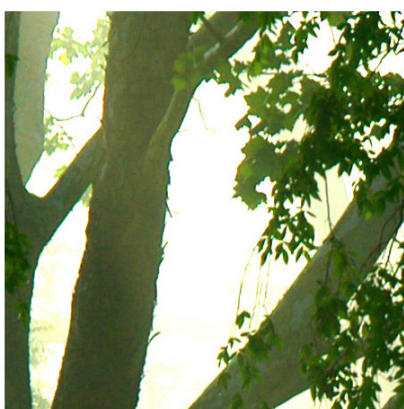




Newbridge Draft Local Area Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment

Screening For Appropriate Assessment



Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Draft Newbridge Local Area Plan 2013-2019

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

This report comprises information in support of screening for an Appropriate Assessment in line with the requirements of Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora; the Planning and Development Act 2010; and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477/2011) of the draft Local Area Plan (LAP) for Newbridge 2013-2019.

1.2 NEWBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PLAN

The draft Newbridge Local Area Plan 2013-2019 has been prepared in accordance with the requirements and provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended. It sets out an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of Newbridge in the context of the Kildare County Development Plan 2011-2017 and the Regional Planning Guidelines of 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. This Plan once adopted will replace the existing Newbridge Town Local Area Plan 2003.

The Kildare County Development Plan (CDP) 2011-2017 sets out the overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the county over a six year period. The Plan has a critical role to play in ensuring that the needs of future population growth are planned for. The CDP aims to direct population growth into the main urban centres. It also promotes significant new economic development within defined economic clusters. It is intended / proposed that the primary economic growth cluster of Naas/Newbridge/Kilcullen would develop in a mutually dependent way, so that the amenities and economies of the whole cluster would be greater than the sum of the individual parts. The plan also emphasises the need to protect the built heritage, unique landscape, natural heritage and biodiversity of the county for their intrinsic value and as a resource for the tourist economy of the future.

The designation of Newbridge as a Large Growth Town II in the RPGs is reinforced in the county settlement strategy as set out in the CDP. Large Growth Towns II are designated to act as important self sustaining regional economic drivers, accommodating significant investment in transport, housing, economic and commercial activity with high quality transport links to Dublin and other large towns.

1.3 LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

The Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, better known as "The Habitats Directive", provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. Articles 3 to 9 provide the legislative means to protect habitats and species of Community interest through the establishment and conservation of an EU-wide network of sites known as Natura 2000. These are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (79/409/ECC).

Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans and projects likely to affect Natura 2000 sites (Annex 1.1). Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for Appropriate Assessment (AA):

Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the [Natura 2000] site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subjected to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In 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.

Article 6(4) states:

If, in spite of a negative assessment of the implications for the [Natura 2000] site and in the absence of alternative solutions, a plan or project must nevertheless be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature, Member States shall take all compensatory measures necessary to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. It shall inform the Commission of the compensatory measures adopted.

1.4 STAGES OF THE APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

Both EU and national guidance exists in relation to Member States fulfilling their requirements under the EU Habitats Directive, with particular reference to Article 6(3) and 6(4) of that Directive. The methodology followed in relation to this AA screening has had regard to the following guidance:

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities. Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government. <http://www.npws.ie>
- Managing Natura 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, referred to as MN2000, European Commission 2000; <http://ec.europa.eu>
- 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, referred to as the "EC Article 6 Guidance Document (EC2000); <http://ec.europa.eu>
- Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC – Clarification of the concepts of: alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding public interest, compensatory measures, overall coherence, opinion of the commission. <http://ec.europa.eu>

In complying with the obligations under Article 6(3) and following the EC2000 and MN2000 Guidelines, this AA has been structured as a stage by stage approach as follows:

1) Screening stage

- Description of the plan;
- Identification of Natura 2000 sites potentially affected;
- Identification and description of individual and cumulative impacts likely to result;
- Assessment of the significance of the impacts identified above on site integrity;
- Exclusion of sites where it can be objectively concluded that there will be no significant effects; and
- Screening conclusion.

2 SCREENING

2.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

The overarching policies and objectives of the Kildare County Development Plan (CDP) will apply to development within the LAP boundary, including the development management standards set out in Chapter 19 of the CDP. All proposed development within and adjoining the Newbridge LAP boundary will be screened for Appropriate Assessment of its potential impacts on the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive. In all such cases the applicant/developer is advised to consult with the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the DoAHG.

The strategy for the future development of Newbridge is based on the principles established in the previous LAP in 2003 and the framework provided by the Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022 and the Kildare County Development Plan 2011-2017. It provides a blueprint for the development of Newbridge for the period 2013 – 2019, setting out a vision for the area, specifying the type, amount and quality of development needed to achieve that vision while seeking to protect and enhance the environment and amenities.

As a Large Growth Town in the GDA, it is envisaged that Newbridge will continue to grow to achieve a critical mass which will support competitiveness, sustainability and create opportunities for local and regional economic development. This growth pattern can also generate economies of scale to justify strategic investment into the town achieving sustainable levels of development through the provision of a range of residential, employment, recreational, cultural, retail and educational facilities appropriate for a town of its size.

This LAP identifies specific policies and objectives applicable to Newbridge in order to facilitate integrated land use development in a manner that will promote proper planning and sustainable development. In summary the key policies and objectives are grouped under the following headings:

1) *Compliance with Core Strategy to achieve Sustainable Growth*

To ensure that the future development of Newbridge is in accordance with the Core Strategy of the Kildare CDP 2011-2017, the plan provides for the zoning of lands for residential and employment uses together with the implementation of a monitoring mechanism. A framework is also established for the town's sustainable growth through the incorporation of policies in relation to density, housing mix, community development and new housing provision.

2) *Enterprise, Industry and Economic Development*

As a Primary Economic Growth Town, Newbridge must support and enhance enterprise and industry for a growing population. In this regard it is necessary to sustain existing employment and provide new employment appropriate to its size, role and potential. This LAP seeks to encourage and sustain a diversity of employment opportunities, identify potential for inward investment and enhance the tourism economy. To achieve this, the plan sets out policies and objectives that build on the town's retail and heritage strengths to create a unique tourism destination while also taking maximum advantage of lands strategically located to provide for future new employment hubs.

3) *Retail and Town Centre Uses*

Newbridge has a healthy retail base relative to comparative centres in Kildare and the wider GDA. Notwithstanding this, it is recognised that there is a need to carefully plan and manage future retail and non-retail services in the town and local neighbourhood centres to further strengthen the retail offer, protect and enhance the town's unique character while promoting economic vitality and viability in the sector. The LAP is informed by the Draft Kildare County Retail Strategy 2008-2016 which was published in 2010.

Opportunities exist for the re-use and regeneration of land and buildings, including the considerable land banks to the rear of buildings on Main Street, which are currently under-utilised. Encouraging high quality design and facilitating an appropriate mix of uses will also help to ensure that the town centre provides a suitable focus for creating sustainable communities. The protection of built heritage and the integration and linkage of new retail developments with the existing urban form/layout are also key objectives.

4) Urban Design & Town Centre Development

It is considered that good urban design is essential if Newbridge is to deliver an attractive, high quality, sustainable place to live and work. It is important that new development respects the older streets in the town centre while at the same time creating a distinct character to enhance the quality of the built environment.

The importance of Newbridge's townscape qualities which are derived from its historic urban structure are noted throughout the plan. In this regard a detailed urban design analysis of the existing townscape is set out together with policies and objectives specific to the future development of the town. The plan encourages the fragmentation and regeneration of the former barrack's block and the conservation and enhancement of the older town centre streets, which exhibit a finer urban grain.

5) Design Briefs

A number of design briefs are proposed for the following areas;

- (1) Cutlery Road and Bord na Mona
- (2) Edward Street to Military Road – Development of New Street(s)
- (3) Military Road and Athgarvan Road - – Perimeter Blocks
- (4) Town Hall and Georges Street

These Design Briefs (refer to Section 7.6.5) have been prepared to assist in the planning process by setting out broad design parameters for the future development of these areas. Each brief has been formulated following a detailed urban analysis.

6) Movement & Transport

The improvement of transportation infrastructure in Newbridge is a key element of the sustainable development of the town. Policies and objectives are outlined to promote integrated land use and transportation planning to further support and encourage more sustainable modes of travel. The plan also sets specific policies for local improvements in and around the town centre and objectives to secure routes for long term roads infrastructure.

7) Water, Drainage & Environmental Services

The adequacy of water, drainage and environmental services is necessary to facilitate the sustainable development of the town. These issues are addressed in various policies and objectives to provide for sufficient water, waste water and water drainage infrastructure to service the predicted requirements of the town over the plan period and beyond. While capacity issues at the Osberstown WWTP are outside the scope of this LAP, policies and objectives in relation to the upgrade of the local foul network are included. Relevant legislative requirements in relation to environmental requirements are also set out including policies and objectives relating to flood risk requirements.

8) Energy & Communications

The development of a more sustainable approach to energy use, power generation and energy efficiency in all sectors is vital to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This includes focusing on renewable energy generation and improving energy efficiency.

9) Educational, Community & Cultural

The provision of education and community facilities to support the projected population levels of Newbridge are recognised. In this regard a site has been identified for the provision of a new school while the improvement of local community facilities and sports facilities together with the need to encourage the shared use of existing facilities is advocated.

10) Architectural & Archaeological Heritage

The protection and enhancement of the built heritage and streetscape in Newbridge is one of the core objectives of this plan. Policies and objectives have been incorporated which seek to protect, preserve and enhance the town's archaeology, built heritage and townscape. Section (v) Design Briefs is also relevant in this respect.

11) Natural Heritage & Biodiversity

The importance of green infrastructure is recognised and is based on detailed habitat mapping of the area. The plan maps and describes green infrastructure in Newbridge including relevant policies for its protection and enhancement. Policies and objectives are also included to ensure the protection of Pollardstown Fen (SAC) and Mouds Bog (SAC) and the Curragh Plains (pNHA), all located on the periphery of the town.

12) Recreation, Amenity & Open Space

The plan recognises the importance of the existing River Liffey Park and outlines clear objectives to expand and enhance the provision of this key natural asset. Additional lands have also been designated for open space and amenity purposes along the river corridor to preserve this amenity for future generations and to avoid inappropriate development on the flood plains. A series of local green routes are also identified for recreation and residential use.

