of scientific evidence on the significant negative effect of an action cannot be used as justification for approval of this action. When applied to Article 6(3) procedure, the precautionary principle implies that the absence of a negative effect on Natura 2000 sites has to be demonstrated before a plan or project can be authorised. In other words, if there is a lack of certainty as to whether there will be any negative effects, then the plan or project cannot be approved.”*

This AA screening is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and ‘grey’ literature was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife Website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives.



### 3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

A summary of Plan Action modifications arising following consideration of consultation submissions is provided in Table 3-1.

**Table 3-1: Summary of Plan Action Modifications**

Action	Summary of Modification
CRT21	New Action inserted: <b>'Develop a Seed Library within Leitrim County Council Libraries'</b>
GL 10	Remove <b>"is represented by each section"</b> and replace with <b>"in place"</b>
GL 14	Remove <b>"during Climate Action Week each year"</b> .
CRT11	Remove <b>"Keen to be Green Communities"</b>
GL 5	Remove text County and insert <b>'County Council'</b>
GL 6	<b>'Climate Action Unit'</b> was replaced with <b>'Climate Action Team'</b>
CRT.2	Remove the words <b>"develop"</b> and <b>"range of"</b> from this action to read as follows: <b>"Distribute any age-appropriate informational supports to provide citizens with knowledge to understand and implement the transition in their own lives."</b>
CRT.6	Remove <b>"one stop shop"</b> .
N10	The words <b>"reed bed waste water filtration"</b> were included in the modified action.
B34	The words <b>'Local Authority'</b> were included in the modified action
N/A	The vision for the Carrick on Shannon DZ was updated to the below: <b>'Carrick-on-Shannon Decarbonising Zone will be a focus for sustainable place-based climate action opportunities including mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity enhancement, to deliver the National Climate Objective at local and community levels to provide a test bed of learning and understanding on the scale of the challenge, that can be applied elsewhere in County Leitrim'</b>





## 4. SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

### 4.1 Introduction to Screening

This stage of the process identifies any likely significant effects to European Sites from the Plan Action modifications, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans.

The following has been considered when carrying out the AA Screening Assessment of Plan Action modifications to the Draft LACAP.

- The likely significant effect on the environment and European sites of implementing the Draft LACAP.
- The likely significant effect on the environment and European sites of implementing the Plan Action modifications.
- The mitigation measures defined in Section 5 of the Draft NIR.

Therefore, the Plan Action modifications must be considered in relation to the current Draft LACAP which has already been subject to SEA and AA considerations. All Plan Action modifications are considered therefore in the context of potential additional sources for impacts/effects which were not previously considered.

The first stage of the Screening process in this case involved interrogating Plan Action modifications to ascertain the materiality of the modifications and whether the modifications will result in the occurrence of additional effects on European sites not previously considered in the AA process to date.

### 4.2 Assessment Criteria

The following parameters are described when characterising impacts (following CIEEM (2016), EPA (2002) and NRA (2009)):

- **Direct and Indirect Impacts** - An impact can be caused either as a direct or as an indirect consequence of a proposed development.
- **Magnitude** - Magnitude measures the size of an impact, which is described as high, medium, low, very low or negligible.
- **Extent** - The area over which the impact occurs – this should be predicted in a quantified manner.
- **Duration** - The time for which 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.



The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) guidelines for ecological impact assessment (2016) define: an ecologically significant impact as 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; and the integrity of a site as the coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, which enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was classified.

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

SSCOs have been prepared for a number of European Sites. These detailed SSCO's aim to define favourable conservation condition for the qualifying habitats and species at that site by setting targets for appropriate attributes which define the character habitat. The maintenance of the favourable condition for these habitats and species at the site level will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

*Favourable conservation status of a species can be described as being achieved when: 'population data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself, and the natural range of the species is neither being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.'*

*Favourable conservation status of a habitat can be described as being achieved when: 'its natural range, and area it covers within that range, is stable or increasing, and the ecological factors that are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable'.*

Generic Conservation Objectives for SACs have been provided as follows:

- 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.

One generic Conservation Objective has been provided for SPAs as follows:

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

EC guidance<sup>4</sup> outlines the types of effects that may affect European sites. These include effects from the following activities:

- Land take;
- Resource Requirements (Drinking Water Abstraction Etc.);
- Emissions (Disposal to Land, Water or Air);

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<sup>4</sup> Assessment of plans and Projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, European Commission Environment DG, 2001.



- Excavation Requirements;
- Transportation Requirements;
- Duration of Construction, Operation, Decommissioning.

In addition, the guidance outlines the following likely changes that may occur at a designated site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site:

- Reduction of Habitat Area.
- Disturbance to Key Species.
- Habitat or Species Fragmentation.
- Reduction in Species Density.
- Changes in Key Indicators of Conservation Value (Water Quality Etc.).
- Climate Change.

### **4.3 Elements of the Plan Modifications with Potential to Give Rise to Effects**

An evaluation of the potential environmental implications of each Plan Action modification has been carried out. This evaluation is presented in Table 4-1.



