

Celbridge

Draft Local Area Plan 2017-2023

Dréachtphlean Ceantair Áitiúil Cill Droichid



APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT (AA) SCREENING

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1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

This Draft Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the Celbridge Local Area Plan (LAP) 2017-2023 has been prepared by Ove Arup and Partners Ltd. (Arup) on behalf of Kildare County Council.

This document forms part of this initial stage of the plan making process. The draft Celbridge Local Area Plan (LAP) 2017-2023 is being considered at this stage to assess if there is likely to be a significant adverse effect on any Natura 2000 sites. Following the public consultation period, any proposed amendments will be further assessed in order to assess any potential impacts arising. The proactive approach allows for the adjustment of the policies, objectives and proposals of the Plan prior to adoption. This approach will ensure that significant adverse impacts on Natura 2000 sites are avoided.

The LAP when adopted will replace the Celbridge Local Area Plan 2010. It is a policy of the Kildare County Development Plan 2011-2017 and Draft County Development Plan 2017-2023 (Policy PSO3) to extend the LAP boundary to incorporate the demesnes of Castletown, Donaghcumper and St. Wolstan's as these historic landscapes form an integral part of the history of Celbridge, whilst also providing significant opportunities for the town.

1.2 The Requirement for Habitats Directive Assessment

The Habitats Directive Assessment (HDA), also known as Appropriate Assessment, is a requirement under the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. The Habitats Directive indicates the need for plans and projects to be subject to Appropriate Assessment if the plan or project is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a Natura 2000 site, but is likely to have a significant effect either individually or in combination with other plans or projects on Natura 2000 sites.

1.3 The Purpose of Appropriate Assessment

Principally, the purpose of Appropriate Assessment is to identify the possible effects of implementing a plan (or project) on the conservation status of designated Natura 2000 sites within the sphere of influence of the plan (or project). Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna – the ‘Habitats Directive’ provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. Article 2 of the Habitats Directive requires the maintenance or restoration of habitats and species of interest to the EU in a favourable condition. The Directive was transposed into Irish law by the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, SI 94/1997.

Under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive an Appropriate Assessment must be undertaken for any plan or program that is likely to have a significant effect on the conservation objectives of a Natura 2000 site. Article 6 paragraph 3 states:

Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a 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, an AA is an evaluation of the potential impacts of a plan on the conservation objectives of a Natura 2000 site, and the development, where necessary, of mitigation or avoidance measures to preclude adverse effects. In a situation where it is not possible to fully demonstrate that adverse effects on the site integrity would occur, options must be explored so that any risk of damaging designated sites is avoided.

Plans can only be adopted after having ascertained that there will be no significant adverse effect on the integrity of the sites in question. Components within a plan, such as policies and objectives, can be adjusted or removed to avoid significant adverse impacts prior to implementation. The plan may also proceed if sufficient mitigation or compensation measures are in place to ensure the overall integrity of the site.

The Appropriate Assessment Screening process for land use plans is now legislated for in Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended. Land use plans are defined in this Act, Section 177R, to include a local area plan. The competent authorities are now required to assess land use plans or proposed developments for any potential significant effects on any European Site. The competent authority is then required to determine if the next step, a

Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment, is required or if it can be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the Draft Local Area Plan will have a significant effect on the European Site(s).

1.4 Habitats Directive Assessment Process in relation to the Preparation of the Celbridge LAP

In the preparation of this assessment the following documents have been reviewed:

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities (2009);
- European Commissions: *Managing Natura 2000 Sites. The provisions of Article 6, of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC;*
- European Commission: *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;*
- Guidance document on Article 6(4) of 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC; and
- Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) Circular letter SEA 1/08 & NPWS 1/08 dated 15 February, 2008.

A full bibliography of material referenced and research in preparation of this report is included in the references section at the end of this report.

This screening is based on available ecological information and an adequate description of the plan and its likely environmental impacts. It also takes into account any policies that will set the terms for future development. The results of the screening are recorded and will be made available to the public.

In any case where, following screening, it is found that the draft plan or amendment may have an impact on the conservation objectives of a Natura 2000 site or that such an impact cannot be ruled out, adopting a precautionary approach a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment of the plan must be carried out and - in any case where a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) would not otherwise be required, it must also be carried out.

When the results of the Stage 2 AA under Article 6(3) are negative or uncertain then the provisions of Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive apply. That is:

1. The plan or project will adversely affect the integrity of the site
2. Doubts remain as to the absence of adverse effects on the integrity of the site linked to the plan or project concerned.

The European Commission's Methodological Guidance recommends a 4 stage approach to Appropriate Assessment:

Stage 1 Screening:

Determining whether the plan 'either alone or in combination with other plans or projects' is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site.

Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment:

Determining whether, in view of the site's conservation objectives, the plan 'either alone or in combination with other plans or projects' would have an adverse effect (or risk of this) on the integrity of the site. If not, the plan can proceed.

Stage 3: Assessment of Alternative Solutions:

Where it has not been proven that measures considered will not avoid or mitigate the adverse effect on the Natura 2000 site, then an assessment of the alternatives will be required; and if none are acceptable then stage 4 is required to be considered.

Stage 4: Assessment where no Alternative Solutions Exist and where Adverse Impacts Remain

This will involve assessment where the Plan is considered to result in adverse impacts on the Natura 2000 site and no alternative solutions remain – the imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI) test must be met before authorisation, permission or adoption of the Plan is agreed. This includes the agreement of compensatory measures.

1.5 Introduction to Stage One Screening

The Screening Stage of the report is used to identify whether the Plan, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site. This report follows European Commission (2001) guidance which recommends that screening should follow a four step process as outlined below:

Step one: Determine whether the plan is directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site. If it is, then no further assessment is necessary.

Step two: Describe the plan and other plans and projects that, 'in combination', have the potential to have significant effects on a European site.

Step three: Identify the potential effects on the European site.

Step four: Assess the significance of any effects on the European site.

As the Draft Celbridge () Local Area Plan (LAP) 2017-2023 is a land use plan and not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any Natura 2000 site, this assessment will proceed to step two of the process.

1.6 Appropriate Assessment Process in Tandem with LAP Progression

Appropriate Assessment Screening of the Draft Celbridge () Local Area Plan (LAP) 2017-2023 has been undertaken and the findings of the assessment are presented in this AA Screening Report. As the LAP is progressed through the plan making process the appropriate assessment process will continue in tandem and will inform the decision making process in terms of any likely significant impacts arising from the LAP on Natura 2000 sites.

This report contains the results of the assessment which was carried out on the Celbridge () Local Area Plan (LAP) 2017-2023 as published December 2016. It also contains recommendations for modifications to objectives and/or policies of the plan to prevent any risk of impact to all Natura 2000 sites arising from implementation of the plan.

1.7 Data Sources

This appropriate assessment screening of Celbridge () Local Area Plan (LAP) 2017-2023 for potential significant effects on a European or Natura 2000 site is based on a review of information relating to these sites and to the habitats and species that they support. Information relied upon included the following information sources, which included maps, ecological and water quality data:

- Ordnance Survey of Ireland mapping and aerial photography available from www.osi.ie;
- Online data available on European sites as held by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) from www.npws.ie;
- Information on land - use zoning from the online mapping of the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government <http://www.myplan.ie/en/index.html>;
- Information on water quality in the area available from www.epa.ie;
- Eastern River Basin District River Basin Management Plan 2009 – 2013 (National River Basin Management Plans 2015-2021 currently in preparation) from www.wfdireland.ie;
- Information on soils, geology and hydrogeology in the area available from www.gsi.ie;
- Information on the status of EU protected habitats in Ireland (National Parks and Wildlife Service, 2013a and 2013b);
- Kildare County Development Plan 2011-2017;
- Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023;

- Kildare Development Plan 2011 – 2017 Natura Impact Statement;
- Ecological reports and EIS reports for proposed developments within LAP lands.

1.8 Consultation

The draft plan and this AA Screening Report for the plan will be placed on public display and will be referred to Government Departments and other statutory consultees for consideration during the consultation process. Submissions will be taken into consideration in the drafting of the final plan and accompanying final Appropriate Assessment reporting.

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2 Description of the plan and other plans and projects that, 'in combination', have the potential to have significant effects on a European or Natura 2000 site

2.1 Introduction

This is the second step of the Stage One Screening process and provides a description of the plan and other plans and projects that, 'in combination', have the potential to have significant effects on a European or Natura 2000 site.

2.2 Description of the Draft Celbridge Local Area Plan (LAP) 2017-2023

For the purposes of this AA, the 'plan' is taken to be the Draft Celbridge Local Area Plan (LAP) 2017-2023.

The Draft Celbridge () Local Area Plan (LAP) 2017-2023 has been prepared in accordance with the requirements and provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended for the area defined in the Figure 1 in Appendix A. It sets out an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of Celbridge in the context of the Kildare County Development Plan 2011-2017 and the Regional Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area 2010-2022. It is also informed by Ministerial Guidelines published pursuant to Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, together with EU requirements regarding Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment.

The Draft Celbridge () Local Area Plan 2017-2023 provides the main public statement of planning policies and objectives for the town. The policies and objectives are critical in determining the appropriate location and form of different types of development as the Local Area Plan is the primary statutory land use policy framework against which planning applications are assessed.

The objectives of the Local Area Plan are also used by Kildare County Council to guide their activities and to indicate priority areas for action and investment by the Councils such as focusing on attracting employment into the town or enhancing the town as a centre for tourism.

The Draft Celbridge LAP is a key document for setting out a vision for how Celbridge should develop over the years 2017-2023 and beyond. The plan is consistent with the objectives set out in the following documents:

- The National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020;
- The Regional Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area 2010-2022;

- Kildare County Development Plan 2011 – 2017; and
- Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023.

The LAP has a critical role to play in ensuring that the needs of the future population are planned for. The town of Celbridge has a number of positive assets, which will aid its development in the future. However, there are a number of key challenges that need to be addressed including the following:

- Ensuring a planning framework is established so that Celbridge can meet its population target through development of new sustainable neighbourhoods which deliver a quality of life in terms of amenity, convenience and safety.
- Promoting Celbridge as an economically vibrant Moderate Growth Town in a carefully planned manner so as to protect the unique character of the town.
- Encourage and sustain the availability and diversity of local employment opportunities, identify potential for inward investment and enhance the tourism economy to support future growth.
- Promote integrated land use and transportation planning to further support and encourage more sustainable modes of travel including public transport, walking and cycling.
- Ensure there is adequate availability of water, wastewater, surface water drainage, waste management and energy infrastructure to support development of the economy, residential development and amenities.
- Ensure adequate provision of open space, services, community facilities, educational facilities and amenities for Celbridge's expanding population
- Maximising tourism potential of the historic Celbridge and local features of historical and heritage interest.
- Supporting the re-use of land and buildings, particularly through reuse and regeneration of town centre sites.
- Facilitate good urban design in Celbridge to protect the town's distinctive estate town character and enhance the quality of the built environment.

The Core Strategy of the Draft LAP aims to support the sustainable long-term growth of Celbridge as a Moderate Growth Town in accordance with the Core Strategy of the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2013. This includes facilitating sustainable intensification and consolidation in the town centre and established residential and commercial areas. New residential development will be focused into the Key Development Areas identified in the Core Strategy map and new enterprise development into areas identified for light industry and warehousing and business and technology development. The plan identifies zoned lands on which the Council aims to support and facilitate development

and which take into account the policies and objectives of the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023.

2.3 In-combination / Cumulative Effects with Other Plans and Projects

Other plans and projects are considered below. It is considered extremely unlikely that significant in-combination or cumulative effects arising from interaction with other plans or projects could arise.