2.2 EXISTING ENVIRONMENT AT THE LAP LANDS

2.2.1 Water Quality

Since 2000, the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) has directed water management in the EU. The WFD requires that all Member States implement the necessary measures to prevent deterioration of the status of all waters (surface, ground, estuarine and coastal) and protect, enhance and restore all waters with the aim of achieving Good Ecological Status by 2015. All public bodies, including Newbridge, are also required to coordinate their policies and operations so as to maintain the Good Ecological Status of water bodies, which are currently unpolluted and improve polluted water bodies to Good Ecological Status.

For the purpose of implementing the WFD, Ireland has been divided into eight River Basin Districts or areas of land that are drained by a large river or number of rivers and the adjacent estuarine / coastal areas. The management of water resources will be within these River Basin Districts. Newbridge LAP is located in the Eastern River Basin District (ERBD).

The River Liffey flows through the centre of Newbridge. The most recent water quality data from the EPA for three points in closest proximity to Newbridge identify the River Liffey as being of good water quality status based on 2010 EPA data. The River Liffey is also classified as 'at risk' based on current risk assessments undertaken as part of the WFD. This means that there is a risk that the River Liffey will not achieve the objectives of the WFD by 2015.

Monitoring by the Council and other agencies of all water sources is carried out for the purpose of implementing the Water Framework Directive. It is a policy of the Council to ensure that the EU Water Framework Directive is implemented. Further, it is a policy of the Council to ensure that the specific

relevant objectives and measures for individual water bodies set out in the Eastern River Basin Management Plan (ERBMP) and associated Programme of Measures (POM) are implemented.

Both Pollardstown Fen SAC and Mouds Bog SAC are registered as water dependent habitats on the Register of Protected Areas (RPAs), and the Council is committed to protecting and enhancing this ecosystems. All proposed development within and adjoining the Newbridge area will be screened for Appropriate Assessment of its potential to impact on the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

2.2.2 Water Supply

Presently Newbridge is connected to the Ballymore Eustace Reservoir, as part of the Mid-Regional Water Supply Scheme. Water supply is adequate to serve the present needs of the town and will be enhanced in the long term with the completion of the River Barrow Abstraction Scheme. The Council constructed a distribution main in the Great Connell and Little Connell areas in recent years and this has improved the distribution network within the town.

The level of growth in Newbridge will be managed in line with the ability of local services to cater for future growth. No development shall be permitted to proceed if the local services are insufficient to cater for the development. All proposed development within and adjoining the Newbridge area will be screened for Appropriate Assessment of its potential to impact on the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

2.2.3 Wastewater Facilities

The continued improvement of wastewater drainage infrastructure within Newbridge is essential for the towns' growth as a Large Growth Town II in the County Development Plan settlement strategy.

Deficiencies in wastewater treatment services act as a barrier to economic development and population growth. Wastewater for Newbridge is treated at Osberstown Wastewater Treatment Plant, which also services the towns of Naas, Kilcullen, Sallins, Kill and Prosperous. The Wastewater Treatment Plant is currently at capacity and the first phase of the upgrade will be completed in 2015. It is envisaged that upgrading of the Newbridge Eastern Interceptor sewer will commence mid 2015 with the additional necessary network upgrades to the Liffey Valley Catchment to commence mid 2016. It is acknowledged that the capacity constraints act as a hindrance to future development.

The level of growth in Newbridge will be managed in line with the ability of local services to cater for future growth. No development shall be permitted to proceed if the local services are insufficient to cater for the development. All proposed development within and adjoining the Newbridge area will be screened for Appropriate Assessment of its potential to impact on the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

2.2.4 Flood Protection and Groundwater Protection

Newbridge is situated in the Newbridge Urban groundwater waterbody. The overall status of this waterbody is "Good" in line with ERBMP and POM. The western edge of Newbridge, together with Pollardstown Fen are situated in The Curragh groundwater waterbody and the Pollardstown Fen groundwater waterbody, respectively. The overall status of these two waterbodies is "Poor" and must be restored by 2015 in line with ERBMP and POM.

The Council is committed to protecting and enhancing groundwater around Newbridge, and have specific policies which include: to ensure that all proposed developments comply with the Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) in the design of surface water drainage; to ensure the implementation of the Groundwater

Directive (2006/118/EC) on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration; to require surface water runoff to pass through an oil/ petrol / silt interceptor prior to discharging to groundwater, existing sewers or surface water; and to maintain, improve and enhance the environmental and ecological quality of our surface waters and groundwaters by implementing the POM contained in the Eastern River Basin District (ERBD) River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015.

The Council will also implement all relevant Surface Water legislation including 'Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 (S.I. No 272 of 2009).

2.3 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURA 2000 SITES

This section of the screening process describes the Natura 2000 sites within a 15km radius of the LAP area. A 15km buffer zone has been chosen as a precautionary measure, to ensure that all potentially affected Natura 2000 sites are included in the screening process. This is in line with, *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities*, produced by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Table 2.1 lists the SACs that are within 15km of the LAP area. **Figure 2.1** shows their locations in relation to draft Newbridge LAP area.

The integrity of a Natura 2000 site (referred to in Article 6.3 of the EU Habitats Directive) is determined based on the conservation status of the qualifying features of the SAC. The qualifying features for each site have been obtained through a review of the Conservation Objectives available from the NPWS.

Table 2.1: SACs within 15km of the draft Newbridge LAP

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Habitats	Qualifying Species
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	Estuaries [1130]; Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]; <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310]; Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330]; Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410]; Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260]; European dry heaths [4030]; Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430]; Petrifying springs and tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220]; Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in British Isles [91A0]; and Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> [91E0].	Desmoulin's Whorl Snail [1016]; Freshwater Pearl Mussel [1029]; White-clawed Crayfish [1092]; Sea Lamprey [1095]; River Lamprey [1099]; Brook Lamprey [1096]; Twaite Shad [1103]; Atlantic Salmon [1106]; Otter [1355]; Killarney Fern [1421]; and Nore Freshwater Pearl Mussel [1990].

000396	Pollardstown Fen SAC	Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davalliance</i> [7210]; Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]; and Alkine fens [7230].	Greyer's Whorl Snail [1013]; Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail [1014]; and Desmoulin's Whorl Snail [1016].
002331	Mouds Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110]; Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]; and Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150].	-
001387	Ballynafagh Lake SAC	Alkaline fens [7230].	Desmoulin's Whorl Snail [1016]; and Marsh Fritillary [1065].
000391	Ballynafagh Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110]; Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]; and Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150].	-

2.4 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

2.4.1 Direct, Indirect or Secondary Impacts

As shown in **Tables 2.1** there are five SACs within 15km of the LAP lands. The Council is committed to protecting and enhancing the conservation status of these five SACs and have specific policies relating to their protection and maintenance, as appropriate.

All five SACs are water dependent ecosystems, and therefore, any changes to the groundwater regime or surface water quality as a result of the LAP could have adverse effects on the habitats and species for which the River Barrow and River Nore SAC, Pollardstown Fen SAC, Mouds Bog SAC, Ballynafagh Lake SAC and Ballynafagh Bog SAC are designated. Again, the Council have specific policies relating to the protection and maintenance of both the groundwater regime and surface water quality as a result of the LAP.

River Barrow and River Nore SAC

The River Barrow and River Nore SAC is located approximately 12.5km to the southwest of the LAP boundary. There is no connecting surface waters between the LAP boundary and the River Barrow and River Nore SAC. Therefore, any potential development within the LAP lands is unlikely to impact on the integrity of the River Barrow and River Nore SAC or the habitats for which it is designated.

Pollardstown Fen SAC

Pollardstown Fen SAC is located directly adjacent to the northwest of the LAP boundary. The proposed development within the LAP boundary will be focused towards the town centre and to the east of the town centre.

Pollardstown Fen SAC is a ground water dependent ecosystem, and therefore, any changes to the groundwater regime as a result of the LAP could have adverse effects on the habitats and species for which the SAC is designed.

The Council is committed to protecting and enhancing the groundwater around Newbridge, and have specific policies to ensure the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration. Such policies and measures would ensure that all proposed developments within this LAP will not impact on the groundwater regime. Therefore, any potential development in Newbridge is unlikely to impact on the groundwater regime of Pollardstown Fen SAC and will not impact on the integrity of the SAC or the habitats and species for which it is designated.

Mouds Bog SAC

Mouds Bog SAC is located approximately 1.8km to the north of the LAP boundary. Mouds Bog SAC is a ground water dependent ecosystem, and therefore, any changes to the groundwater regime as a result of the LAP could have adverse effects on the habitats and species for which the SAC is designed.

Given the elevation of the Mouds Bog SAC in the surrounding landscape relative to Newbridge, it is anticipated that groundwater within the LAP boundary drains towards the River Liffey and is not connected to the groundwater of Mouds Bog SAC, which is also likely to drain to the River Liffey further north. The Council is committed to protecting and enhancing groundwater around Newbridge, and have specific policies to ensure the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration. Any potential development in Newbridge is unlikely to impact on the groundwater regime of Mouds Bog SAC and will not impact on the integrity of the SAC or the habitats for which it is designated.

Ballynafagh Lake SAC

Ballynafagh Lake SAC is located approximately 11.5km to the north of the LAP boundary. There are no connecting surface waters between the LAP boundary and Ballynafagh Lake SAC. Therefore, any potential development within the LAP lands is unlikely to impact on the integrity of Ballynafagh Lake SAC or the habitats for which it is designated.

Ballynafagh Bog SAC

Ballynafagh Bog SAC is located approximately 13.2km to the north of the LAP boundary. Given the elevation of Ballynafagh Bog SAC in the surrounding landscape relative to Newbridge, it is anticipated that the groundwater within the LAP boundary drains towards the River Liffey and is not connected to the groundwater of Ballynafagh Bog SAC. The Council is committed to protecting and enhancing groundwater around Newbridge, and have specific policies to ensure the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration. Therefore, any potential development within the LAP lands is unlikely to impact on the integrity of Ballynafagh Bog SAC or the habitats for which it is designated.