**Table 4-1: Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification**

Action	Summary of Modification	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification
CRT21	New Action inserted: 'Develop a Seed Library within Leitrim County Council Libraries'	This additional action does not introduce additional environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against under the AA process. It generally serves to benefit climate resilience, community engagement, and education.
GL 10	Remove "is represented by each section" and replace with "in place"	This amendment clarifies the focus and intended meaning of the action to implement a climate action committee. It does not change any defined climate actions and will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process.
GL 14	Remove "during Climate Action Week each year".	This clerical amendment It does not change any defined climate actions and will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process.
CRT11	Remove "Keen to be Green Communities"	This clerical amendment It does not change any defined climate actions and will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process.
GL 5	Remove text County and insert 'County Council'	This clerical amendment It does not change any defined climate actions and will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process.
GL 6	'Climate Action Unit' was replaced with 'Climate Action Team'	This clerical amendment It does not change any defined climate actions and will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process. This amendment serves to clarify the name of the team to whom sections heads must provide regular updates.
CRT.2	Remove the words "develop" and "range of" from this action to read as follows: "Distribute any age-appropriate informational supports to provide citizens with knowledge to understand and implement the transition in their own lives."	This clerical amendment It does not change any defined climate actions and will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process.
CRT.6	Remove "one stop shop".	This clerical amendment It does not change any defined climate actions and will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process.
N10	The words "reed bed waste water filtration" were included in the modified action.	This additional text just clarifies the type of NBS that will be encouraged during social housing development. Potential effects of NBS have already been considered in the SEA. The amendment will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process.



Action	Summary of Modification	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification
B34	The words 'Local Authority' were included in the modified action	This amendment simply clarifies that the Lead in relation to the development of a Regional EV Charging Strategy will be a Local Authority. The amendment will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process.
N/A	<p>The vision for the Carrick on Shannon DZ was updated to the below:</p> <p>'Carrick-on-Shannon Decarbonising Zone will be a focus for sustainable place-based climate action opportunities including mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity enhancement, to deliver the National Climate Objective at local and community levels to provide a test bed of learning and understanding on the scale of the challenge, that can be applied elsewhere in County Leitrim'</p>	This update clarifies the Vision for the Carrick On Shannon DZ Zone. It clarifies the high-level narrative around the main aims of the DZ. It does not substantively alter the goals and objectives of the Plan. It does not alter any defined DZ related climate action. It will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against.



## 4.1 Summary of the Evaluation

The Plan Action modifications are broadly intended to provide clarification on existing information and give better effect to the LACAP having regard to the consultation process. They will not result in any additional sources for likely, significant environmental effects, including effects on ecological processes or European sites, not already considered by the existing NIR for the Draft LACAP.

The Plan Action modifications will not introduce any of the following types of additional environmental effect that have the potential to affect European sites.

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

The Plan Action modifications will not result in any of the following types of change that may occur at a European site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site:

- Reduction of Habitat Area.
- Disturbance to Key Species.
- Habitat or Species Fragmentation.
- Reduction in Species Density.
- Changes in Key Indicators of Conservation Value (Water Quality Etc.).
- Climate Change impact.

Further assessment is therefore not required.

## 4.2 Other Plans and Programs

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the plan or project, have the potential to adversely impact upon European Sites. There are no additional sources for effects identified within the Proposed amendments; therefore, there are no in-combination effects.



## 5. CONCLUSION

Stage 1 Screening for AA of Plan modifications was carried out to determine the need for a full AA for the Plan modifications to the Draft LACAP in this case. It has been demonstrated that implementation of the Plan modifications are not foreseen to have any significant effects on any European Site.

The principal reasons the Modifications to the Draft LACAP do will not give rise to any likely significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects, are as follows:

- The modifications are only intended to provide clarification on existing Climate Actions defined in the Draft LACAP and make the LACAP more operative and focussed.
- The modifications are not material and will not result in any additional, likely significant environmental effects, including effects in ecological processes or European sites, not already considered in the NIR for the Draft LACAP.

It is concluded in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of conservation objectives, that the Modifications to the Draft LACAP will not give rise to any likely significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Consequently, a Stage 2 AA is not required for the Plan modifications.



## 6. REFERENCES

Environment Heritage and Local Government (2010) Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland Guidance for Planning Authorities. Dublin.

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ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE  
& PLANNING

## APPENDIX 1

Author Details



## Author Details

**Lead Author - Andrew Torsney** is a Principal Ecologist with over 12 years' experience working on major national and local scale projects. Andrew graduated from University College Dublin in 2011 with a B.Sc. degree in Zoology and obtained Master's degree in Biodiversity and Conservation from the University of Leeds in 2012. He has a range of ecological skills which include habitat mapping, ecological surveying, data interpretation and report writing. Andrew is a vegetative plant specialist, who has a wealth of experience classifying riparian habitats and identifying rare floral species. Andrew has a vast knowledge of riparian and freshwater ecosystems and undertakes freshwater surveys regularly. Andrew holds 4 national protected species licenses and has a lot of experience optioning surveying licenses for aquatic species such as the white clawed crayfish. He is also a Bat specialist with a wealth of experience, in acoustic surveying and monitoring of bats. Throughout Andrews' career he has worked on a number of large-scale multifaceted projects such as the Killaloe to Dublin water supply project NIS. For this work, Andrew designed and oversaw all ecological field work relating to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and AA.

Andrew has been the principal ecologist for a range of projects including the AA of the National Wind Energy Guidelines, a number of AAs for County Councils and a range of large-scale infrastructure projects.



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