The plan considered to be of most relevance in assessing the potential for impacts on Rye Valley Water/Carton SAC is the Draft Leixlip Local Area Plan 2017-2023. A section of Rye Valley Water/Carton SAC is contained within the Draft Leixlip LAP area and therefore the potential for impacts on qualifying interests on this SAC are considered in detail in the Stage 2 AA Natura Impact Report (NIR) for that LAP. The AA Determination for the Draft Leixlip Local Area Plan 2017-2023 states that,

'It determined that, assuming the successful implementation of the Objectives and Policies contained within the Plan itself there will be no adverse effects on integrity of European Sites in isolation or in combination with other Plans and Projects acting in the same area.'

Regional Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area (2010-2022)

The RPGs have undergone an AA and it recommended specific conditions to protect European sites (Section 4.6 of HDA). These were incorporated into the RPGs where appropriate. No in - combination impacts with the Draft Celbridge LAP are predicted as a result of implementation.

Retail Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2008-2016

This Strategy does not seem to have undergone Appropriate Assessment. The Strategy sits under the Regional Planning guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area which was subject to AA, which placed emphasis on the protection of European sites. No in-combination impacts with the Draft Celbridge LAP are predicted as a result of implementation.

Draft Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035

This Strategy has undergone an AA and mitigatory measures have been recommended and incorporated into the text. Mitigation measures include those specifically to protect biodiversity including European sites, protection of riparian zone and waterbodies and watercourses and soil protection and contamination. No in-combination impacts with the Draft Celbridge LAP are predicted as a result of implementation.

Eastern and South Eastern River Basin Management Plans (2009-2015)

Both Plans underwent an AA. Safeguards (described as ‘mitigation measures’ in Appendix I of the AA Screening) are in place for each qualifying interest of the European sites. An example of a common safeguard is the creation of buffer strips around water bodies to prevent pollutant loss. No in-combination impacts with the Draft Celbridge LAP are predicted as a result of implementation.

Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023

The Draft Plan has undergone an AA. It found that any provisions in the Plan which may have potentially led to adverse impacts on European site have been mitigated for by the inclusion of a number of policies and objectives which specifically address the protection of European sites and reinforce statutory requirements to consider these in future plans and projects. Table A1 in Appendix A details these protective policies and objectives. No in-combination impacts with the Draft Celbridge LAP are predicted as a result of implementation.

Kildare County Heritage Plan 2005-2009

This Plan does not seem to have undergone an AA. However, the aim of the County Kildare Heritage Plan is “to identify, preserve and conserve the built, natural and cultural heritage of the county”. A number of actions within the Heritage Plan aim to raise public awareness, understanding and appreciation of the County’s Heritage and promote best practice e.g. Action 2.12 “Inform general public, particularly estate agents, auctioneers, farmers and public bodies of protected sites (NHA, SAC, SPA),

Protected Structures (RPS) and monuments and archaeological sites (record of Monuments and Places) and make them aware of the level of protection these sites and structures have under national and international legislation. No in-combination impacts with the Draft Celbridge LAP are predicted as a result of implementation.

Kildare County Biodiversity Plan 2009-2014

While this Plan does not seem to have undergone an AA it should be noted that it sits under the Kildare County Development Plan which has undergone AA and has placed emphasis on the protection of European sites. Also the nature of the Biodiversity Plan is to conserve biodiversity including European sites that make up the NATURA 2000 network. No in-combination impacts with the Draft Celbridge LAP are predicted as a result of implementation.

Draft Leixlip Local Area Plan 2017-2023

This Plan has undergone AA which concluded that the LAP is not likely to have any adverse effects on the integrity of any European site within, or adjacent to the Plan area. This includes the Rye Valley Water/Carton SAC which is located within the Leixlip LAP area and therefore was the main focus of the NIR associated with the LAP.

Draft Clane Local Area Plan 2017-2023

This Plan was subject to an AA Screening which concluded that it will not have a significant effect on European sites.

Sallins Local Area Plan 2016-2022 This Plan was subject to an AA Screening which concluded that it will not have a significant effect on European sites.

Monasterevin Local Area Plan 2015-2021

This Plan was subject to an AA Screening which concluded that it will not have a significant effect on European sites.

Kilcock Local Area Plan 2015-2021

This Plan was subject to an AA Screening which concluded that it will not have a significant effect on European sites.

Kilcullen Local Area Plan 2014-2020

This Plan was subject to an AA Screening which concluded that it will not have a significant effect on European sites.

Newbridge Local Area Plan 2013-2019

This Plan was subject to an AA Screening which concluded that it will not have a significant effect on European sites.

Maynooth Local Area Plan 2013-2019

This Plan was subject to an AA Screening which concluded that it will not have a significant effect on European sites.

Kildare Town Local Area Plan 2012-2018

This Plan does not appear to have been subject to an AA Screening. However, it should be noted that this LAP sits under the County Development Plan which includes many policies and objectives to protect European sites.

2.4 Existing Environment of LAP Lands

The following subsections summarise the existing baseline environment of the LAP area. This information will inform the potential for impacts on the natural environment in general and specifically on Natura 2000 sites which are identified within this report.

2.4.1 Water Quality / Water Framework Directive / Water Supply

The plan area is located in the Liffey Catchment in Hydrometric Area 09. Celbridge Town is located on the main Liffey Channel in the Lower Liffey Catchment. The river rises in the Wicklow Mountains and flows through the study area at Celbridge towards Leixlip from where it flows in an easterly direction to Islandbridge and discharges to Dublin Bay. Surface water features in the vicinity of the LAP area are shown in Figure 2 in Appendix A.

The River Liffey and its tributaries, which flow through the Celbridge Local Area Plan area could potentially be impacted by any proposed development. Information on quality status and WFD risk are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1 WFD Waterbody Status, Risk and Objectives

Waterbody Code	Waterbody Name	Current Status	Current Risk	Overall Objective
IE_EA_09_1870_4	Liffey Lower 4	Moderate	1a - At Risk	Restore good status by 2027

The Monitoring Station 1700 above ('Br in Celbridge') is located within the proposed Local Area Plan boundary. Water quality status at this location was recorded as being 'slightly polluted' in 2013.

Celbridge is connected to the North Regional Water Supply scheme which is serviced by the Ballygoran Reservoir. The upgraded Water Treatment Plant (WTP) in Leixlip provides the water supply for Celbridge. The Leixlip Plant is the second largest in the country and supplies 30% of the region's water.

2.4.2 Wastewater Facilities

Celbridge is served by the Lower Liffey Valley Regional Sewerage Scheme and foul wastewater from the area discharges into the wastewater treatment plant at Leixlip.

The existing Leixlip Wastewater Treatment Plant has a design capacity of 80,000 person equivalent (P.E.). This facility outfalls to the River Liffey and is currently over capacity. The urban area population which it serves is approximately 100,309. However, the Leixlip Waste Water Treatment Plant is currently being upgraded and will have a capacity of 150,000 PE on completion of the upgrade.

2.4.3 Groundwater

The LAP area and general surrounds are underlain by the Dublin Groundwater body which extends from the greater Dublin City area southwest towards Kildare.

The plan area is underlain by a bedrock aquifer which is classified by the GSI as a 'Locally Important' (LI) aquifer and is moderately productive only in local zones.

Groundwater vulnerability in Celbridge and the vicinity is predominantly high with pockets of extreme vulnerability and areas where rock is at or near the surface or is karst.

A number of warm springs are situated in the Lucan and Celbridge areas. Typical spring temperatures range from 12.5-25°C, which is significantly above temperatures normally expected for Irish groundwater. It is thought that the

groundwater issuing from these springs comes from a much deeper source than most groundwater in Ireland (Burdon, 1983). The presence of warm springs has been associated with deep faults, which would allow deeper, warmer waters to the surface rapidly, and it may be that they are more noticeable in poorer aquifers where the dilution effect of colder, shallower, younger waters is reduced.

Due to the generally low permeability of the aquifers within the Dublin GWB, a high proportion of the recharge will then discharge rapidly to surface watercourses via the upper layers of the aquifer, effectively reducing further the available groundwater resource in the aquifer.

The general groundwater flow direction in this aquifer is towards the coast and also towards the River Liffey and Dublin City. This aquifer is not expected to maintain regional groundwater flow paths. Groundwater circulation from recharge to discharge points will more commonly take place over a distance of less than a kilometre.

3 Brief Description of the Natura 2000 Sites

3.1 Introduction

This is the third step of Stage One Screening, the purpose of which is map and tabulate the information available on all Natura 2000 sites within or immediately adjoining the region. As part of this, reasons for site designation and environmental conditions necessary to support site integrity will be indicated, where possible. It should be noted that Natura 2000 sites include Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) as well as proposed sites awaiting approval – potential SPAs (pSPAs) and candidate SACs (cSACs).

3.2 Identification and Consideration of Natura 2000 Sites

There are a number of Natura 2000 sites which may potentially be affected by the Plan. In this section of the report the information available on Natura 2000 sites within or immediately adjoining the plan area in situ and ex situ are mapped and tabulated, as appropriate. In general ex situ sites are those located within 15km from the nearest Plan Area Boundary and for the purposes of this assessment, include the Natura 2000 sites in Table 2.

Table 2 Natura 2000 Site within 15km of Celbridge LAP Area

Site Code	Site Name	Distance to LAP (km)
1398	Rye Water Valley/Cartron SAC	1.66
1209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	12.39
397	Red Bog, Kildare SAC	13.55
2122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	13.6
391	Ballynafagh Bog SAC	14.04
1387	Ballynafagh Lake SAC	14.69

Figure 3 in Appendix A shows the SACs which are located within or are adjoining the plan area. There are no SPAs located within or which adjoin the plan area. It should be noted that the boundaries of these sites are subject to change. Up to date information, data and maps of Irish Natura 2000 sites, including those

identified above is available from the Maps and Data Section on the NPWS website at <http://www.npws.ie/en/MapsData>.

The nearest SAC to the LAP boundary, at 1.66km, is Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC. Glenasmole Valley SAC, Red Bog, Kildare SAC, Wicklow Mountains SAC, Ballynafagh Bog SAC, and Ballynafagh Lake SAC are all greater than 12km from the LAP boundary. Given the scale of the LAP and its distance from all aforementioned SACs within 15km except Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC, it is considered that the plan is extremely unlikely to significantly impact on these sites and therefore Red Bog, Kildare SAC, Wicklow Mountains SAC, Ballynafagh Bog SAC, and Ballynafagh Lake SAC are not considered any further in this AA Screening Report.

The Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC is located between Leixlip and Maynooth extending along the River Rye Water, a tributary of the River Liffey. The river was arterially drained in the early 1950s, but remains the only significant salmon spawning and nursery stream discharging into the River Liffey downstream of Leixlip dam.

The Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC is designated for the protection of two molluscs listed on Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive. These semi-aquatic snails, *Vertigo angustior* and *V. moulinsiana* occur in marsh vegetation near Louisa Bridge. In addition, the marsh, mineral spring and seepage area found at Louisa Bridge, which supports the presence of these molluscs is of a type considered to be rare in Europe and is a habitat listed on Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive.

Table 3 lists the qualifying interests of Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC and the pressures and threats as identified in relevant Article 17 reporting.