2.4.2 Cumulative and in Combination Impacts

This step aims to identify at this early stage any possible significant in-combination or cumulative effects/impacts of the proposed LAP with other such plans and projects on the five Natura 2000 sites. Other plans and projects specific to the five relevant Natura 2000 sites are the following:

- Kildare County Development Plan 2011-2017;
- Kildare Town Local Area Plan 2012-2018;
- Greater Dublin Area Regional Planning Guidelines 2010;
- National Spatial Strategy;
- South Eastern RBD Management Plan;
- Water Services Investment Programme;

- IPPC Programme;
- Local Authority Discharge;
- Groundwater Pollution Reduction Programmes;
- Surface Water Pollution Reduction Programmes;
- Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study; and
- Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans.

No other pathway has been identified by which any of the plans and projects identified could have a significant 'in combination' effect on any of the five Natura 2000 sites identified. In fact, the in combination effect of the above water related plans and programmes would have positive effects on water quality resulting in positive indirect impacts on the River Barrow and River Nore SAC.

2.4.3 Likely Changes to the Site

The likely changes that could arise from the implementation of the LAP have been examined in the context of a number of factors that could potentially affect the integrity of the identified Natura 2000 sites. It has been determined that no Natura 2000 sites will be potentially impacted as a result of the LAP. **Table 2.2** shows the Likely Changes to Natura 2000 Sites as a result of the STP.

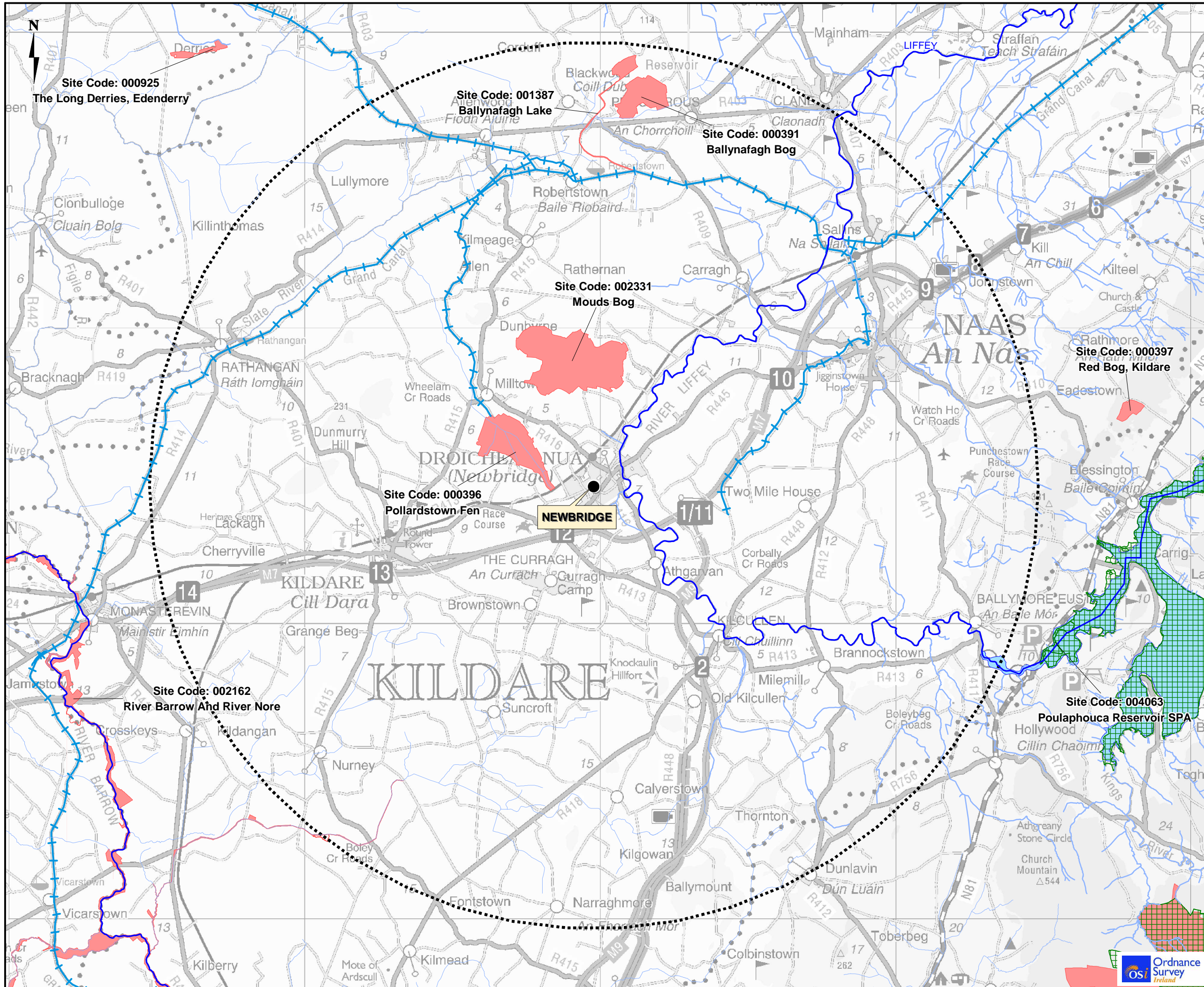
Table 2.2: Likely Changes to Natura 2000 Sites

Site Name	Reduction of Habitat Area	Disturbance to Key Species	Habitat or Species Fragmentation	Reduction in Species Density	Changes in Key Indicators of Conservation Value (Water Quality Etc.)	Climate Change
River Barrow and River Nore SAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Pollardstown Fen SAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Mouds Bog SAC	None	N/A	None	None	None	N/A
Ballynafagh Lake SAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Ballynafagh Bog SAC	None	N/A	None	None	None	N/A

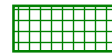






2.4.4 Elements of the Plan Where the Impacts are Likely to be Significant

The development of these lands could potentially yield additional residential units within Newbridge, which may cause additional load on waste water treatment systems, water supply, surface water run off, etc. However, the level of growth in Newbridge will be managed in line with the ability of local services to cater for future growth. No development shall be permitted to proceed if the local services are not sufficient to cater for the development. Therefore, it is envisaged that no elements of the LAP are likely to cause significant impacts on Natura 2000 sites.

In addition, the Council will have regard to its responsibilities in relation to the requirements of the Habitats Directive, and any development proposal within the vicinity of or potentially having an effect on the designated site will be subject to an Appropriate Assessment under the Habitats Directive in consultation with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS).

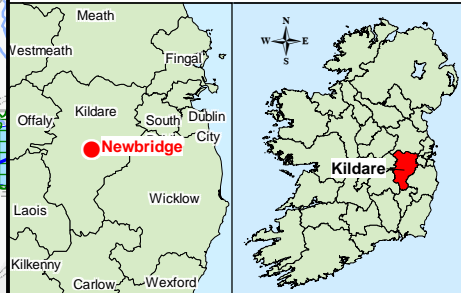


Legend

-  Special Protection Areas (SPAs)
-  Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)
-  Main River
-  Small River/Stream
-  Grand Canal
-  Newbridge
-  Buffer (15km)

Data Source:
Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) was downloaded from National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) website. Data was last updated 17/08/2011.

Rivers data was downloaded from Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).



Client
Kildare County Council

Project
Appropriate Assessment of Newbridge Small Town Plan

Title
Natura 2000 Designated Areas

Figure **2.1**

RPS
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Notes
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3 SCREENING CONCLUSION AND STATEMENT

The likely impacts that will arise from the LAP have been examined in the context of a number of factors that could potentially affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network. None of the sites within 15km of the LAP area will be adversely affected. A Finding of No Significant Effects Matrix has been completed and is presented in Section 4 of this Screening Statement.

On the basis of the findings of this Screening for Appropriate Assessment of Natura 2000 sites, it is concluded that the proposed LAP will not have a significant effect on the Natura 2000 network and a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is not required.

4 FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS REPORT MATRIX

Name of project or plan	draft Newbridge Local Area Plan
Name and location of Natura 2000 site	River Barrow and River Nore SAC; Mouds Bog SAC; Pollardstown Fen SAC; Ballynafagh Bog SAC; and Ballynafagh Lake SAC.
Description of the project or plan	<p>The overarching policies and objectives of the Kildare County Development Plan (CDP) will apply to development within the LAP boundary, including the development management standards set out in Chapter 19 of the CDP. All proposed development within and adjoining the Newbridge LAP boundary will be screened for Appropriate Assessment of its potential impacts on the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive. In all such cases the applicant/developer is advised to consult with the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the DoAHG.</p> <p>The strategy for the future development of Newbridge is based on the principles established in the previous LAP in 2003 and the framework provided by the Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022 and the Kildare County Development Plan 2011-2017. It provides a blueprint for the development of Newbridge for the period 2013 – 2019, setting out a vision for the area, specifying the type, amount and quality of development needed to achieve that vision while seeking to protect and enhance the environment and amenities.</p> <p>As a Large Growth Town in the GDA, it is envisaged that Newbridge will continue to grow to achieve a critical mass which will support competitiveness, sustainability and create opportunities for local and regional economic development. This growth pattern can also generate economies of scale to justify strategic investment into the town achieving sustainable levels of development through the provision of a range of residential, employment, recreational, cultural, retail and educational facilities appropriate for a town of its size.</p> <p>This LAP identifies specific policies and objectives applicable to Newbridge in order to facilitate integrated land use development in a manner that will promote proper planning and sustainable development. In summary the key policies and objectives are grouped under the following headings:</p> <p>1) Compliance with Core Strategy to achieve Sustainable Growth</p>

