



Comhairle Contae Liatroma Leitrim County Council

Áras an Chontae
Cora Droma Rúisc
Contae Liatroma
N41 PF67

Áras an Chontae
Carrick on Shannon
Co. Leitrim
N41 PF67

☎ 071 96 20005
📠 071 96 21982
🌐 www.leitrimcoco.ie
✉ customerservices@leitrimcoco.ie

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Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) Determination

for proposal to

Extend the duration of the current Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021, as varied

This determination relates to whether the proposal to extend the duration of the current Leitrim County Development Plan, adopted in 2015 and subsequently varied would, or would not necessitate the undertaking of Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment under the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2021 (SI No. 18 of 2021), Section 177U of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended).

As the competent authority, Leitrim County Council has initiated the process of extending the Leitrim County Development Plan review period. The lifespan of the current County Development Plan 2015-2021 would be extended for a maximum period of one year.

As identified in the AA Screening Report:

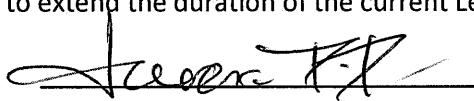
- The proposed extension does not introduce any process or content changes to the Plan itself – merely extends the period for which the Plan relates. This extension was considered with respect to the known threats and pressures related to European sites. There are no additional sources for effects introduced by the proposed extension that were not already considered by the existing AA processes for the current Plan.
- The risks to the safeguarding and integrity of the qualifying interests, special conservation interests and conservation objectives of the European sites have been addressed through existing, already in force policies and objectives within the Leitrim County Development Plan (that was subject to Stage 2 AA) with which the proposed extension and all lower tier plans/projects must comply. In addition, any future projects, plans etc. that may arise will themselves be subject to AA/screening for AA when further details of design and location are known.
- The Habitats Directive requires the assessment to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the proposal, have the potential to adversely impact upon European sites. There are no provisions in the proposed extension that introduce any sources for effects. Therefore, there are no in-combination effects identified.
- It is concluded that the proposed extension will not give rise to any effects on the ecological integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with any other plans, programmes, and projects etc.

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above and in the "Appropriate Assessment Screening Report". The undersigned hereby determines that: the proposed extension will not give rise to any

Beidh Failte roimh freagra tre Ghaeilge

effects on the ecological integrity of any European Site, alone or in combination with any other plans, programmes, and projects etc.; and Stage 2 AA (Natura Impact Statement/Report) is not required for the proposal to extend the duration of the current Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021.

Signatory:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lar Power', written over a horizontal line.

Mr. Lar Power, Chief Executive, Leitrim County Council

Date:

26th April 2022