Table 3 Qualifying Interests of Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC

Qualifying Interests	Identified Pressures and Threats
<p>Habitat – Annex I</p> <p>Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220]</p>	<p>Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general (J02.01) high importance (H)</p> <p>abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing (A04.03) medium importance (M)</p> <p>diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities (H01.05) medium importance (M)</p> <p>Trampling, overuse (G05.01) medium importance (M)</p> <p>roads, motorways (D01.02) medium importance (M)</p> <p>intensive grazing (A04.01) medium importance (M)</p> <p>Water abstractions from groundwater (J02.07) medium importance (M)</p> <p>surface water abstractions for agriculture (J02.06.01) low importance (L)</p> <p>collapse of terrain, landslide (L05) low importance (L)</p> <p>intensive maintenance of public parks /cleaning of beaches (G05.05) low importance (L)</p> <p>missing or wrongly directed conservation measures (G05.07) low importance (L)</p> <p>continuous urbanisation (E01.01) low importance (L) N/A</p> <p>other outdoor sports and leisure activities (G01.08) low importance (L)</p> <p>artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees) (B01.02) low importance (L)</p> <p>speleology (G01.04.02) low importance (L)</p> <p>invasive non-native species (I01) low importance (L)</p> <p>disposal of household / recreational facility waste (E03.01) low importance (L)</p> <p>other sport / leisure complexes (G02.10)</p>
<p>Species – Annex II</p> <p><i>Vertigo angustior</i> (Narrow-mouthed</p>	<p>A04.01: intensive grazing High a pressure seen on many sites.</p> <p>A04.01.02: intensive sheep grazing High as implicated in the loss at Glencolmcille and affecting potential habitat in other</p>

<p>Whorl Snail) [1014]</p>	<p>sites.</p> <p>A04.03: Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing High as this is implicated in the loss of species at Louisa Bridge and Glencolmcille and a problem at several sites.</p> <p>A05.02: stock feeding Low a specific problem at two sites and only covering small area.</p> <p>D01.03: car parks and parking areas Low a specific problem at one site (Kinlackagh) but only covering a small area.</p> <p>D01.01: paths, tracks, cycling tracks Medium. This is a pressure on one site (Kinlackagh) but was considered severe</p> <p>G02.08: Camping and caravans This is considered to have had an impact on two sites (Kinlackagh and Fanore) and is rated as Medium as covers large area and there is a relationship to other recreational pressures</p> <p>J02.05. Modification of hydrographic functions. Low. Alteration of the wetland habitat by controlling flooding and levels of groundwater are implicated in the loss of species at Louisa Bridge and is the main pressure on inland habitats which require stable hydrological conditons.</p>
<p><i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> (Desmoulin's Whorl Snail) [1016]</p>	<p>A04.03 Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing Low</p> <p>D03.02 shipping lanes Low; this refers to the management and possible reopening of disused canals.</p> <p>J02.01.02 reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh Low; this refers to the drainage of land</p> <p>J02.01.03 infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits. Low.</p> <p>J02.02.01 dredging/ removal of limnic sediments Low</p> <p>J02.10 management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes Low; this impact refers to the modification of stands of tall vegetation in small wetlands along river and canals</p> <p>K02.01 species composition change (succession) Low; this pressure is widespread</p>

Conservation Objectives

The Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DAHG) is in the process of drawing up Site Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) for all Natura 2000 sites.

These SSCO's aim to define favourable conservation condition for the qualifying habitats and species at that site. The maintenance (or restoration) 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'.

For those sites where no SSCO's are available, which is the case for Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC, the DAHG has provided generic Conservation Objectives for designated European sites. The following generic Conservation Objective Rye apply to Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC:

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.

The NPWS site synopsis for Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC is given in Appendix B.

4 Assessment of the Significance of any Impacts on Natura 2000 Sites

4.1 Introduction

This is the fourth and final step of Stage One Screening and involves an assessment of the significance of any impacts on Natura 2000 Sites. In identifying the potential issues which could affect the integrity of these sites a range of factors were taken into account, including the possibility of effects manifesting themselves in the short, medium and long-term, in combination effects and the potential impacts of climate change. In addition, the precautionary principle was adhered to in the carrying out of this assessment.

Where potentially effects have been identified, mitigation measures are recommended, where possible, so as to ensure that significant effects on Natura 2000 sites are avoided. If this can be achieved there may not be a need to proceed to Stage Two – Appropriate Assessment.

In certain instances, this can be achieved by amending the objective / policy so as to provide a positive indication that they will not have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site. In other cases, a caveat or conditional approach will be used to indicate that before certain policies or objectives are implemented certain things have to happen so that when implemented, will have no significant effect, or adversely impact on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site. In other situations, it may be recommended that additional mitigation policies be included or that certain objectives / policies be rejected so as to ensure that significant adverse effects on the Conservation Objectives of Natura 2000 sites are avoided.

4.2 Data sources, Consultation, Gaps and Limitations

This Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment of potential adverse impacts on Natura 2000 sites in this study is based on a desktop review of literature, existing and relevant NPWS Natura 2000 Site Synopses Data, Qualifying Interests, Conservation Management Plans and the (draft) Conservation Objectives. A review was also carried out of Habitats Directive Assessments/Natura Impact Assessments recently carried out in relation to plans /projects in the area, in particular the Stage 2 AA Natura Impact Report for the Draft Kildare County Development Plan and planning applications in the vicinity of the Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC.

Consultation will take place in accordance with the Department's circular letter which states that: The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) of the Department has a formal consultation role (through the Development Applications Unit (DAU)) as part of the screening and assessment process. The Scoping report for the SEA for the Draft Celbridge LAP was also sent to the

statutory bodies and submissions received have been incorporated into the plan where appropriate.

Furthermore in line with recommendations in the European Commission: 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, representatives from the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Inland Fisheries Ireland will be further consulted with prior to the adoption of the plan and the completion of the accompanying 'Finding of no significant effects' (fonse) report. The AA will also be forwarded as part of the SEA consultation process to statutory bodies required under the SEA directive.

The primary issue relating to data gaps and limitations was identified as the generic nature of the (draft) conservation objectives with site-specific quantitative objectives for each qualifying interest yet to be identified.

4.3 Detailed Screening for Potential Effects on Natura 2000 Sites

In this section of the report the plan is screened at an individual objective level and at a broader strategic / policy level so as to ensure that potential effects of the plan on Natura 2000 sites are identified. This section of the report also includes recommended changes to the wording of the draft plan, where appropriate, so as to ensure that significant effects on Natura 2000 sites are avoided. If this can be achieved there may not be a need to proceed to Stage Two – Appropriate Assessment.

The assessment of the individual objective screening exercise is outlined in Section 4.3.1 while the assessment of the broader strategic / policy level screening exercise is outlined in Section 4.3.2.

The DoEHLG (2009) have advised that policies and objectives found at Stage 1 AA screening to have no significant effect can include policies or objectives that:

- Will not lead to development;
- Are intended to protect the natural environment, including biodiversity (see Article 10 of Directive);
- Are intended to conserve or enhance the natural, built or historic environment and are unlikely to have an effect on a Natura 2000 site;
- Positively steer development away from Natura 2000 sites and associated sensitive areas;
- Positively make provision to ensure that the policy / objective implementation will not have a significant effect or adverse affect on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site; or

- Policies and objectives that can be dealt with by using a caveat or conditional approach requiring, where necessary, a case by case AA.

4.3.1 Detailed Screening of the LAP for Potential Effects on Natura 2000 Sites

The results of the screening exercise of the plans objectives, for potential effects on Natura 2000 sites, are presented in Table 4. Recommended amendments to LAP wording to avoid the potential for significant effects on Natura 2000 sites are presented in the column entitled, Risk of Significant Effect.

Rye Valley Water/Carlton SAC is located approximately 1.6km from the LAP area and therefore there will be no direct impacts on qualifying habitats or species of the SAC. It is considered that effects which could be generated by the Draft Celbridge LAP and which have the potential to give rise to adverse impacts on Rye Valley Water/Carlton SAC are likely to be limited to issues relating to groundwater, water quality, disturbance associated with recreation and tourism and invasive species. Where the LAP may give rise to the potential for these issues to impact on the SAC they are discussed, with mitigation measures proposed where appropriate.

Table 4 Celbridge LAP – Detailed Screening for Potential Effects on Natura 2000 Sites

Policy / Objective No.	Policy / Objective / Action Text	Risk of Significant Effect (including in combination and cumulative effects)
Policy CS – Core Strategy	It is the policy of the Council to support the sustainable long - term growth of Celbridge in accordance with the Core Strategy of the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2017 - 2023.	None identified. The Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2017 - 2023 has been subject to Stage 2 AA and the overarching core strategy was not specifically identified as significant risk.
CS01.1	To support and facilitate sustainable intensification and consolidation in the town centre and in established residential areas.	None identified. This objective gives general direction for development in a sustainable manner.
CS01.2	To support new residential development in Key Development Areas (KDAs) in tandem with the delivery of supporting physical and social infrastructure.	None identified. KDA's are not linked to N2K sites.
CS01.3	To support economic and social development that is consistent with the role of Celbridge as a Moderate Sustainable Growth Town.	None identified. The Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2017 - 2023 has been subject to Stage 2 AA and the classification of Celbridge as a Moderate Sustainable Growth Town

		included.
CS01.4	To investigate options for the long - term development of Celbridge, and in particular the potential of lands in the vicinity of Hazelhatch / Celbridge rail station for development, in consultation with the NTA, Irish Rail, South Dublin County Council, the OPW and other statutory agencies and stakeholders.	None identified. Any development in the plan area will have to be assessed against a range of proposed and existing objectives/policies in this LAP and the KCC CDP 2017-2023, this includes requirements under the Habitats Directive.
CS01.5	To support and facilitate development on zoned lands based on the policies and objectives of the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2017 - 2023 and the Celbridge Local Area Plan 2017 - 2023.	None identified. The Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2017 - 2023 has been subject to Stage 2 AA.
Policy R1 – Town Centre	It is the policy of the Council to protect and enhance the role of Celbridge town centre as a vibrant and attractive town centre that meets the retailing and service needs of the area in addition to harnessing its potential as a heritage and tourism destination within the region.	None identified.
TCO1.1	To protect and enhance the commercial and retail primacy and function of the town centre and promote new development that consolidates the existing urban core through regeneration and infill.	None identified.
TCO1.2	To protect the quality, ambience, vibrancy and vitality of Celbridge Town Centre by promoting an appropriate mix of day and night time uses.	None identified.
TCO1.3	To support development that will strengthen the town centre and act as a catalyst for	None identified.

	renewal.	
TCO1.4	To promote a high standard of urban design in the town centre that contributes to the creation of safe and attractive streets and spaces and creates a desirable place in which to work, live and visit.	None identified.
TCO1.5	To encourage and facilitate the re - use and regeneration of vacant or underused sites for appropriate town centre uses and encourage the full use of buildings and in particular, upper floors and backlands.	None identified.
TCO1.6	To achieve greater economic use of town centre premises through encouraging residential uses above ground floor. The Council will actively encourage initiatives such as 'living over the shop' and other similar initiatives.	None identified.
TCO1.7	To improve the accessibility of the town centre with particular emphasis on creating an environment that is accessible to pedestrians and cyclists.	None identified.
TCO1.8	To support the continued use of the Mill Centre as an activity hub for the town and support improvement and intensification of activity at this location.	None identified.
Actions	To work with relevant agencies and stakeholders to undertake a retail health check survey in the town centre and identify actions to support town centre regeneration.	None identified.
Policy TCE 1 - Town Centre Expansion	It is the policy of the Council to support town centre extension on identified opportunities to the south of the town at St. Raphael's (Oakley Park) and to the east at Donaghcumper, subject to the protection of the architectural and landscape character of the area.	None identified.
TCEO1.1	To support town centre uses on identified opportunities to the south of main street at St. Raphael's (Oakley Park) and to the east of Main Street at Donaghcumper, subject to the protection of the architectural and landscape character of the area.	None identified.
TCEO1.2	To support an appropriate mix of uses on town centre expansion sites such as retail, office, residential, community and amenity uses.	None identified.
TCEO1.3	To ensure that town centre expansion sites are supported by direct walking and cycle links to the Main Street.	None identified.