	<p>To ensure that the future development of Newbridge is in accordance with the Core Strategy of the Kildare CDP 2011-2017, the plan provides for the zoning of lands for residential and employment uses together with the implementation of a monitoring mechanism. A framework is also established for the town's sustainable growth through the incorporation of policies in relation to density, housing mix, community development and new housing provision.</p> <p>2) <i>Enterprise, Industry and Economic Development</i></p> <p>As a Primary Economic Growth Town, Newbridge must support and enhance enterprise and industry for a growing population. In this regard it is necessary to sustain existing employment and provide new employment appropriate to its size, role and potential. This LAP seeks to encourage and sustain a diversity of employment opportunities, identify potential for inward investment and enhance the tourism economy. To achieve this, the plan sets out policies and objectives that build on the town's retail and heritage strengths to create a unique tourism destination while also taking maximum advantage of lands strategically located to provide for future new employment hubs</p> <p>3) <i>Retail and Town Centre Uses</i></p> <p>Newbridge has a healthy retail base relative to comparative centres in Kildare and the wider GDA. Notwithstanding this, it is recognised that there is a need to carefully plan and manage future retail and non-retail services in the town and local neighbourhood centres to further strengthen the retail offer, protect and enhance the town's unique character while promoting economic vitality and viability in the sector. The LAP is informed by the Draft Kildare County Retail Strategy 2008-2016 which was published in 2010.</p> <p>Opportunities exist for the re-use and regeneration of land and buildings, including the considerable land banks to the rear of buildings on Main Street, which are currently under-utilised. Encouraging high quality design and facilitating an appropriate mix of uses will also help to ensure that the town centre provides a suitable focus for creating sustainable communities. The protection of built heritage and the integration and linkage of new retail developments with the existing urban form/layout are also key objectives.</p> <p>4) <i>Urban Design & Town Centre Development</i></p> <p>It is considered that good urban design is essential if Newbridge is to deliver an attractive, high quality, sustainable place to live and work. It</p>
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	<p>is important that new development respects the older streets in the town centre while at the same time creating a distinct character to enhance the quality of the built environment.</p> <p>The importance of Newbridge's townscape qualities which are derived from its historic urban structure are noted throughout the plan. In this regard a detailed urban design analysis of the existing townscape is set out together with policies and objectives specific to the future development of the town. The plan encourages the fragmentation and regeneration of the former barrack's block and the conservation and enhancement of the older town centre streets, which exhibit a finer urban grain.</p> <p>5) Design Briefs</p> <p>A number of design briefs are proposed for the following areas;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Cutlery Road and Bord na Mona (2) Edward Street to Military Road – Development of New Street(s) (3) Military Road and Athgarvan Road - – Perimeter Blocks (4) Town Hall and Georges Street <p>These Design Briefs (refer to Section 7.6.5) have been prepared to assist in the planning process by setting out broad design parameters for the future development of these areas. Each brief has been formulated following a detailed urban analysis.</p> <p>6) Movement & Transport</p> <p>The improvement of transportation infrastructure in Newbridge is a key element of the sustainable development of the town. Policies and objectives are outlined to promote integrated land use and transportation planning to further support and encourage more sustainable modes of travel. The plan also sets specific policies for local improvements in and around the town centre and objectives to secure routes for long term roads infrastructure.</p> <p>7) Water, Drainage & Environmental Services</p> <p>The adequacy of water, drainage and environmental services is necessary to facilitate the sustainable development of the town. These issues are addressed in various policies and objectives to provide for sufficient water, waste water and water drainage infrastructure to service the predicted requirements of the town over the plan period and beyond. While capacity issues at the Osberstown WWTP are outside the scope of this LAP, policies and objectives in relation to the upgrade of the local foul network are included.</p>
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	<p>Relevant legislative requirements in relation to environmental requirements are also set out including policies and objectives relating to flood risk requirements.</p> <p>8) Energy & Communications</p> <p>The development of a more sustainable approach to energy use, power generation and energy efficiency in all sectors is vital to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This includes focusing on renewable energy generation and improving energy efficiency.</p> <p>9) Educational, Community & Cultural</p> <p>The provision of education and community facilities to support the projected population levels of Newbridge are recognised. In this regard a site has been identified for the provision of a new school while the improvement of local community facilities and sports facilities together with the need to encourage the shared use of existing facilities is advocated.</p> <p>10) Architectural & Archaeological Heritage</p> <p>The protection and enhancement of the built heritage and streetscape in Newbridge is one of the core objectives of this plan. Policies and objectives have been incorporated which seek to protect, preserve and enhance the town's archaeology, built heritage and townscape. Section (v) Design Briefs is also relevant in this respect.</p> <p>11) Natural Heritage & Biodiversity</p> <p>The importance of green infrastructure is recognised and is based on detailed habitat mapping of the area. The plan maps and describes green infrastructure in Newbridge including relevant policies for its protection and enhancement. Policies and objectives are also included to ensure the protection of Pollardstown Fen (SAC) and Mouds Bog (SAC) and the Curragh Plains (pNHA), all located on the periphery of the town.</p> <p>12) Recreation, Amenity & Open Space</p> <p>The plan recognises the importance of the existing River Liffey Park and outlines clear objectives to expand and enhance the provision of this key natural asset. Additional lands have also been designated for open space and amenity purposes along the river corridor to preserve this amenity for future generations and to avoid inappropriate development on the flood plains. A series of local green routes are also identified for recreation and residential use.</p>
Is the project or plan directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (provide	No

details)?	
Are there other projects or plans that together with the project or plan being assessed could affect the site (provide details)?	No
The Assessment of Significance of Effects	
Describe how the project or plan (alone or in combination) is likely to affect the Natura 2000 site.	The proposed development is not likely to affect Natura 2000 sites.
Explain why these effects are not considered significant.	<p>All five SACs are water dependent ecosystems, and therefore, any changes to the groundwater regime or surface water quality as a result of the LAP could have adverse effects on the habitats and species for which the River Barrow and River Nore SAC, Pollardstown Fen SAC, Mouds Bog SAC, Ballynafagh Lake SAC and Ballynafagh Bog SAC are designated. Again, the Council have specific policies relating to the protection and maintenance of both the groundwater regime and surface water quality as a result of the LAP.</p> <p>River Barrow and River Nore SAC</p> <p>The River Barrow and River Nore SAC is located approximately 12.5km to the southwest of the LAP boundary. There is no connecting surface waters between the LAP boundary and the River Barrow and River Nore SAC. Therefore, any potential development within the LAP lands is unlikely to impact on the integrity of the River Barrow and River Nore SAC or the habitats for which it is designated.</p> <p>Pollardstown Fen SAC</p> <p>Pollardstown Fen SAC is located directly adjacent to the northwest of the LAP boundary. The proposed development within the LAP boundary will be focused towards the town centre and to the east of the town centre.</p> <p>Pollardstown Fen SAC is a ground water dependent ecosystem, and therefore, any changes to the groundwater regime as a result of the LAP could have adverse effects on the habitats and species for which the SAC is designed.</p> <p>The Council is committed to protecting and enhancing the groundwater around Newbridge, and have specific policies to ensure the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration. Such policies and measures would ensure that all proposed developments within this LAP will not impact on the groundwater regime. Therefore, any potential development in Newbridge is unlikely to impact on the groundwater regime of Pollardstown Fen SAC and will not impact on the integrity of the SAC or the habitats and species for which it is designated.</p>

	<p>Mouds Bog SAC</p> <p>Mouds Bog SAC is located approximately 1.8km to the north of the LAP boundary. Mouds Bog SAC is a ground water dependent ecosystem, and therefore, any changes to the groundwater regime as a result of the LAP could have adverse effects on the habitats and species for which the SAC is designed.</p> <p>Given the elevation of the Mouds Bog SAC in the surrounding landscape relative to Newbridge, it is anticipated that groundwater within the LAP boundary drains towards the River Liffey and is not connected to the groundwater of Mouds Bog SAC, which is also likely to drain to the River Liffey further north. The Council is committed to protecting and enhancing groundwater around Newbridge, and have specific policies to ensure the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration. Any potential development in Newbridge is unlikely to impact on the groundwater regime of Mouds Bog SAC and will not impact on the integrity of the SAC or the habitats for which it is designated.</p> <p>Ballynafagh Lake SAC</p> <p>Ballynafagh Lake SAC is located approximately 11.5km to the north of the LAP boundary. There is no connecting surface waters between the LAP boundary and Ballynafagh Lake SAC. Therefore, any potential development within the LAP lands is unlikely to impact on the integrity of Ballynafagh Lake SAC or the habitats for which it is designated.</p> <p>Ballynafagh Bog SAC</p> <p>Ballynafagh Bog SAC is located approximately 13.2km to the north of the LAP boundary. Given the elevation of Ballynafagh Bog SAC in the surrounding landscape relative to Newbridge, it is anticipated that the groundwater within the LAP boundary drains towards the River Liffey and is not connected to the groundwater of Ballynafagh Bog SAC. The Council is committed to protecting and enhancing groundwater around Newbridge, and have specific policies to ensure the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration. Therefore, any potential development within the LAP lands is unlikely to impact on the integrity of Ballynafagh Bog SAC or the habitats for which it is designated.</p>
List of agencies consulted: provide contact name and telephone or e-mail address.	N/A
Response to consultation.	N/A
Data Collected to Carry Out the Assessment	
Who carried out the assessment?	RPS
Sources of data	NPWS database

	Information from Kildare Water Services
Level of assessment completed	Desktop
Where can the full results of the assessment be accessed and viewed?	Kildare County Council Planning Department
Overall Conclusion	Stage 1 Screening indicates that the proposed LAP will not have a significant negative impact on the Natura 2000 network. Therefore, a Stage 2 'Appropriate Assessment' under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC is not required.

Appendix B

Scoping Process Responses



An Roinn
Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta

Department of
Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

20th October 2011

Your Ref: SEA Scoping Newbridge LAP
Our Ref: DAU-2011-KD-CON-FP2011/150a

Emma Oliveira
RPS
West Pier Business Campus,
Dun Laoghaire,
Co. Dublin.

Re: SEA Scoping for Newbridge LAP

A Chara,

I refer to the above-proposed SEA scoping report. Please find hereunder the observations and recommendations of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for consideration by your Authority.

Archaeological Heritage

The scoping report adequately addresses issues relating to archaeological heritage.

Nature Conservation

It is recommended that the Local Area Plan (LAP) should include a natural heritage section. The Local Authority should ensure the Plan does not adversely impact on designated sites or protected species and should ensure that the Plan and any development proposals take into account the need to protect, retain and enhance biodiversity generally as per the National Biodiversity Plan.

All designated sites within the Plan area should be listed and mapped, including, if applicable, candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSAC), special Protection Areas (SPA), Natural Heritage Areas (NHA), Proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHA), Nature Reserves and Refuges for fauna. Details of these sites are available on www.npws.ie. Where SIs have recently been issued they may not yet be available on www.npws.ie but may be available on www.irishstatutebook.ie. For information on Geological and Geomorphological NHAs the Geological Survey of Ireland should be consulted. The Plan should take cognisance of boundary changes to sites made during the lifetime of the Plan and all such sites should be zoned appropriately and policies and objectives should be devised to ensure their protection.

With regard to legislation the Plan and SEA should take account of the Biodiversity Convention, the Ramsar Convention, the Birds and Habitats Directives, the Wildlife Acts of 1976 and 2000,

and the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (SI No 94 of 1997) and its amendments (SI No 233 of 1998 and SI No 378 of 2005).

We recommend that the Biodiversity SEOs in the SEA cover habitats and species both within and outside of designated sites as below;

- Natura 2000 sites, i.e. Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designated under the EC Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/42/EEC) and Special Protection Areas designated under the EC Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/409 EEC),
- Other designated sites, or sites proposed for designation, such as Natural Heritage Areas, Nature Reserves and Refuges for Fauna or Flora, designated under the Wildlife Acts of 1976 and 2000,
- Habitats listed on annex I of the Habitats Directive,
- Species listed on Annexes II and IV of the Habitats Directive,
- Habitats important for birds,
- Birds listed on Annex I of the EC Birds Directive,
- Species protected under the Wildlife Acts including protected flora,
- Habitats that can be considered to be corridors or stepping stones for the purpose of article 10 of the Habitats Directive,
- Red data book species,
- and biodiversity in general.

With regard to biodiversity you should take account of the 2020 biodiversity target agreed at the Nagoya CBD CoP in 2010 which is to “take effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity in order to ensure that by 2020 ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services, thereby securing the planet’s variety of life, and contributing to human well-being, and poverty eradication. To ensure this, pressures on biodiversity are reduced, ecosystems are restored, biological resources are sustainably used and benefits arising out of utilization of genetic resources are shared in a fair and equitable manner; adequate financial resources are provided, capacities are enhanced, biodiversity issues and values mainstreamed, appropriate policies are effectively implemented, and decision-making is based on sound science and the precautionary approach.”

With regard to the SEOs for Water in the SEA it is important that the needs of protected species such as salmon, lamprey species and freshwater pearl mussels, which are listed on annex II of the Habitats Directive, are considered in relation to water quality. It is important that the needs of the Freshwater Pearl Mussels, which are listed on annex II of the Habitats Directive, are considered in relation to water quality. Copies of the Draft Management Plans and Programmes of Measures for this species can be downloaded from

http://www.wfdireland.ie/docs/5_FreshwaterPearlMusselPlans/ or through www.environ.ie .

It is also important that water SEOs are compatible with the relevant River Basin Management Plans. Regarding flood risk, flood plains should be left undeveloped to allow for the protection of these valuable habitats along the river corridors and provide areas for floodwater retention. Account should be taken of the guidelines for Planning Authorities entitled “The Planning System and Flood Risk Management” and published by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in November 2009.

With regard to the scope of baseline data for flora and fauna we advise that the data of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is available by consulting www.npws.ie and that the data of the National Biodiversity Data Centre is available by consulting <http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/>

Please note that the draft Plan should be screened for appropriate assessment. The Departmental guidance document on Appropriate Assessment, which was launched by the Minister on 10th December 2009, and since revised, is available on the NPWS web site at <http://www.npws.ie/media/npws/publications/codesofpractice/AA%20Guidance%2010-12-09.pdf>.

We also refer you to the EU Commission guidance entitled “*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*” which can be downloaded from http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/art6/natura_2000_assess_en.pdf.

It is particularly important that the appropriate assessment procedure, commencing with stage 1 screening, should take place in consultation with the teams working on the draft Plan and SEA as each process can help inform the other to ensure that the objectives and policies in the draft Plan will have no significant effects on any Natura 2000 site. The appropriate assessment should examine the effects of policies, objectives and any indicative maps or zonings, as well as cumulative impacts with other plans and projects both within and outside of the Plan area. In order to carry out the appropriate assessment you will need to collect information about the relevant Natura 2000 sites including their conservation objectives. These may be available on our web site www.npws.ie or can be obtained by requesting them by completing the data request form on our website at <http://www.npws.ie/media/npws/publications/Data%20request%20form.doc>

Kindly forward any further information to the following address:

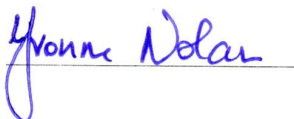
The Manager,
Development Applications Unit,
Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht,
Newtown Road,
Wexford.

Alternatively, documentation associated with the above can be referred electronically to the DAU at the following address:

manager.dau@environ.ie

In addition, please acknowledge receipt of these observations by return.

Is mise le meas,



Yvonne Nolan,
Development Applications Unit
Tel: (053) 911 7382
E-mail: yvonne.nolan@environ.ie



Ms Mary Foley
Administrative Officer
Planning Department
Kildare County Council
Áras Chill Dara
Co. Kildare

13th October 2011

Our Ref: SCP110904.1

Re: Proposed Newbridge LAP 2012-2018

Dear Ms Foley,

I refer to and acknowledge the correspondence, as received from your consultants (RPS), dated 22nd September, in relation to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping for the Proposed Newbridge LAP 2012-2018, hereafter referred to as “the Plan”.

Please find enclosed the EPA’s initial submission, which consists of an SEA Scoping Guidance Document and SEA Pack, to assist you in undertaking an environmental assessment as per the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004) as amended by S.I. No. 201 of 2011.

Further comment will be provided by the Agency upon receipt of the Draft Environmental Report and Plan and associated documents during the next statutory consultation phase of the SEA Process.

Updated SEA Regulations / Circular

Your attention is brought to the new SEA Regulations, which should be referenced and integrated into the Plan and SEA process.

Two amending SEA Regulations were signed into Irish law on 3rd May 2011, amending the original SEA Regulations:

- European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations 2011, (S.I. No. 200 of 2011), amending the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 435 of 2004), and
- Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2011, (S.I. No. 201 of 2011), amending the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004).

You are also referred to the recent DoECLG Circular (PSSP 6/2011) issued on the 26th July 2011 to each County/City Manager, Director of Services and Town Clerk in relation to ‘*Further Transposition of the EU Directive 2001/42/EC on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*’ which should also be referred to and integrated into the Plan.

European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011

You are also referred to the requirements of the recent European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011), which should be taken into account in implementing the Plan. These Regulations consolidate the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 to 2005 and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Control of Recreational Activities) Regulations 2010, as well as addressing transposition failures identified in the CJEU judgements.

Environmental Authorities

You are reminded of the requirement, where appropriate under the SEA Regulations, and as amended by S.I. No. 201 of 2011, to give notice to the following:

- The Environmental Protection Agency
- The Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government
- Minister for Agriculture, Marine and Food, and the Minister for Communications Energy and Natural Resources, where it appears to the planning authority that the plan or programme, or modification of the plan or programme, might have significant effects on fisheries or the marine environment
- where it appears to the competent authority that the plan or programme, or amendment to a plan or programme, might have significant effects in relation to the architectural heritage or to nature conservation, the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht Affairs, and
- any adjoining planning authority whose area is continuous to the area of a planning authority which prepared a draft plan, proposed variation or local area plan.

You are further reminded that a copy of your decision regarding the determination should be made available for public inspection at your offices, local authority website and should also be notified to any Environmental Authorities already consulted.

Should you have any queries or require further information in relation to the above please contact the undersigned.

I would be grateful if an acknowledgement of receipt of this submission could be sent electronically to the following address: sea@epa.ie.

Yours Sincerely,

Cian O'Mahony
Scientific Officer
SEA Section - Environmental Research Centre
Office of Environmental Assessment
Environmental Protection Agency
Regional Inspectorate
Inniscarra, County Cork

EPA SEA SCOPING SUBMISSION Newbridge LAP 2012-2018

SEA Process Guidance

EPA SEA Pack

The EPA 's SEA Pack has been issued as a separate file electronically. This Pack has been compiled by the EPA and is based on our experience to date as a statutory SEA Environmental Authority and on current best practice in the SEA process. The SEA Pack is issued as part of statutory SEA Scoping consultation in relation to the Development Plan, it is a matter for Kildare County Council (the LA) to ensure that the contents of the Pack are taken into account and followed as appropriate during the SEA process.

Up-to-date Environmental Monitoring Data etc.

The current state of the environment should be described using most recent and up-to-date environmental data, information and reports. Where updating of significant environmental data and associated reports become available during the SEA process, where possible, this information should be incorporated into the description of the current state of the environment and where relevant related environmental problems. In addition the current state of drinking water quality and treatment, along with waste water effluent quality and treatment infrastructure, should be described using the most recent and up-to-date data, information and reports.

You are referred in this regard to the full range of Water and Air Quality Reports prepared by the EPA. See www.epa.ie <https://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/>

Geographical Information Systems

You are referred to the EPA's web based Environmental Mapping / Geographical Information System (GIS) ENVision, which can be found at:
<http://maps.epa.ie/InternetMapView/MapView.aspx>

The use, and application, of GIS should be considered where possible at the various key stages in the SEA process. GIS could, along with other methodologies, and depending on the availability of relevant spatial data, assist in determining the cumulative vulnerability of various environmental resources within the Plan area. GIS could also demonstrate visually how the Plan might impact on these resources. In undertaking the SEA, all the environmental data and information presented on these GIS based maps should be taken into account.

You are referred to the EPA GISEA Manual, which has recently updated and posted as a Consultation Document on the EPA's SEA WebPage. This document can be downloaded via the following link: <http://www.epa.ie/downloads/consultation/name,25835,en.html>

Appropriate Assessment

You are referred to the requirements of Article 6 of *Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora*, the Habitats Directive. Appropriate Assessment, in accordance with the Directive, is required for:

“Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (Natura 2000 sites) but likely to have significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment of its implications for the site in view of the sites conservation Objectives...”