Policy R2 - Retailing	It is the policy of the Council to support the Tier 1, Level 3 retail function of Celbridge and to consolidate retail development within the town centre.	None identified.
RO2.1	To protect the primacy of the town centre as the core retail area in Celbridge, through the application of a sequential approach to retail development, in accordance with the Retail Planning Guidelines for Planning Authorities, DECLG (2012).	None identified.
RO2.2	To support and facilitate the development of retail, retail services and niche retailing in the town centre area, including infill development and redevelopment of an appropriate scale subject to the preservation of architectural heritage and new development on town centre extension sites.	None identified.
RO2.3	To ensure that the scale and type of retail offer is appropriate to the Tier 1, Level 3 status of Celbridge and is sufficient to serve the local catchment without adversely impacting upon higher order retail centres.	None identified.
RO2.4	To encourage the adaption of buildings in the core area to accommodate modern retail uses and services where this does not have any negative impact on architectural heritage.	None identified.
RO2.5	To encourage and facilitate the re - use and regeneration of derelict and vacant land and buildings for retail and other town centre uses, subject to the protection of architectural heritage.	None identified.
RO2.6	To support and facilitate convenience retailing and services of an appropriate scale at identified neighbourhood centre locations, and ensure that new development enhances the character of the area.	None identified.
Policy R3 – Public Realm	It is the policy of the Council to seek to actively encourage, support and facilities environmental and public realm improvements in Celbridge Town Centre and at neighbourhood centres to address environmental quality, urban design, safety, identity and attractiveness.	None identified.
PRO1.1	To ensure that all new development in the town centre and in neighbourhood centres contributes positively to and enhances the streetscape and public realm and presents a	None identified.

	positive edge to streets and the public roadway.	
Actions	The Council will use enforcement powers prescribed under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to address unauthorised signage in Celbridge.	None identified.
	The Council will actively engage with the community, developers and other agencies to secure resources for the enhancement, renewal and regeneration of the public realm in Celbridge. Initiatives may include: (i) The development of a public realm enhancement plan for Celbridge. (ii) Improved paving, planting, lighting or street furniture in the Town Centre area.	None identified.
Policy R4 – Shopfronts	It is the policy of the Council to support the provision of high quality shop fronts and signage that contribute positively to and enhance the streetscape and to seek to control and limit superfluous signage.	None identified.
R04.1	To ensure that new shopfront design contributes positively to and enhances the streetscape, and is in accordance with the guidance set out in the County Kildare Shop Front Guidelines (Kildare County Council July 2013).	None identified.
R04.2	To ensure that new signage contributes positively to and enhances the streetscape in accordance with the guidance set out in the Kildare County Council Policy on Signage (April 2013).	None identified.
Actions	To encourage the renewal and upgrading of existing shop fronts and signage and continue the Kildare County Council Shop Front and Town Centre Improvement Grant Scheme.	None identified.
	The Council will use, where appropriate, enforcement powers prescribed under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to address unauthorised signage in Celbridge.	None identified.
Policy UU1 – Undesirable Uses	It is the policy of the Council to manage the provision of undesirable uses such as fast food outlets, take - aways, amusement arcades, bookmakers, amusement arcades and off - licences, and to manage the distribution of non - retail uses in the interest of	None identified.

	protecting the vibrancy, residential amenity and public realm of Celbridge Town Centre.	
UUO1.1	To prevent an excessive concentration of fast food outlets, take - aways, bookmakers/ betting offices, amusement arcades and off - licences in Celbridge Town Centre.	None identified.
UUO1.2	To manage the distribution and concentration of non - retail uses in the town centre in order to support active uses and activities that promote vibrancy and vitality of the town centres.	None identified.
Policy RD1 - Residential Development: Capacity and Delivery	It is a policy of the Council to ensure that sufficient zoned land continues to be available at appropriate locations in Celbridge to satisfy the housing needs of the town and that each household has access to good quality housing that is appropriate to its circumstance.	
RDO1.1	To promote and facilitate the phased development of identified Key Development Areas in accordance with the guidance set out in Chapter 12.	None identified. The KDAs are located within the LAP area and
RDO1.2	To secure the provision of social infrastructure and community and recreational facilities in tandem with residential development, in accordance with the implementation strategy in Chapter 13 of the LAP.	None identified.
RDO1.3	To encourage the appropriate redevelopment of brownfield and infill sites for residential uses within the LAP area subject to compliance with the relevant development management standards of the County Development Plan.	None identified.
RDO1.4	To focus the majority of new housing in Celbridge within walking or cycling distance of a school cluster, the town centre or transport routes	None identified.
RDO1.5	To manage the provision of one off housing on lands zoned as 'I: Agricultural'. Limited one off housing will be permitted in this zone subject to compliance with the rural housing policy (Chapter 4) of the CDP. Documentary evidence of compliance with this policy must be submitted as part of the planning application, including a separate statement by the	None identified.

	applicant on the need to reside in the area.	
RDO1.6	To ensure that, notwithstanding compliance with policy RDO1.5, applicants comply with all other normal siting and design considerations.	None identified.
Policy RD 2 - Residential Density, Mix and Design	It is the policy of the Council to require that all new residential development provides for a sustainable mix of house types, sizes and tenures and that new development complements the existing residential mix.	None identified.
RDO2.1	To require all new residential developments meet the standards and guidance set out in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas, Guidelines for Planning Authorities, DEHG (2009). • Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments, Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2015). • The Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets, DTTS and DECLG (2013). • The policies, objectives and development management standards contained in this LAP and the Draft Kildare County Development Plan. 	None identified.
RDO2.2	To ensure that a good mix of housing types and sizes is provided in each Key Development Area to meet the future needs of the population of Celbridge.	None identified.
RDO2.3	To require the submission of a Design Statement (CDP Section 17.3 refers) and Housing Mix Statement (CDP Section 17.4.3 refers) with applications for residential development in accordance with the provisions of the County Development Plan.	None identified.
RDO2.4	To apply a 10% social housing requirement, pursuant to Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to all sites that are zoned solely for residential use or for a mixture of residential and other uses (save where the development is exempt from the provisions of Part V).	None identified.
Policy COM1 - Education,	It is the policy of the Council to facilitate and secure the provision of social infrastructure to support existing and new communities, in a manner which provides flexibility to	None identified.

Childcare and Health Facilities	respond to varied and changing community needs.	
COMO1.1	To support and facilitate improvements to existing educational, childcare and healthcare facilities within the Celbridge LAP area.	None identified.
COMO1.2	To require the provision of a minimum of 0.13 childcare spaces per dwelling on a pro - rata basis in the Key Development Areas, in accordance with the phasing requirements set out in Section 13 of the LAP.	None identified.
Actions	To liaise with the Department of Education and Skills, under the nationally agreed Memorandum of Understanding on the provision of school sites, to support the Department's Schools Building programme and to proactively identify and acquire sites for new primary and post primary schools where the Department has identified a need.	None identified.
	The Council will continue to work with healthcare service providers and key stakeholders, including the HSE and the St. John of Gods Trust, to support their healthcare operations in Celbridge.	None identified.
Policy COM2 Community & Recreational Facilities	It is the policy of the Council to facilitate and support a broad range of community and recreational facilities to serve the needs of the residents of Celbridge.	None identified.
COMO2.1	To support and facilitate the continued provision of multi - functional community facilities to meet the needs of the population of Celbridge.	None identified.
COMO2.2	To ensure that adequate and safe amenity and recreational open spaces are available for all groups of the population at a convenient distance from their homes and places of work.	None identified.
Policy COM3 Integrated Services Programme	It is the policy of the Council to support the vision of the Celbridge Integrated Services Programme to encourage a sustainable and socially cohesive community which meets the needs of all residents.	None identified.

COMO3.1	To promote and facilitate, where appropriate, the realisation of the goals and objectives of the Celbridge Integrated Services Programme.	None identified.
Policy ED1 – Enterprise and Economic Development	It is the policy of the Council to support sustainable economic development in Celbridge, optimising on the town’s location in the North Kildare Economic Cluster and the Metropolitan Area of Dublin and its potential as a heritage and tourism destination.	None identified.
EDO1.1	To ensure that there is a sufficient supply of zoned lands at suitable locations to accommodate a range of enterprise and employment development types.	None identified.
EDO1.2	To promote and support enterprise and employment uses, including professional services, public administration, research and development and other commercial activities, on town centre extension sites.	None identified.
EDO1.3	To promote linkages with major national institutions and companies such as Maynooth University, Intel and Hewlett Packard and the State Laboratories at Backweston.	None identified.
EDO1.4	To support industrial and warehousing development on lands zoned for “Industry and Warehousing” development.	None identified.
EDO1.5	To ensure that all business parks and industrial areas are designed to the highest architectural and landscaping standards.	None identified. But suggest inclusion of text ‘highest architectural, environmental and landscaping standards.’
Policy ED2 – Tourism	It is a policy of the Council to promote the significant heritage and tourism potential of Celbridge and to support sustainable tourism development.	None identified.
EDO2.1	To support the development of tourism infrastructure, attractions and facilities at appropriate locations subject to the protection of architectural heritage and natural amenities.	None identified. Although increased tourism activities and business can have the potential to disturbance

		sensitive habitats or species it is considered that such an increase at Celbridge is extremely unlikely to impact on qualifying features of N2K sites.
EDO2.2	To support the ongoing development of Castletown House and Demesne for leisure and tourism purposes, subject to the protection of architectural heritage and natural amenities.	None identified.
EDO2.3	To support and facilitate the development of an integrated network of Greenways and Heritage Trails along suitable corridors in Celbridge, including pathways along the River Liffey corridor.	Although considered unlikely to have the potential for significant effects, any development which brings increased tourism activities and business along river corridors can have the potential to disturb sensitive habitats or species and are a potential link to Rye Valley Water/Carton SAC. Therefore, suggest inclusion of text, 'including pathways along the River Liffey corridor, subject to relevant environmental

		assessments.'
EDO2.4	To support the development of outdoor leisure activities on lands that are designated as open space, subject to the protection of landscape character and natural heritage.	None identified.
EDO2.5	To support the sensitive restoration of heritage buildings and sites and operate flexibly with regard to the use of converted buildings to facilitate heritage tourism.	None identified.
EDO2.6	To support tourism projects that seek to showcase and promote cultural heritage including arts, music, aviation, history, Irish language, customs and ways of life.	None identified.
EDO2.7	To facilitate tourism activities such as waterways activities, eco - tourism, niche retailing, food markets, local and other craft type activities so as to diversify the tourism produce in Celbridge.	Although considered unlikely to have the potential for significant effects, waterways activities and eco - tourism have the potential to disturb sensitive habitats or species and are a potential link to Rye Valley Water/Carton SAC. Therefore, suggest inclusion of text, 'diversify the tourism produce in Celbridge, subject to relevant environmental assessments.'
EDO2.8	To promote and support tourism led diversification on sites that are zoned for "Commercial and Tourism" development.	None identified. No direct link between development within zonings in LAP area and impacts on N2K sites.