Kildare County Council should consult with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) with regard to screening of the Plan for Appropriate Assessment. Where Appropriate Assessment is required, any findings or recommendations should be incorporated into the SEA Environmental Report and Plan, as appropriate.

In order to determine the requirement for an Appropriate Assessment the following Guidance is referenced.

European Commission, 2000. Managing Natura 2000 Sites – The provisions of Article 6 of the ‘Habitats’ Directive 92/43/EEC

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/art6/provision_of_art6_en.pdf

European Commission, 2002. 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

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/art6/natura_2000_asses_s_en.pdf

National Parks and Wildlife Service, 2009. Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland

<http://www.npws.ie/en/media/NPWS/Publications/CodesofPractice/AA%20Guidance.pdf>

National Parks and Wildlife Service, Natura 2000 Screening Protocol – Water Service Plans and Projects

<http://www.npws.ie/en/>

Scoping Meetings/Workshops

As part of the SEA Scoping process, we would suggest that the convening of a Scoping Meeting / Workshop with key staff within the LA (planning, roads, environment, heritage etc.) be considered. There would also be merits in having personnel from National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), Department of Communications, Energy and National Resources (DCENR), and Environmental Protection Agency, as appropriate, at this meeting.

For any environmental issue(s) determined to be scoped out of the SEA process, clear justification should be included in the Environmental Report as to why the specific environmental issues were not considered likely to be potentially affected by the Plan.

Alternatives

In considering and assessing alternatives, the alternatives proposed should be reasonable and realistic and should be set at the appropriate strategic level at which the Plan will be implemented operating within the national planning hierarchy. They should be assessed against the relevant environmental objectives established for the key environmental aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected. Clear justification should be provided for the selection of the preferred alternative/ combination of alternatives.

Where relevant, the development of alternatives should be clearly described. In addition, the methodology applied in the assessment of alternatives along with any assumptions made should be described.

Consultation

In order to promote Best Practice in SEA in the context of consultation, it is recommended that the public be given an opportunity to make submissions on the issues to be addressed in

the SEA process for the Plan. To this effect consideration should be given to the publication of relevant and appropriate notices etc. to inform and engage the wider public in the SEA process.

Following completion of the Draft Scoping Report consideration should be given to the making available of this document on the LA website or other relevant websites.

Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

In assessing the likely significant effects of the Plan on the full range of environmental issues likely to be significantly affected, the full range of effects as set out in Annex I of the SEA Directive - likely significant effects should include- secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long term, permanent, temporary, positive and negative effects, should be assessed and reported on.

Particular reference should be made to the potential for cumulative effects associated with the implementation of the Plan in association with other relevant Plans / Programmes and projects within the Plan area and adjoining areas.

The methodology applied in the assessment of the preferred alternative along with any assumptions made should be described. Where possible and practical, quantitative assessments should be undertaken of the assessment of the preferred alternative/ combination of alternatives.

Mitigation of Significant Effects

Where significant adverse effects are identified associated with the implementation of the Plan, there should be a clear link with relevant and appropriate mitigation measure(s). The emphasis should, in the first instance, be on avoidance of significant adverse effects.

Monitoring Proposals

Monitoring arrangements should be clearly set out along with responsibilities, frequency of monitoring, analysis, and reporting on monitoring. Monitoring arrangements should be sufficiently flexible so as to be able to react to unforeseen / unexpected events. Maximum use should be made of existing environmental monitoring programmes. To this effect, the significant environmental monitoring required under the Water Framework Directive should fulfil most if not all of the requirements with respect to water quality.

The monitoring arrangements and related monitoring programme for the Plan should include relevant and appropriate thresholds which should trigger when remedial action should be undertaken for the particular aspect of the environment being monitored.

Process and SEA-Environmental Report Compliance

The SEA Process for the Plan should comply fully with the procedural and output requirements set out in the SEA Directive, and the relevant national SEA Regulations. The Environmental Report should be prepared in accordance with the specific information specified in Article 5 - Environmental Report, Paragraphs 1 – 3 and Annex I of the SEA Directive.

Integration of SEA and Plan/Programme

Particular emphasis should be given during the SEA and Plan-making process to ensuring that both processes are fully integrated from the outset. Appropriate SEA Team /Plan Team Workshops should be held at key stages during both processes to ensure full engagement, interaction, and sharing of information with key members of both teams and to ensure full integration of environmental considerations in the Plan.

Consideration could also be given to the assigning a facilitator either within or external to the LA with the specific role of ensuring full integration takes place during the SEA process and the Plan making process. This can be particularly beneficial where SEA is being undertaken by the LA.

Documentation of the SEA Process

Where key decisions are made during the SEA process e.g. Scoping In/Out environmental topics, selection of preferred alternative (s) etc. these decisions should be documented as part of an overall SEA/ Plan making process.

Possible Proposed Amendments to the Draft Plan

You are referred to the requirement for any amendments proposed to the Draft Plan, to be assessed for likely significant effects. This assessment should take account of the SEA Regulations Schedule 2A Criteria (S.I 436 of 2004) and should be subject to the same method of assessment as undertaken in the “environmental assessment” of the Draft Plan.

Information on the Decision/ SEA Statement

Following adoption of the Plan the competent authority is required to make available the adopted P/P and a statement setting out relevant “Information on the Decision” as set out in Article 9 of the SEA Directive.

You are referred to the requirement to prepare an SEA Statement outlining “Information on the Decision” as required by Article 14I of Planning and Development Regulations as amended by Article 8 of the SEA Regulations in relation to Development Plans.

This SEA Statement should summarise the following:

- how environmental considerations have been integrated into the Plan;
- how the Environmental Report, submissions, observations and consultations have been taken into account during the preparation of the Plan;
- the reasons for choosing the Plan adopted in the light of other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and,
- the measures decided upon to monitor the significant environmental effects of implementation of the Plan.

SEA Guidance /Methodology

You are referred to the following Guidance/ Methodology, which should be referred to along with other relevant and appropriate SEA and related Guidance during the SEA process:

- EPA –Development of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Methodologies for Plans and Programmes in Ireland –Synthesis report (EPA, 2003)
<http://www.epa.ie/downloads/advice/ea/name.13547.en.html>
- The Department of Environment Community and Local Government Guidelines: “Implementation of SEA Directive 92001/42/EC): Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment –Guidelines for Local Authorities and Planning Authorities” (DoEH&LG, November 2004) While the focus is on Land use Planning, this SEA guidance is of relevance.
<http://www.environ.ie/en/Publications/DevelopmentandHousing/Planning/FileDownload,1616.en.pdf>

In addition, to the above, it is brought to your attention that a Draft Consultation SEA Process Checklist has been published on the EPA website. The Checklist can be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.epa.ie/downloads/consultation/name.24012.en.html>

You are also referred to SEA Process Checklist in EPA –*Development of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Methodologies for Plans and Programmes in Ireland – Synthesis report* (EPA, 2003).

Updated SEA Regulations / Circular

Your attention is brought to the new SEA Regulations, which should be referenced and integrated into the Plan and SEA process.

Two amending SEA Regulations were signed into Irish law on 3rd May 2011, amending the original SEA Regulations:

- European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations 2011, (S.I. No. 200 of 2011), amending the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 435 of 2004), and
- Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2011, (S.I. No. 201 of 2011), amending the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004).

You are also referred to the recent DoECLG Circular (PSSP 6/2011) issued on the 26th July 2011 to each County/City Manager, Director of Services and Town Clerk in relation to ‘*Further Transposition of the EU Directive 2001/42/EC on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*’ which should also be referred to and integrated into the Plan.

European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011

You are referred to the recent *European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011*, (S.I. No. 477 of 2011), which should be taken into account in implementing the Plan. These Regulations consolidate the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 to 2005 and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Control of Recreational Activities) Regulations 2010, as well as addressing transposition failures identified in the CJEU judgements.

Environmental Authorities

You are reminded of the requirement, where appropriate under the SEA Regulations, and as amended by S.I. No. 201 of 2011, to give notice to the following:

- The Environmental Protection Agency
- The Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government
- Minister for Agriculture, Marine and Food, and the Minister for Communications Energy and Natural Resources, where it appears to the planning authority that the plan or programme, or modification of the plan or programme, might have significant effects on fisheries or the marine environment
- where it appears to the competent authority that the plan or programme, or amendment to a plan or programme, might have significant effects in relation to the architectural heritage or to nature conservation, the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht Affairs, and



- any adjoining planning authority whose area is continuous to the area of a planning authority which prepared a draft plan, proposed variation or local area plan.

You are further reminded that a copy of your decision regarding the determination should be made available for public inspection at your offices, local authority website and should also be notified to any Environmental Authorities already consulted.

INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS IN THE NEWBRIDGE LAP

The Newbridge LAP, hereafter referred to as “the Plan”, should be set in the context of the planning hierarchy and a clear statement should be provided as to the function of the Plan and what the Plan can and cannot do. Where other Plans/Programmes/Strategies are responsible for implementing relevant policies / objectives / initiatives, these should be acknowledged and fully referenced in the Plan.

The comments below relate to the integration of the environmental considerations and recommendations that have been set out in the Environmental Report, as well as the additional information highlighted by the EPA, within the Plan. Suggestions are put forward for consideration with a view to addressing the integration of a number of key environmental considerations within the Plan.

The EPA is a statutory Environmental Authority under the SEA Regulations. The EPA’s role in SEA in relation to Land Use Plans focuses on promoting full integration of the findings of the Environmental Assessment into the Plan. It is not the function of the EPA to either approve or enforce the Plan.

Summary of Latest Updates

Update Date	24/08/2011
Changes	Comments
1	Added Change Tracker
2	Included information on new SEA Regulations and associated Circular
3	Included information on new AA Circular PSSP 5/2011
4	Section on Drinking Water updated to most recent guidance
5	Added reference to European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice For Protection Of Waters) Regulations 2010
6	New sub section on hydrometrics added under Water
7	New reference to groundwater reports available on the EPA website
8	Clarified license/certification requirements for WWTPs
9	Added subsection on new Birds&NaturalHabitat Regs (S.I.No.477 of 2011)

1 WATER

1.1 Water Framework Directive

The Cloncumber River, adjacent to the Plan area is currently classified as being of “Poor” status under the Water Framework Directive and as being of “Moderate” status (Q3-4 in 2009) by the EPA. It is also noted that the River Liffey (Lower), passing through Newbridge, is classified as “Moderate status” under the WFD, and as “Good” Status (Q4 in 2010) by the EPA. The Plan should promote the protection of surface water and groundwater and their associated habitats and species, including fisheries.

Provisions should be made in the Plan for the incorporation of the specific relevant objectives and measures for individual water bodies set out in the Eastern River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) and South Eastern RBMP and associated Programmes of Measures (POMs). The Plan should not hinder, and where possible promote the achievement of these specific objectives at water body level. In addition the plan should outline the current water quality status and the status to be achieved by 2015 in any receiving waters covered by the plan.



You are in particular referred to the Water Maps GIS Tool within this weblink:
<http://www.wfdireland.ie/maps.html>

You are also referred to the full range of Protected Areas within the Eastern and South Eastern River Basin Districts (RBDs) as set out in Annex IV 1(i) – (v) inclusive of the Water Framework Directive. These should be taken into account in the Drafting of the Plan.

The Plan should refer to and incorporate the recent Surface Water legislation ‘*Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009*’ 2009 (S.I. No 272 of 2009), where relevant and appropriate. You are referred to the Legislation at:

<http://www.environ.ie/en/Environment/Water/WaterQuality/EnvironmentalObjectivesSurfaceWatersRegulations2009/>

The Plan should refer to the recent ‘*Water Quality in Ireland 2007 – 2009*’ (EPA, 2011) as appropriate and relevant. You are referred to the Report at:
<http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/water/waterqua/>

1.2 Drinking Water/Water Supply

The SEA and Plan making processes should address drinking water supply capacity, leakage and quality in the Plan area. Future predicted increases in population and demand should be taken into consideration in the context of current drinking water supply and future requirements.

The Plan should implement the European Communities (Drinking Water)(No.2) Regulations 2007 and should implement and include, as appropriate, the relevant recommendations set out in *The Provision and Quality of Drinking Water in Ireland – A Report for the Years 2008-2009*, (Office of Environment Enforcement- EPA, 2011). You are referred to this Report at:
<http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/water/drinking/>

The Ballymore Eustace Drinking Water Supply, servicing the Plan area, is currently listed on the EPA’s Remedial Action List due to “*EPA Audit Observation – Treatment and management issues*”. The Plan should include, where applicable, specific objectives for the improvement of any water supplies in the Plan area. In particular, the Plan should address the specific objectives to be achieved where these water supplies are included on the EPA’s Remedial Action List (RAL). The RAL published in the most recent annual Drinking Water report can be found at: <http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/water/drinking/>. It should be noted that the RAL is a dynamic list which is reviewed quarterly by the EPA, so the current list may differ from that published in the most recent annual Drinking Water Report. Guidance on the Remedial Action List has been prepared by the EPA and is available in Section 6 of the Drinking Water Handbook mentioned above and available at:
<http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/water/drinking/>.

The Plan should refer to the EPA guidance handbook on the *Implementation of the Regulations for Water Services Authorities for Public Water Supplies* which has been prepared under the European Communities (Drinking Water) (No.2) Regulations 2007. This guidance handbook was published in 2010 and contains practical information for local authorities on the implementation of the Drinking Water Regulations, including statutory and binding guidance on certain issues in accordance with the Regulations. You are referred to this guidance document at: <http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/water/drinking/>.

Two parallel handbooks were prepared, one to assist private water suppliers and WSAs to implement the Regulations in respect of private water supplies and the second handbook to cover public water supplies including the role of the EPA as the supervisory authority. The

two handbooks together replace the previous handbook, published by the EPA in 2004. The handbooks also replace and incorporate the guidance booklets number 1 to 4 published by the EPA in the last two years. The drinking water guidance booklets that are replaced are as follows:

- Guidance Booklet No.1. *Guidance for local authorities on Regulation 9 and Regulation 10 of EC (Drinking Water) (No.2) Regulations 2007.*
- Guidance Booklet No.2. *Annual reporting of drinking water monitoring results.*
- Guidance Booklet No.3. *Guidance for local authorities on the Remedial Action List for public water supplies.*
- Guidance Booklet No.4. *Risk Screening for Cryptosporidium.*

The EPA has also published a series of Drinking Water Advice Notes, which cover the following areas:

- Advice Note No. 1: Lead Compliance Monitoring and Surveys
- Advice Note No. 2: Action programmes to restore the quality of drinking water impacted by lead pipes and lead plumbing
- Advice Note No. 3: E.coli in Drinking Water
- Advice Note No. 4: Disinfection By-Products in Drinking Water
- Advice Note No. 5: Turbidity in Drinking Water
- Advice Note No. 6: Restoring Public Water Supplies Affected by Flooding

These can be found at: <http://www.epa.ie/downloads/advice/water/drinkingwater/>

These Advice Notes set out EPA guidance on the actions that are necessary following exceedances of these parameters and also the preventative measures that should be taken to improve the security of the supply to prevent a repeat failure in the future. This is provided in the context of the EPA recommended approach to managing a drinking water supply i.e. the Water Safety Plan Approach. Please be aware that EPA Lead Guidance Circulars No.s 1 and 2 have been reissued as Advice Notes No.s 1 and 2 though there has been no change to the text of these documents.

As set out in the recommendations referred to above, the Local Authority must develop appropriate solutions that may involve abandoning or replacing drinking water sources, upgrading the treatment facilities or improving management and operational practices.

The Plan should take account of any Groundwater Protection Schemes and Groundwater Source Protection Zones data available at the Geological Survey of Ireland: <http://www.gsi.ie>

1.3 Waste Water Treatment

The Plan should highlight the requirement under *The Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations* for all for all wastewater discharges, including storm water discharges which come within the scope of these Regulations to be licensed (for agglomerations over 500pe) or certified (for agglomeration below 500p.e). In this regard, the Plan should highlight the specific requirements of Regulations 43 & 44 of the *Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations, 2007*, S.I. No. 684 of 2007, regarding the consideration of proposals and consultation on such proposals by Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála, where applications for proposed development are being considered and decided upon.

The Plan should include as appropriate measures to improve water quality impacted by waste water discharges as identified in the EPA Waste Water Report and the Water Quality in Ireland reports.

The Plan should implement the Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations 2001 and 2004 and promote, as appropriate, specific provisions for the implementation of the relevant recommendations set out in *Urban Waste Water Discharges in Ireland for Population Equivalents Greater than 500 Persons – A Report for the Years 2006 and 2007* (EPA, 2009). You are referred to this Report at: <http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/water/wastewater/>

The EPA has published a *Code of Practice: Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Houses (p.e ≤ 10)*, (EPA, 2009). The code of practice (CoP) establishes an overall framework of best practice in relation to the development of wastewater treatment and disposal systems, in unsewered rural areas, for protection of our environment and specifically water quality. The code replaces previous guidance issued by the EPA on wastewater treatment systems for single houses (EPA, 2000) and incorporates the requirements of new European guidelines, recent research findings and submissions and comments received during the consultation process. It is available from the link provided above.

The Plan should, where possible and appropriate, include and/or promote the inclusion of specific Policies and Objectives regarding the provision and maintenance of adequate and appropriate wastewater treatment infrastructure to service zoned lands and developments within the Plan area.

Where the introduction of additional lands for development is being proposed within the Plan area, relevant Policies/objectives should be included in the Plan, and as appropriate, to promote assessment of the adequacy of the existing wastewater treatment facility (ies) in terms of both capacity and performance and the potential risk to human health and water quality. Where relevant, the potential impact on habitats and species of ecological importance should be addressed.

The Plan should include as appropriate measures to ensure that trade effluent in the area covered by the Plan is managed properly and discharged to sewer in accordance with relevant discharge licences where appropriate.

1.4 Groundwater Protection

The Geological Survey of Ireland has identified areas of high groundwater vulnerability throughout the Plan area. In addition, the groundwater is classified as being of poor status (under the Water Framework Directive) in the south west of the Plan area. The Plan should include clear Policy and Objective for the protection of groundwater resources and associated habitats and species. The Plan should make reference to the requirements of the Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration, which came into force on the 12th December 2006.

This Directive addresses the main elements of groundwater protection as required by Article 17 of the WFD. It establishes underground water quality standards and introduces measures to prevent or limit inputs of pollutants into groundwater. You are referred to the following recent legislation *European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010* (S.I.9 of 2010) at:

<http://www.environ.ie/en/Environment/Water/WaterQuality/GroundwaterRegulations2010/>

Where not already available, the Plan should promote the development of a Groundwater Protection Scheme for the relevant local authority areas covered by the Plan.

Consideration should also be given, where relevant and appropriate, to promotion of the inclusion of Policies and Objectives in the Plan for the following:

- *Enforcement of Planning Conditions related to installation, operation and maintenance of on-site wastewater treatment / septic tank systems.*
- *Connection of all remaining houses within Town Boundary to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.*
- *The development of a wastewater leak detection programme. The use of a strategic metering system to aid in leak detection should be considered*
- *The implementation and enforcement of the European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2009.*

1.5 Water Conservation

The Plan should include measures to promote conservation of water. In this context, the development of a Water Conservation Strategy should be considered, and where relevant addressed in combination with adjoining local authorities. The Strategy should address new and existing developments within the Plan area. Where such a Strategy is being developed, specific timescales should be assigned to its preparation with clear responsibilities and timescales for its implementation.

1.6 Water Services Act 2007- Strategic Water Services Plans

The Plan should include provisions to promote the preparation and implementation of Water Services Plans in accordance with any Regulations likely to be made under Section 36 of the Water Services Act 2007.

Section 36 Subsection (7) c. of the Water Services Act 2007 makes specific reference to the inclusion in Water Services Strategic Plans, where considered reasonable and necessary, of objectives to:

- *“protect human health and the environment”;*
- *“facilitate the provision of sufficient water services for domestic and non – domestic requirements in the area to which the plan relates”;* and,
- *“support proper planning and sustainable development including sustainable use of water resources”.*

1.7 Flood Prevention and Management

The OPW have identified instances of recurring flood events with Newbridge town. The Plan should promote the appropriate zoning of lands and restriction of use in areas liable to flooding to avoid increased risk of flooding of the lands either within or adjoining the zoned areas. A specific Policy should be included to provide for/promote appropriate flood risk assessments to be undertaken, where development(s) and zoning are being proposed in the Plan area where there is risk of flooding.