EDO2.9	To support the development of standardised signage and interpretation for tourism facilities and tourist attractions throughout Celbridge.	None identified.
EDO2.10	To support the development of linkages between historical sites within and around Celbridge.	None identified.
Policy DVS1 – Derelict Sites and Vacant Sites	It is the policy of the Council to apply the provisions of the Derelict Sites Act 1990 and the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 in Celbridge.	None identified.
DVSO1.1	To apply the provisions of the Derelict Sites Act 1990 and the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 in securing the regeneration of derelict and vacant sites which are detracting from the amenities of Celbridge.	None identified.
DVSO1.2	To promote the sustainable development of vacant residential and regeneration sites in Celbridge through the application of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015, Vacant Site Levy, on lands zoned Town Centre and New Residential.	None identified.
Policy ED3 – Non Conforming Uses	It is the policy of the Council, where commercial and industrial enterprises exist as non - conforming but long established uses, to support their continued operation and reasonable expansion, in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, save where such a use would impact negatively on the economic and social wellbeing of the area and inhibit development that is in conformance with the land use zoning objective.	None identified. But suggest including text 'save where such a use would impact negatively on the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of the area...'
EDO3.1	To support the continued operation and reasonable expansion of existing non-conforming uses, except in cases where same: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Result in loss of amenity to adjoining properties • Cause adverse impact on the environment • Cause adverse impact on the visual amenity or character of the area, or • Inhibit the development of adjoining land in conformance with its land use zoning 	None identified.

	objective	
Policy MT1 – Pedestrian and Cycle	It is the policy of the Council to provide an enhanced pedestrian and cycle network in Celbridge including the provision of an additional crossing of the River Liffey, to ensure ease of access to public transport, the town centre, heritage sites and other recreational facilities.	None identified.
MTO1.1	To ensure all footpaths in the town provide adequate access for the disabled and mobility impaired.	None identified.
MTO1.2	To facilitate and encourage cycling as a more convenient, popular and safe method of transport through the development of new or improved cycle facilities in Celbridge with a particular focus on the routes identified in the National Transport Authority (NTA) Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan to link population, commercial, community facilities, schools and transport nodes.	A NIS was prepared for the NTA's Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan and mitigation measures are included specifically for Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC. The relevant mitigation measures on pgs 125-127 of that report state that <i>'Any future development of the proposed cycle routes including works on the existing roadways should include assessment of any impacts that may arise as a direct (habitat or species destruction) and indirect (increased recreational pressure) impacts of the</i>

		<p><i>route on the sensitive habitats and species which include, *Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) and snail species Vertigo angustior, Vertigo moulinsiana. Appropriate surveys should be carried out prior to any development of cycle routes to identify if invasive alien species are present. If so an action plan will be drawn up to manage this issue’.</i></p> <p>Therefore, suggest inclusion of additional text, ‘...schools and transport nodes. Any new development to facilitate routes identified in the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan shall be subject to the mitigation detailed in the environmental assessments for that plan.’</p>
MTO1.3	To ensure that adequate and secure bicycle parking facilities are provided generally	None identified.

	throughout Celbridge, and as part of new residential, educational, recreational, and commercial developments.	
MTO1.4	<p>To provide footpaths and public lighting at the following locations (see Map 8.1):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. At the east side of the Newtown Road as part of development of KDA 6. b. Refurbish Main Street footpaths, whilst taking cognisance of the Georgian character of the town. c. Resurface footpaths on the Dublin Road, where required. d. Full provision for pedestrians and cyclists, including public lighting, on Loughlinstown Road as part of road objectives for KDA 3. e. Resurface footpaths on the Maynooth Road, where required, and upgrade cycle facilities along this section of the primary cycle network. f. Full provision of facilities for pedestrians and cyclists on Hazelhatch Road to the Railway Station and to housing estates. 	None identified.
MTO1.5	To maintain the existing Slí na Sláinte routes and facilitate additional routes in and around the Celbridge area.	One of three Slí na Sláinte routes within Celbridge links Hewlett Packard Campus to Louisa Valley Train Station which is close to known locations of some of the qualifying interests of Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC. Increased footfall directed towards these features has the potential to result in effects on these qualifying interests therefore suggest

		inclusion of text, '....in and around the Celbridge area subject to appropriate environmental assessments.'
MTO1.6	To facilitate a new pedestrian / cycling bridge across the Liffey linking to Celbridge Town Centre, in conjunction with any new development at KDA2 – Donaghcumper and new residential areas to the south.	None identified.
MTO1.7	To improve permeability for pedestrians and cyclists between existing residential areas and key destinations within the town particularly at the following locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Glade towards Willowbrook Park b. The Walk towards Willowbrook Grove c. The Walk towards Willowbrook Lawns d. Priory View and Grove to Church Road e. Ballymakealy Grove to North Kildare Educate Together School Additional locations as part of the development of the KDAs have also been identified. For detail and specific location of these see KDA briefs included in Chapter 12.	None identified.
MTO1.8	To require new housing developments to deliver filtered or full permeability to adjoining development in so far as is possible and, in the case of adjoining greenfield sites, to ensure the potential for such provision is addressed.	None identified.
Actions	The Council will work with the National Transport Authority and other statutory agencies to provide for walking and cycling infrastructure including cycle parking.	As per MTO1.2 and MTO1.5 additional infrastructure has the potential for impact on Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC. Therefore suggest additional wording,

		'...including cycle parking, subject to appropriate environmental assessments.'
	The Council will investigate the feasibility of delivering local permeability improvements to maximise access to local shops, schools, public transport services and other amenities in consultation with the NTA and local stakeholders.	As per above action suggest additional wording, '....NTA and local stakeholders, subject to appropriate environmental assessments.'
Policy MT2 – Public Transport	It is the policy of the Council to support improvements to the public transport network serving Celbridge.	None identified.
MTO2.1	To create an interlinked public transport network that maximises the efficiency of existing services, reduces overall journey times and facilitates easy exchanges between modes and/or routes.	None identified.
MTO2.2	To ensure where possible, that all public transport is accessible to the disabled and to encourage retrofitting where same is possible and cost effective.	None identified.
MTO2.3	To support the enhancement of facilities at the Hazelhatch train station, in particular cycle facilities.	None identified.
MTO2.4	To provide greater opportunities for modal shift to public transport through the appropriate management of development particularly in lands to the south of Celbridge town centre.	None identified.
MTO2.5	To work with all agencies to improve and develop public transport facilities in the area and to link such facilities with Celbridge Town Centre and other nearby towns and to ensure that developments are carried out in accordance with the requirements of this Plan and relevant legislation.	None identified.

MTO2.6	To promote alternative routes of the bus service to Hazelhatch Train Station so that it serves Main Street, Maynooth Road, Shackleton Road and Clane Road.	None identified.
Action	To work with stakeholders and state agencies to encourage increased frequency of bus services from Celbridge and adjacent population centres to Hazelhatch Train Station.	None identified.
Policy MT3 – Transportation	It is the policy of the Council to support improvements to the road and street network in Celbridge in order to provide connectivity and permeability throughout the town, enable access to and from new communities and to reduce through - traffic in the town centre.	None identified.
MTO3.1	To maintain, and improve as required the local road network to ensure a high standard of road quality and safety in accordance with the requirements of this Plan and relevant legislation.	None identified.
MTO3.2	To safeguard the capacity of the road network in Celbridge through the use of Intelligent Transport Systems.	None identified.
MTO3.3	To secure the provision of the strategic road objectives identified on Map 8.1, which provides access to new communities and key development areas within the town.	None identified.
MTO3.4	To require a Traffic Impact Assessment (inc. Mobility Management Plan) for all major traffic generating developments.	None identified.
MTO3.5	To require all new developments to comply with the requirements of the Kildare Local Authorities Noise Action Plan 2013 and any revisions of this plan (this may be viewed on the Kildare County Council website at the following address; www.kildarecoco.ie).	None identified.
MTO3.6	To require all new developments to comply with the recommendations of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS), or any subsequent relevant publication.	None identified.
MTO3.7	To facilitate the construction of a road from Hazelhatch Park to Newtown Road in tandem with development of KDA 6 and in the interim to protect this route from development.	None identified.
MTO3.8	To facilitate the construction of a road from Primrose Hill to Loughlinstown Road in tandem with the development of KDA 3 and in the interim to protect this route from development.	None identified.

MTO3.9	To facilitate the construction of a Western Link road from Maynooth Road to Oldtown Road in tandem with the development of KDA 4 and associated lands and in the interim to protect this route from development.	None identified.
MTO3.10	To facilitate the construction of a new vehicular river crossing between Clane Road and Newtown Road within either of the two protected corridors, as indicated on Map 8.1, subject to environmental assessment.	None identified.
MTO3.11	To protect from development a route for a potential new road (including a new bridge over the River Liffey) between Clane Road (near the Celbridge Educate Together School) and Hazelhatch Park.	None identified.
MTO3.12	To carry out the following road improvements (See Map 8.1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Resurface and improve the Maynooth Road, where required. b. Improve the existing Liffey Bridge to better accommodate pedestrians and cyclists. c. Improve and widen Newtown Road as part of the development of KDA 6. d. Reconstruct footpaths on Main Street. e. Resurface and improve the Hazelhatch Road between the railway station and the town, including the provision of adequate pedestrian crossing facilities. f. Upgrade the Oldtown Road from Church Road to the town boundary. g. Upgrade the Loughlinstown Road in conjunction with road objectives for KDA 3. 	None identified.
MTO3.13	To provide passive traffic calming measures throughout Celbridge, where necessary and as funding allows.	None identified.
MTO3.14	To improve junctions and to upgrade traffic signals where appropriate throughout the town.	None identified.
MTO3.15	To promote the planting of native species when considering the landscaping requirements of new transport networks.	None identified.
MTO3.16	To ensure insofar as possible that all transport facilities and services (including car parking) operational in the Celbridge area are accessible to people with mobility needs. Car parking	None identified.

	shall generally be provided in accordance with “Buildings for Everyone: A Universal Design Approach” 2012 published by the National Disability Authority, or any subsequent relevant publication.	
Action	To work with stakeholders and State Agencies in preparing a Strategic Land Use and Transportation Study for North East Kildare.	None identified.
	To maximise the capacity of the local road network and reduce congestion by implementing a range of targeted actions to enhance the accessibility of key destinations in Celbridge (e.g. schools, shops and community facilities) by walking, cycling and public transport use.	None identified.
Policy MT4 – Car Parking	It is the policy of the Council to manage the provision of parking to provide for the needs of residents, businesses and visitors to Celbridge town centre.	None identified.
MTO4.1	In relation to Car Parking it is an objective of the Council: a. To require parking provision for new development in accordance with the standards set out in the County Development Plan. b. To investigate the rationalisation of car parking on the historic main street through the provision of additional off street public car parking in the town centre. c. To ensure the provision of permanent durable surfaces to all public and private car - parking facilities.	None identified.
Action	To provide distinctly coloured disabled car parking spaces at appropriate locations throughout the town.	None identified.
Policy INF1 – Water Supply & Wastewater	It is the policy of the Council to work with Irish Water to protect existing water and wastewater infrastructure in Celbridge, to maximise the potential of the existing network and to ensure that new or upgraded infrastructure is provided to facilitate future growth.	None identified. However suggest additional wording, ‘...upgraded infrastructure is provided, subject to appropriate environmental assessment, to facilitate

		future growth.'
INFO1.1	To work with Irish Water to protect, manage and optimise water services infrastructure in Celbridge.	None identified.
INFO1.2	To work with Irish Water to promote the ongoing upgrade and expansion of water services networks to meet the future needs of Celbridge.	None identified. However suggest additional wording, '...expansion of water services networks, subject to appropriate environmental assessment, networks to meet the future needs of Celbridge.'
Actions	The Council will encourage pre - application consultation with Irish Water.	None identified.
Policy INF2 – Surface Water	It is the policy of the Council to maintain and enhance the existing surface water drainage systems in Celbridge and to protect surface and ground water quality in accordance with the Water Framework Directive.	None identified.
INFO2.1	To carry out surface water infrastructure improvement works as required.	None identified. However suggest additional wording, '...as required, subject to appropriate environmental assessment.'
INFO2.2	To incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) as part of all plans and development proposals in Celbridge. Proposals for KDA's should address the potential for SUDS at a local and district level to control surface water outfall and protect water quality.	None identified.
INFO2.3	To maintain, improve and enhance the environmental and ecological quality of surface waters and groundwater in Celbridge in accordance with the Eastern River Basin District River Basin Management Plan and in conjunction with the EPA.	None identified.

INFO2.4	To require applicants to demonstrate that proposals will not negatively impact on the status of a waterbody, in accordance with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and associated River Basin Management Plans.	None identified.
INFO2.5	To ensure that planning applications have regard to any existing groundwater protection schemes and/or the likely impacts that the development may have on groundwater and soils.	Although considered extremely unlikely that development within the Celbridge LAP area could significantly impact on Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC it is considered that additional wording should be included here so that the potential for impact on groundwater dependent habitats are assessed. Suggest additional text, '...on groundwater, Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTEs) and soils'.
Actions	To ensure that the surface water drains are regularly maintained to minimise the risk of flooding.	None identified.
Policy INF3 – Flood Risk Management	It is the policy of the Council to manage flood risk in Celbridge in conjunction with the OPW and in accordance with the requirements of the Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009) and circular PL02/2014 (August 2014).	None identified.

INFO3.1	To manage flood risk in Celbridge in accordance with the requirements of The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities, DECLG and OPW (2009) and Circular PL02/2014 (August 2014).	None identified.
1NF03.2	To ensure development proposals within the areas outlined on the Flood Risk Map are the subject of Site - Specific Flood Risk Assessment, appropriate to the nature and scale of the development being proposed.	None identified.
INFO3.3	To support and co-operate with the OPW in delivering flood alleviation work under the Eastern CFRAM Programme.	None identified.
Policy INF4 – Energy and Communications	It is the policy of the Council to promote and facilitate the development and renewal of energy and communications networks in Leixlip, while protecting the amenities of the town.	None identified.
INFO4.1	To support the statutory providers of national grid infrastructure by safeguarding existing infrastructure and strategic corridors from encroachment by development that might compromise the operation, maintenance and provision of energy networks.	None identified.
INFO4.2	To support and facilitate the provision of telecommunications infrastructure in Celbridge, subject to safety and amenity requirements.	None identified. However suggest text, ‘...subject to safety, environmental and amenity requirements.
INFO4.3	To seek the undergrounding of all electricity, telephone and television cables in the town.	None identified.
INFO4.4	To discourage a proliferation of above ground utility boxes in the town and to seek screening measures in conjunction with the provision of such structures.	None identified.
INFO4.6	To promote and encourage the use of renewable energy technologies in existing and proposed building stock within the LAP area subject to consideration of environmental, conservation and visual requirements.	None identified.
Actions	To liaise with EirGrid in relation to the rationalisation of transmission infrastructure and/or underground routing of overhead powerlines in Celbridge.	None identified.

Policy INF5 – Solid Waste	It is the policy of the Council to protect environmental quality in Celbridge through the implementation of European, national and regional policy and legislation relating to air quality, light pollution, noise pollution and waste management.	None identified.
INFO4.1	To adequately maintain recycling facilities and to secure the provision of additional facilities, as required, including in conjunction with development.	None identified.
INFO4.2	To provide a civic amenity site (recycling centres) in Celbridge on lands located south of the M4 Motorway and north of the R449 Regional Route to the west of Exit 6.	None identified.
Policy BH1 – Archaeological Heritage	It is the policy of the LAP to safeguard the archaeological heritage of the LAP area and avoid negative impacts on sites, monuments features or objects of significant historical or archaeological interest.	None identified.
BHO1.1	To protect and preserve those items of archaeological interest as listed in Table 10.2 and shown on the Map 10.1 from inappropriate development that would adversely affect and/or detract from the interpretation and setting of these sites.	None identified.
BHO1.2	To protect the historic core of Celbridge town and retain where possible the existing street layout, historic building lines and traditional plot widths where these derive from medieval origins.	None identified.
BHO1.3	To ensure proposals contribute towards the protection and preservation of the archaeological value of sites associated including underwater sites associated with the River Liffey.	None identified.
BHO1.4	To provide for the protection of burial grounds within Celbridge in co - operation with agencies such as the Office of Public Works and the National Monuments Section of the Department of the Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.	None identified.
Policy BH2 – Protected Structures	It is the policy of the Council to preserve and enhance the buildings identified on the Record of Protected Structures and to carefully consider any proposals for development that would affect the special value of such structures, including their historic curtilage, both directly and indirectly.	None identified.

BHO2.1	To ensure the protection and preservation of all protected structures, (or parts of structures) and their immediate surroundings including the curtilage and attendant grounds of structures contained in the Record of Protected Structures (refer to Table 10.2 and the Built Heritage Map in Appendix A).	None identified.
BHO2.2	To support the sensitive restoration of protected structures and their attendant grounds and operate flexibility with regard to the use of converted buildings to facilitate heritage tourism, with particular reference to St. Wolstans and Donaghcumper House, subject to good practice conservation principles.	None identified.
BHO2.3	To raise awareness of the unique built heritage of Celbridge by facilitating research and interpretation projects.	None identified.
BHO2.4	To address dereliction and vacancy in the town centre and promote appropriate uses and the sensitive restoration of historic buildings.	None identified.
BHO2.5	To support the implementation of the conservation and management plan for St. Mochua's Church and to carry out similar projects in Celbridge as opportunities arise.	None identified.
Actions	To provide support to the owners of protected structures in undertaking repair and conservation works by providing advice and grant aid under the Building Heritage Investment Scheme or any successor to this scheme.	None identified.
	To raise awareness of and promote best practice with regard to the maintenance and repair of historic buildings.	None identified.
Policy BH3 – Architectural Conservation Areas	It is the policy of the Council to preserve the historic character of candidate Architectural Conservation Areas and to carefully consider any proposals for development that would affect the special value of these areas.	None identified.
BHO3.1	To initiate a process to designate ACA's in Celbridge that encompasses (i) the Main Street of Celbridge, Celbridge Mill and surrounds, English Row, Tea Lane and Big Lane; and (ii) the Temple Mill buildings and associated workers cottages.	None identified.

BHO3.2	To prepare character statement appraisals and area specific policy objectives for the candidate ACAs in Celbridge.	None identified.
BHO3.2	To ensure that new development, including infill development, extensions and renovation works within or adjacent to the ACAs preserve or enhance the special character and visual setting of the ACA including views and vistas, streetscapes, building lines, fenestration patterns and architectural features.	None identified.
BHO3.3	To have regard to the Kildare Shopfront Guidelines (2013) in the consideration of any proposals within the candidate ACA in the historic core, providing that they contribute to the established pattern, scale, materials and proportions of the buildings within the candidate ACA. Modern design that makes a positive contribution to this candidate ACA will also be considered.	None identified.
BHO3.4	To support the retention, repair and re - use of materials which characterise the vernacular architecture of the candidate ACAs including stone, slate, timber windows and doors, and decorative render.	None identified.
BHO3.5	To address dereliction and promote appropriate and sensitive reuse and rehabilitation of buildings, building features and sites within the candidate ACAs.	None identified.
BHO3.6	To reduce and prevent visual and urban clutter within the ACAs including, where appropriate, traffic management structures, utility structures and all signage.	None identified.
BHO3.7	To encourage the sensitive restoration and extension of Local Authority cottages in accordance with the guidelines produced by Kildare County Council.	None identified.
Actions	The Council will work with and assist, where appropriate, owners of buildings within the candidate ACA's in their maintenance and repair of buildings through advice and grant aid from relevant sources.	None identified.
Policy HLA1 - Historic Landscapes	It is the policy of the Council to preserve the special landscape character of historic landscapes within Celbridge as set out on Map 13.1 Land Use Zoning.	None identified.

Areas		
HLAG1.1	To preserve the special landscape character of historic landscape areas and ensures that new development protect and enhance the special character and visual setting of the historic landscapes outlined on Map 13.1.	None identified.
HLAG1.2	To prevent development that would have a negative impact on the character of the lands within the Historic Landscape Areas.	None identified.
HLAG1.2	To support the preparation of Woodland Conservation and Management Plans for lands with the Historic Landscape Areas.	None identified.
Policy NH1 Natural Heritage	It is the policy of the Council to support the protection of species and habitats that are designated under the Wildlife Acts 1976 and 2000, the Birds Directive 1979 and the Habitats Directive 1992 as well as areas of high local biodiversity value and to ensure development with potential to impact the integrity of the Natura 2000 network will be subject to Appropriate Assessment.	None identified.
NH1.1	To ensure screening for Appropriate Assessment, in accordance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive is carried out in respect of any plan or project, including Masterplans, not directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites, to determine the likelihood of the plan or project having a significant effect on the site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, including masterplans. Under Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive for plans and projects that require Appropriate Assessment, such proposals which may give rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on European sites will not be permitted (either individually or in combination with other plans or projects).	Ensure an Appropriate Assessment, in accordance with Article 6(3) and Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive and with DEHLG guidance (2009), is carried out in respect of any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a Natura 2000 site to determine the likelihood of the plan or

		project having a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects and to ensure that projects which may give rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on Natura 2000 sites will not be permitted (either individually or in combination with other plans or projects) unless for reasons of overriding public interest.
NHO1.2	To identify, protect, conserve and enhance wherever possible, wildlife habitats and species of local importance, not otherwise protected by legislation. Such habitats would include woodland, river, grassland areas and field boundaries (hedgerows, stone walls and ditches). Such features form part of a network of habitats and corridors, which allow wildlife to exist and flourish and contribute to compliance with Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.	None identified.
NHO1.3	To protect and conserve the integrity of soils that supports the rich biodiversity and ecological networks in Celbridge.	None identified.
Policy – Scenic	It is the policy of the Council to ensure that the proposed location, siting and design of buildings and structures and any mitigation measures identified protect the special	None identified.

routes SRV1	character of the identified scenic routes and protected views.	
SRVO1.1	To protect the visual amenity and character of scenic routes and views in Celbridge and Castletown as identified in the County Development Plan.	None identified.
SRVO1.2	To require a Visual Impact Assessment of proposals for development that may impact the special character and visual amenity of scenic routes and views as part of the planning application process.	None identified.
GIO 1.1	To reduce and avoid fragmentation or deterioration of the Green Infrastructure network and strengthen ecological links within Celbridge and to the wider regional network.	None identified.
GIO 1.2	To preserve, protect and augment trees, groups of trees, woodlands and hedgerows within the town by increasing, where appropriate, tree canopy coverage using locally native species by incorporating them within design proposals and supporting their integration into the existing Green Infrastructure Network.	None identified.
GIO 1.3	To integrate Green Infrastructure as an essential component of all new developments and restrict development that would fragment or prejudice the Green Infrastructure Network.	None identified.
GIO 1.4	To ensure key hedgerows identified, and the linkages they provide to larger areas of green infrastructure and the wider countryside, are retained where appropriate and integrated into the design of new developments.	None identified.
GIO 1.5	To promote a network of paths and cycle tracks to enhance accessibility to the Green Infrastructure Network, while ensuring that the design and operation of the routes responds to the ecological protection needs of each site.	None identified.
GIO 1.6	To maintain a biodiversity protection zone of not less than 15 metres from the top bank of the River Liffey and of not less than 10 metres from the top bank of smaller watercourses in Celbridge, with the full extent of the protection zone to be determined on a case by case basis by the Planning Authority, based on site specific characteristics and sensitivities. Strategic green routes and trails will be open for consideration within the biodiversity protection zone, subject to appropriate safeguards and assessments.	None identified.

GIO 1.7	To promote best practice with respect to minimising the spread of, and eradicating, invasive species, in accordance with the provisions of Section 13.8.3 of the draft KDCP 2017 - 2023.	None identified.
GIO 1.8	To carry out, as resources allow, Habitat and Green Infrastructure Mapping for the areas included in the extended Celbridge Local Area Plan area.	None identified.
Action	All proposals for developments will be required to demonstrate that the existing Green Infrastructure Network is protected, in so far as practicable, and that the development contributes positively to the development and protection of the overall Green Infrastructure assets of Celbridge.	None identified.
Policy OS1 - Open Spaces	It is the policy of the Council to provide for a hierarchy of high quality multi - functional public open spaces within Celbridge, and to preserve and protect such spaces through the appropriate zoning of lands.	None identified.
OSO1.1	To support and facilitate the provision of open spaces with ecological and recreational corridors to aid the movement of biodiversity and people.	Although unlikely, increased movement of people has the potential to disturb sensitive habitats or species and are a potential link to Rye Valley Water/Carton SAC.
OSO1.2	To protect lands zoned Amenity and Open Space and Strategic Open Space on Map 13.1 for a variety of passive and active uses.	None identified.
OSO1.3	To secure the delivery of a neighbourhood park in conjunction with development at KDA 4 Oldtown, including a multi - use games area.	None identified.
OSO1.4	To provide a range of opportunities for active and passive recreation within public open spaces.	None identified.
OSO1.5	To pursue the creation of a Liffey Valley Regional Park together with Fingal and South	None identified.

	Dublin County Councils.	
OSO1.6	To maintain and protect from inappropriate development the greenbelt between Leixlip, Celbridge and Maynooth.	None identified.

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4.4 Assessment of Relevant Issues

The following section considers, in more detail, the possibility of significant effects on Natura 2000 Sites, in particular Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC, arising from the Draft LAP and outlines how this report has recommended changes to the LAP so as to minimise the possibility of significant effects.

This assessment was carried out by paying particular attention to the issues determined in Section 3 of this report which the Celbridge () LAP 2017-2023 could give rise to and which are considered as being of importance in maintaining site integrity of Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC. These relate to groundwater, water quality, disturbance impacts on habitats and species associated with recreation and tourism, and invasive species.

Where appropriate, recommendations have been to LAP text, detailed in Table 4, so as to avoid significant effects on Natura 2000 sites which could either be caused or exacerbated by the LAP. The rationale for changes to the text is detailed in the sections below. It is considered that these recommendations will preclude the need to proceed to Stage Two – Appropriate Assessment.

Cumulative effects as a result of multiple pathways or development pressures are often difficult to identify. Accordingly, it is particularly important that individual impacts are avoided or robustly mitigated so as to reduce the likelihood of cumulative effects occurring on Natura 2000 sites.

The potential for significant effects arising from the LAP are outlined in the sections below along with reference to those policies, objectives or wording of the LAP where changes are recommended.

4.4.1 Groundwater

Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC is located approximately 1.7km from the LAP area boundary and both are located within the Dublin Groundwater Body. Given the distance to Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC it is considered that any local impacts on groundwater within the LAP area will not extend to the SAC. As stated in Section 2.3.3 of this report groundwater circulation from recharge to discharge points will more commonly take place over a distance of less than a kilometre so any inputs from the LAP area to groundwater will likely discharge prior to reaching the SAC.

Although considered extremely unlikely that development within the Draft Celbridge LAP area could significantly impact on Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC as a result of impacts on hydrology additional text has been recommended for Objective INFO2.5 so that the potential for impact on groundwater dependent habitats are assessed.

It is considered unlikely that the plan will have a significant impact on Natura 2000 sites by way of groundwater issues.

4.4.2 Water Quality

The potential for downstream impacts on Natura 2000 sites arising from effects on water quality has been excluded due to the distance to the closest downstream site, South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (Site code 004024) is over 20km downstream.

There is no direct surface water hydrological link between the LAP area and the closest Natura 2000 site, Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC and therefore no link which would be considered to have the potential to give rise to significant effects on the qualifying interests of that SAC. The Rye Water flows into the River Liffey downstream of Celbridge and therefore there is no likelihood of any impacts on surface water features within the LAP area causing significant impacts on the qualifying interests of Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC.

It is considered unlikely that the plan will have a significant impact on Natura 2000 sites by way of water quality.

4.4.3 Disturbance Associated with Recreation and Tourism

In general, sustainable tourism and recreation are promoted in the LAP as drivers for economic prosperity and improved quality of life. Disturbance caused by tourism and recreational activities can in some circumstances impact adversely on habitats and species. Where the LAP promotes or intends to facilitate the increased use of walking or cycling routes between the LAP area and Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC there exists the potential for increased disturbance on the qualifying interest of the SAC.

Although considered extremely unlikely that development within the Celbridge LAP area could significantly impact on Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC as a result of impacts arising from tourism and recreation additional text has been recommended for Objectives EDO2.3, EDO2.7, MTO1.2, MTO1.5 and MTO Actions, so that the potential for impact arising from on groundwater dependent habitats are assessed.

It is considered unlikely that the Draft plan will have a significant impact on Natura 2000 sites by way of water quality.

4.4.4 Invasive Species

Ireland has a relatively low number of native species. Many non-native species have been introduced to the country through a variety of mechanisms, including accidentally transported biota (e.g. through water craft) and intentional introductions for ornamental gardening or agricultural / commercial purposes etc. Some of these species have become invasive, with resultant economic, amenity and ecological impacts.

Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam are two of the most notable invasive species likely to impact on the qualifying interests of Rye Water Valley / Carton

SAC. These riparian invasive plants may directly alter the composition of Desmoulin's whorl snail habitat in particular by replacing preferred species and increasing shading.

The potential for effects arising from transport of invasive species from the LAP area to Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC is related to recreation and tourism issues. Therefore, the recommended changes to LAP text as outlined in Section 4.4.3 will ensure that potential for impacts arising from invasive species are considered in developments arising from or facilitated by the LAP.

It is considered unlikely that the plan will have a significant impact on Natura 2000 sites by way of invasive species.

4.5 Conclusion

The likely impacts that will arise from the Draft Celbridge () Local Area Plan (LAP) 2017-2023 alone and in combination with other plans and programmes have been examined in the context of a number of factors that could potentially have a significant effect on European Sites. It is considered that significant adverse impacts on any European sites arising from the implementation of the LAP are extremely unlikely.

On the basis of the findings of this Screening for Appropriate Assessment of European Sites, it is concluded that the proposed Draft Celbridge () Local Area Plan (LAP) 2017-2023 will not have a significant effect on the Natura 2000 network and a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is not required.

5 References

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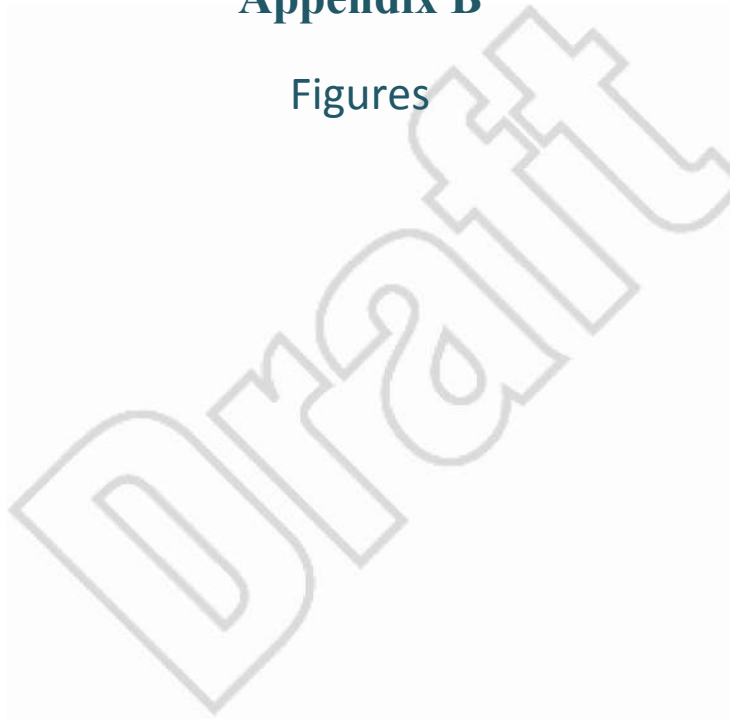
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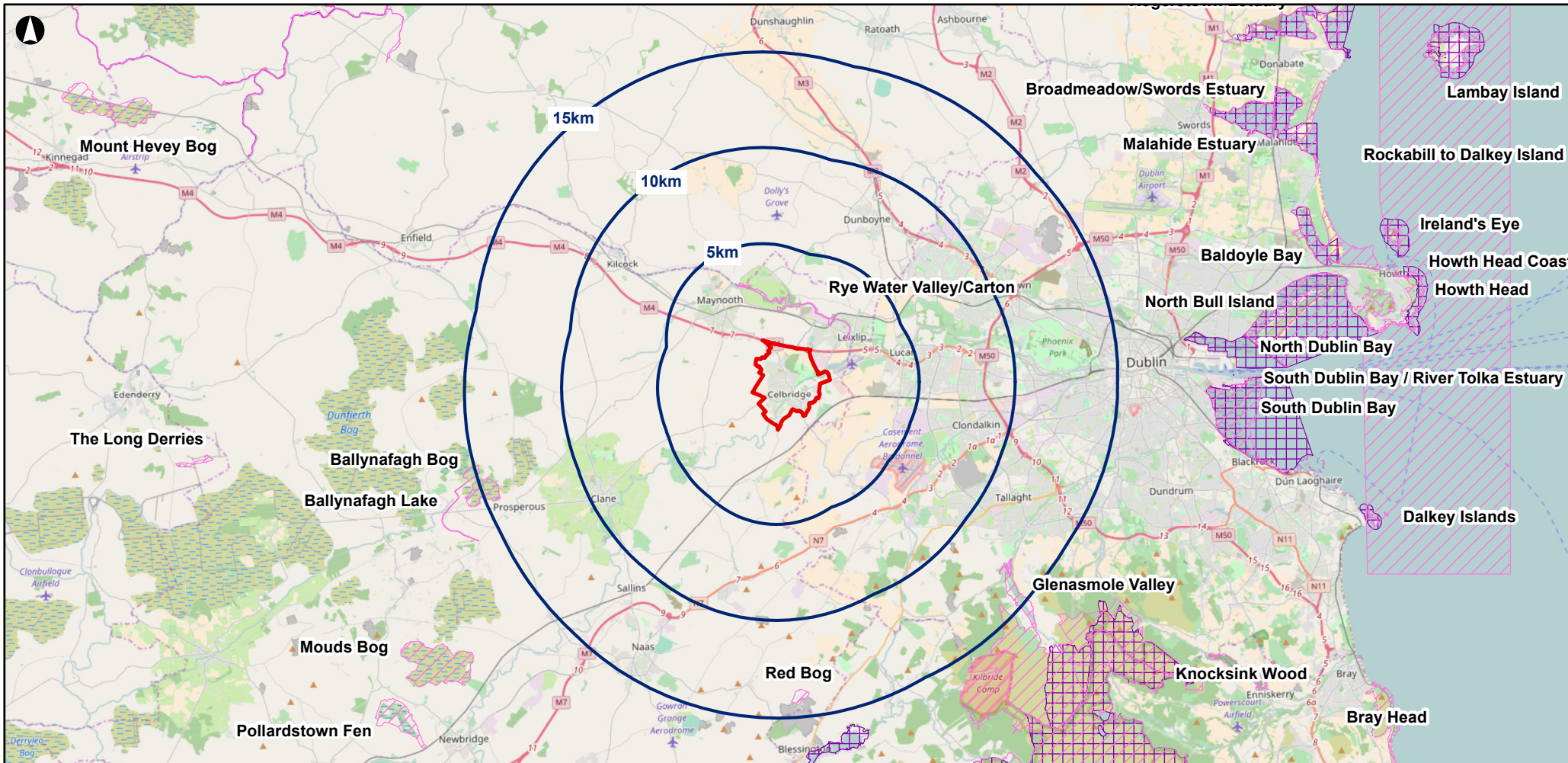
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Appendix B

Figures





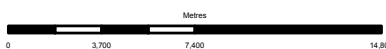
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-  LAP Boundary
-  LAP Boundary Buffer
-  Special Area of Conservation
-  Special Protection Areas

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P1	22-11-16	LD	JL	SW
Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd



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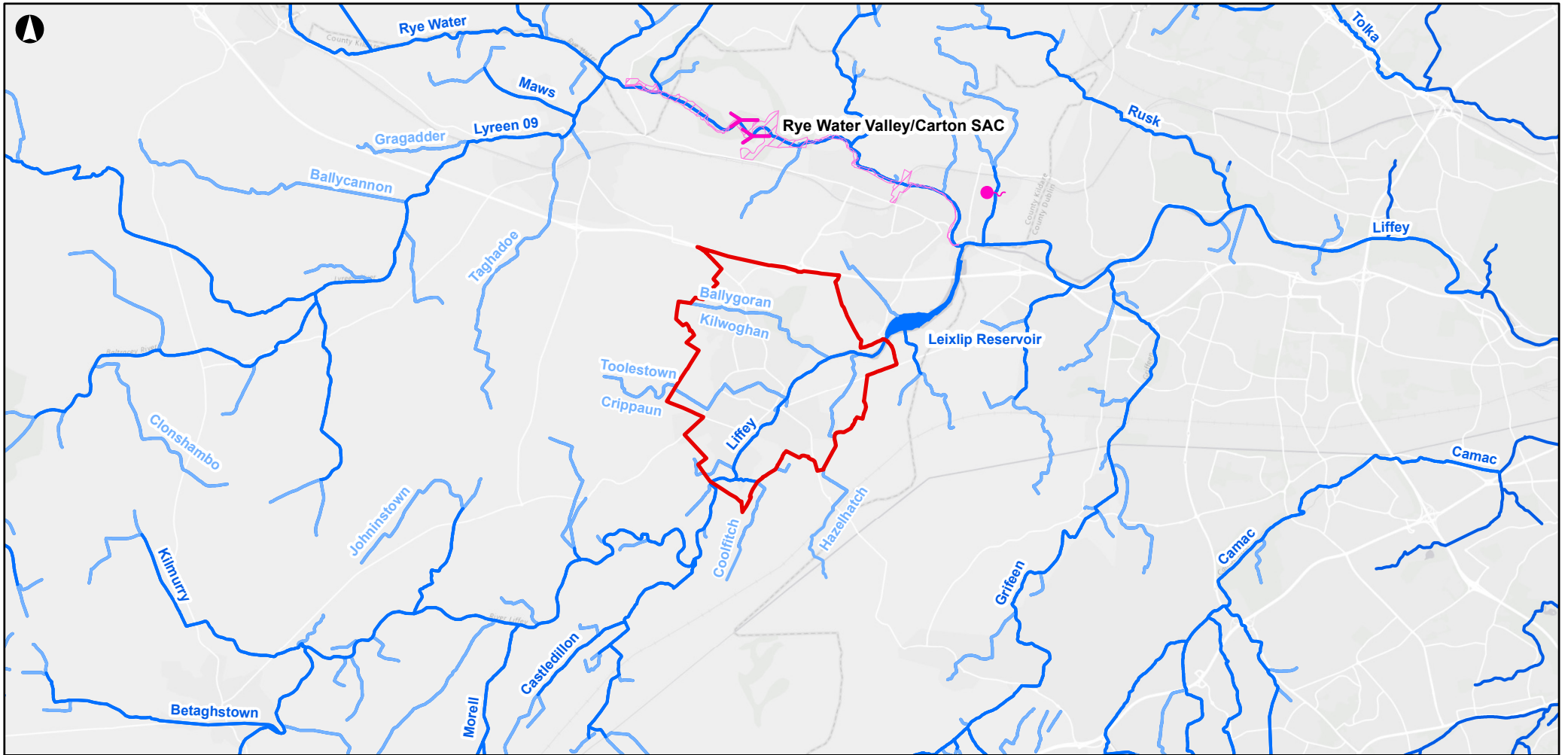
Job Title
**Celbridge (including Castletown)
 LAP 2016-2022 AA Screening**









Scale at A4

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Job No 250695-07	Drawing Status For Information
Drawing No Figure 3	Issue P1



Legend

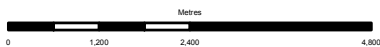
-  LAP Boundary
-  Cave
-  Spring
-  Special Area of Conservation
-  River Network
-  Streams

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P1	22-11-16	LD	JL	SW
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Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd
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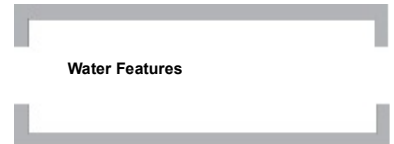


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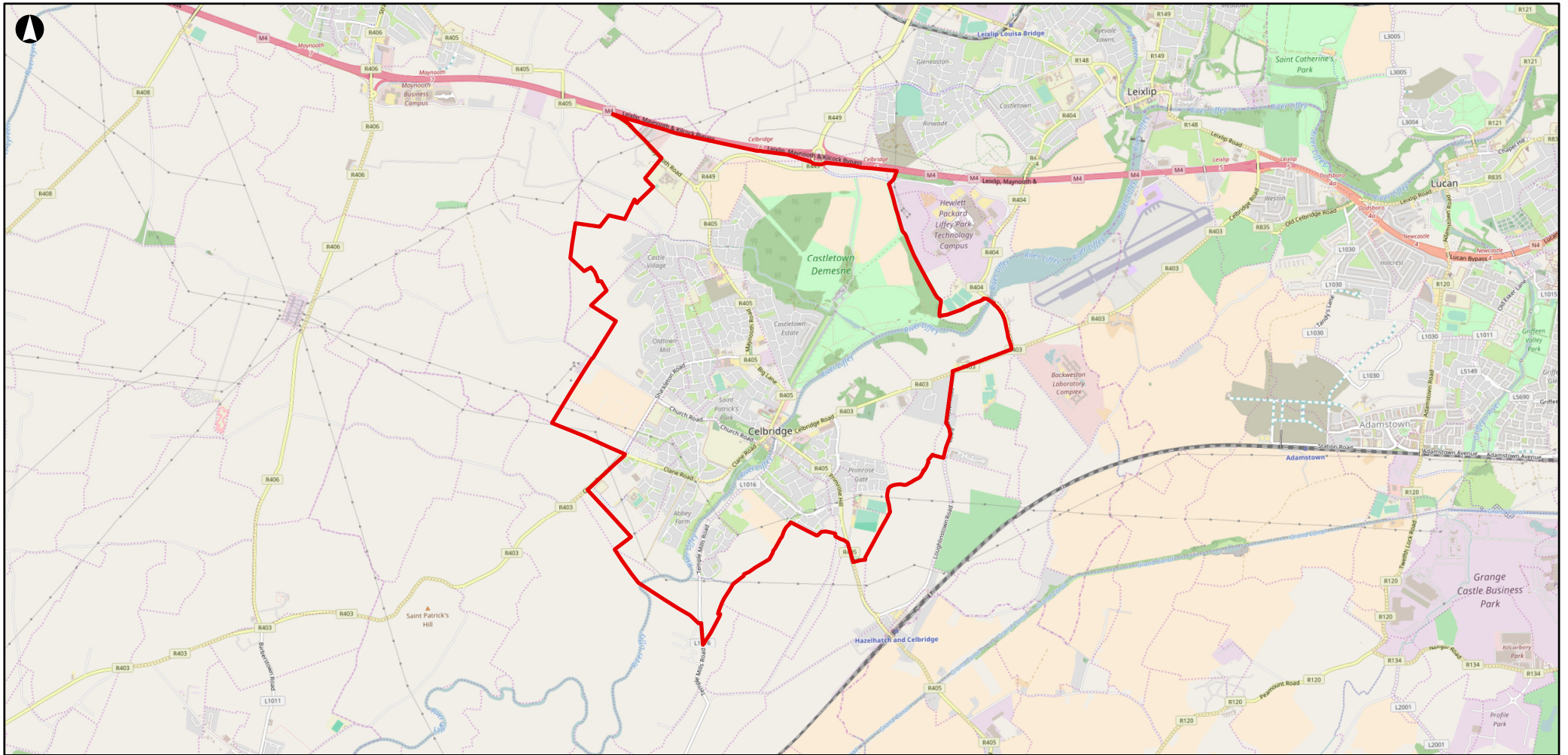
Water Features

Scale at A4

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Job No 250698-00	Drawing Status For Information
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Drawing No Figure 2	Issue P1
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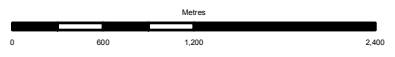


Legend

 LAP Boundary

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Scale at A4

1:50,000

Job No 250695-00	Drawing Status For Information
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Drawing No Figure 1	Issue P1
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Appendix C

NPWS Site Synopsis Rye Water
Valley / Carton SAC

DRAFT



Site Name: Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC

Site Code: 001398

Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC is located between Leixlip and Maynooth, in Counties Meath and Kildare, and extends along the Rye Water, a tributary of the River Liffey.

The site is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) selected for the following habitats and/or species listed on Annex I / II of the E.U. Habitats Directive (* = priority; numbers in brackets are Natura 2000 codes):

- [7220] Petrifying Springs*
- [1014] Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail (*Vertigo angustior*)
- [1016] Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (*Vertigo moulinsiana*)

The Rye Water in Carton Estate is dammed at intervals, creating a series of lakes. Reed Sweet-grass (*Glyceria maxima*) is frequent around the lakes, along with Yellow Iris (*Iris pseudacorus*), Reed Canary-grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), Bulrush (*Typha latifolia*), Water Forget-me-not (*Myosotis scorpioides*), Marsh-marigold (*Caltha palustris*) and starworts (*Callitriche* spp.). Along the remainder of the site the river has been dredged and much of the reed fringe removed.

To the north-west of Carton Bridge a small clump of willows (*Salix* spp.), with dogwood (*Cornus* sp.), Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and Elder (*Sambucus nigra*) occurs. The ground flora found here includes Golden Saxifrage (*Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*), Meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*), Common Valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*), Wavy Bitter-cress (*Cardamine flexuosa*) and Bittersweet (*Solanum dulcamara*).

The woods on Carton Estate are mostly old demesne woods with both deciduous and coniferous species. Conifers, including some Yew (*Taxus baccata*) – a native species, are dominant, with Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), oak (*Quercus* sp.), Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Ash and Hazel (*Corylus avellana*) also occurring. The ground flora is dominated by Ivy (*Hedera helix*), with such species as Hedge Woundwort (*Stachys sylvatica*), Wood Speedwell (*Veronica montana*), Woodruff (*Galium odoratum*), Wood Avens (*Geum urbanum*), Common Dog-violet (*Viola riviniana*), Wild Angelica (*Angelica sylvestris*), Ramsons (*Allium ursinum*), Ground-ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*) and Ivy Broomrape (*Orobanche hederaceae*) also found.

Hairy St. John's-wort (*Hypericum hirsutum*), a species legally protected under the Flora (Protection) Order, 1999, occurs in Carton Estate and there is an old record from the estate for the similarly protected Hairy Violet (*Viola hirta*). However, this latter species has not been recorded from the site in recent years. Another species

listed in the Red Data Book, Green Figwort (*Scrophularia umbrosa*), occurs on the site in several locations by the Rye Water. The woods at Carton Demesne are the site of a rare Myxomycete fungus, *Diderma deplanatum*.

The marsh, mineral spring and seepage area found at Louisa Bridge supports a good diversity of plant species, including stoneworts, Marsh Arrowgrass (*Triglochin palustris*), Purple Moor-grass (*Molinea caerulea*), sedges (*Carex* spp.), Common Butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*), Marsh Lousewort (*Pedicularis palustris*), Grass-of-parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*) and Cuckooflower (*Cardamine pratensis*). The mineral spring found at the site is of a type considered to be rare in Europe and is a habitat listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive. The Red Data Book species Blue Fleabane (*Erigeron acer*) is found growing on a wall at Louisa Bridge.

Within the woods, Blackcap, Woodcock and Long-eared Owl have been recorded. Little Grebe, Coot, Moorhen, Tufted Duck, Teal and Kingfisher, the latter a species listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive, occur on and about the lake.

The Rye Water is also a spawning ground for Trout and Salmon, and the rare, White-clawed Crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*) has been recorded at Leixlip. The latter two species are listed on Annex II of the E.U. Habitats Directive. The rare Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail and Desmoulin's Whorl Snail occur in marsh vegetation near Louisa Bridge. Both are rare in Ireland and in Europe, and are listed on Annex II of the E.U. Habitats Directive. The scarce dragonfly, *Orthetrum coerulescens*, has also been recorded at Louisa Bridge.

The conservation importance of the site lies in the presence of several rare and threatened plant and animal species, and the presence of petrifying springs, a habitat type listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive. The woods found on Carton Estate and their birdlife are of additional interest.