The Plan should make reference to the E.U Directive (2007/60/EC) on the assessment and management of flood risks entered into force on 12 December 2007. The provisions of this Directive include the development of flood risk management plans.

The Flood Risk Management approach as adopted by the Office of Public Works (OPW) should be promoted, as appropriate, in consultation with the OPW where there is potential risk of flooding in the Plan area. You are referred to the Planning Guidelines on flooding in *“The Planning System and Flood Risk Management - Guidelines for Planning Authorities (Environment, Heritage and Local Government – OPW, November 2009* which can be consulted at:

<http://www.environ.ie/en/Publications/DevelopmentandHousing/Planning/NationalSpatialStrategy/Flood%20Risk%20Management/>

The Plan should promote the development, where appropriate, of adaptation measures to account for the likely increased risk of flooding due to Climate Change within the Plan area.

The Plan should include measures to promote the implementation of adequate and appropriate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.

The Plan should provide for protection, management, and as appropriate, enhancement of existing wetland habitats where flood protection/management measures are necessary. See definition of “Wetlands” in - *Wetlands Conservation and Protection in EPA Code of Practice: Environmental Risk Assessment for Waste Sites (EPA, 2007)*. The full report is available at:

http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/other/corporate/oeecop_waste_sites_consultation_draft.pdf

1.8 Hydrometrics

Consideration should be given to incorporating hydrometric information, as relevant and appropriate, into the Plan, particularly in relation to water services and wastewater treatment. You are referred to the Agency’s available information in this regard at: <http://hydronet.epa.ie/conditions>.

Where flood risk assessment is concerned, your attention is also brought to existing hydrometric data available from the OPW: See: <http://www.opw.ie/hydro/index.asp>

1.9 Integration of infrastructure, zoning and development

Where zoning/rezoning of lands and the introduction of new development is being proposed within the Plan area, the Plan should ensure the adequacy of the existing water supply/wastewater treatment facilities and associated networks are assessed. This should address both capacity and performance and the potential risk to human health, water quality and water quantity. The potential impact on habitats and species of ecological importance should also be addressed as appropriate, from pressures impacting on water quality and quantity.

Zoning for development within the Plan area should be linked to availability and adequacy of water supply/waste water treatment infrastructure and capacity. The provision of adequate and appropriate infrastructure in advance of development within the Plan area should be promoted through the Plan.

The implications of Flood Risk likely to be associated with already zoned and undeveloped lands in the Plan area should also be considered. This should be considered in the context of possible rezoning options as appropriate.

The above requirements should be promoted in the Plan and as appropriate should be reflected in relevant Policies/Objectives in the Plan.

2 BIODIVERSITY

2.1 EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland

The Plan should include a clear Policy to protect all designated habitats and species within the area including Mouds Bog (SAC/pNHA), Pollardstown Fen (SAC/pNHA), Ballynafagh Bog (SAC/pNHA), Ballynafagh Lake (SAC), River Barrow & River Nore (SAC), Grand Canal (pNHA), the Curragh (pNHA), Hodgestown Bog (pNHA), Newtown Marshes (pNHA) and

Dunlavin Marshes (pNHA). Reference should also be made to the Water Framework Directive Register of Protected Areas in particular those relating to biodiversity, as appropriate to the Plan area.

The Plan should include Policies/Objectives to ensure that the local authority, in fulfilling its responsibilities in the supply of services, zoning of lands and authorisation of development, addresses the threatened habitats and species identified in the National Parks and Wildlife Service Report “*The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland*”, (NPWS, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2008) which occur within or adjoining the LA areas.

<http://www.npws.ie/en/media/Media.6440.en.pdf>

The Plan should refer to the requirement of the Habitats Directive (Article 4 Paragraph 4) for the maintenance of special areas of conservation at a “favourable conservation status”. In particular the Plan should include a specific Policy / Objective promoting the maintenance and as appropriate achievement of favourable conservation status of habitats and species, in association with the NPWS.

In addition, provisions should be made in the Plan to deliver insofar as is possible the requirement Article 10 to “*improve the ecological coherence of Natura 2000 by maintaining, and where appropriate developing, features of the landscape which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora*”.) Further, the Plan should include a Policy/ Objective to reflect the provisions of Article 3, Paragraph 3 of the Habitats Directive, to “*endeavour, where they consider it necessary, in their land-use planning and development policies, and in particular, with a view to improving the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 Network, to encourage the management of features of the landscape which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora*” as referred to in Article 10, namely “*Such features are those which, by virtue of their linear and continuous structure (such as rivers with their banks or the traditional systems for marking field boundaries) or their function as stepping stones (such as ponds or small woods), are essential for the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species.*”

National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC)

The National Biodiversity Data Centre has recently launched a new website. <http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/>. This website is to be used as a national resource, presenting data and information on all aspects of biodiversity. It also serves as a link between the NBDC knowledgebase and the provision of high quality information to improve decision making. Key features of the website include:

- Easy access to over 1 million observations of Ireland’s Wildlife
- Provisional distribution maps of 8545 Irish species presented on national Biodiversity Maps available here: <http://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/>
- A latest news feature to highlight any new developments in wildlife recording and surveying in Ireland

Annex I/ Annex II /Annex IV Habitats Directive

The Plan should also refer to the protection of Annex I and Annex II - Natural Habitats and Animal & Plant Species respectively of Community Interest whose conservation requires the designation of Special Areas of Conservation and Annex IV –Animal and Plant Species of Community Interest in need of Strict Protection of “Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the

conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora” which occur within and adjoining the Plan area.

Management Plans for Designated Areas

The availability and status of Management Plans for the Natura 2000/ European sites within the Plan area, required in accordance with the Habitats Directive, should be determined. Where available, the Plan should include a specific Policy/Objective in local authority land use Plans to take into account the objectives and management practices proposed in the available Management Plans.

Fisheries

The Plans should promote the guidance from Inland Fisheries Ireland (formed from the amalgamation of the Regional Fisheries boards in July 2010), including where appropriate and relevant:

- *Guidelines to the Planning, Design, Construction and Operation of Small Scale Hydro Electric Schemes and Fisheries*
- *10 steps to environmentally friendly drainage maintenance*

See: <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Research/recent-publications.html>

European Environmental Agency “10 Message” Publications

The European Environment Agency (EEA) has released a series of publications which provide a short assessment of European Biodiversity and associated climate change impacts on a range of ecosystems. These topics include the following: *Protected Areas, Freshwater Ecosystems, Forest Ecosystems, Urban Ecosystems, Agriculture Ecosystems, Mountain Ecosystems and Cultural landscapes and biodiversity heritage*. These publications are available at:

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/10-messages-for-2010>

Mineral Abstraction and Natura 2000 Sites

You are referred to the recent EU guidance in relation to “*Undertaking Non-Energy Extractive Activities in Accordance with Natura 2000 Requirements*” which should be taken into consideration and referenced as appropriate and relevant to the Plan.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/nee_i_n2000_guidance.pdf

Buffer Zones

The Plan should promote the provision/application of appropriate buffer zones between designated ecological sites and areas zoned for development. Where the application of buffer zones is being considered, you should consult with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, with regard to their application and implementation. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF) and Inland Fisheries Ireland should also be liaised with where fisheries protection is a concern / objective.

Appropriate Assessment

The Plan should include a clear Policy/Objective that sets out a requirement for Appropriate Assessment Screening for new/reviewed/amended Plans or proposed projects, being prepared by the local authority for the Plan area that may have the potential to impact on Natura 2000 sites. Consideration should be given to carrying out an Appropriate Assessment screening to determine the potential for likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites within and in the zone of influence of the plan area. Potential for cumulative / in-combination effects associated with other relevant Plans/ Programmes / Projects should also be determined.

A determination for the requirement for an Appropriate Assessment of all Land Use Plans and related variations should be made in consultation with the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government - National Parks and Wildlife Service, and this should be highlighted in the Plan.

The Plan should promote the application of the Guidance set out in the recent DoEHLG Publication '*Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland- Guidance for Planning Authorities* (2009)'.

<http://www.npws.ie/en/media/NPWS/Publications/CodesofPractice/AA%20Guidance.pdf>

The Plan, should promote the setting up of procedures to ensure compliance with the requirement of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

You are also referred to the recent DoECLG Circular PSSP 5/2011 '*Compliance of existing land use plans with the EU Habitats Directive*' issued on the 1st July 2011 which should be referred to and integrated as appropriate and relevant into the Plan

2.2 Non-Designated Habitats and Species

The Plan should promote the protection non-designated habitats, species and local biodiversity features including rivers, wetlands, hedgerows, individual trees, streams, grassland, etc.

The provision of appropriate buffer zones between local biodiversity features and areas zoned for development should be considered. The Plan should provide for the promotion of protection of linkages between local biodiversity features and ecological networks e.g. hedgerows, watercourses etc. Opportunities for enhancement of local biodiversity features should be promoted where appropriate.

The Plan should support / acknowledge existing Local Heritage / Biodiversity Plans and should promote the implementation of key actions set out in these Plans. Where not already prepared and adopted through County Development Plans, the Plan should promote the preparation of County and, where relevant and appropriate, Local Heritage/ Biodiversity Plans.

2.3 Habitat Mapping

The Plan should promote the inclusion of a Policy/Objective, as appropriate, for phased and co-ordinated Habitat Mapping (including wetlands) within the Plan area.

This Habitat Mapping should be undertaken at an appropriate scale and in accordance with agreed national Habitat Mapping Methodology. This mapping should be undertaken on a phased basis and should have specific timescales assigned.

The scope of this mapping should be agreed in consultation with the National Parks and Wildlife Service – Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, the Heritage Council, Inland Fisheries Ireland and other relevant statutory and non statutory nature conservation interest groups.

2.4 Alien species and Noxious Weeds

The Plan should promote the implementation of measures to control and manage alien/invasive species (e.g. Japanese knotweed, Giant Hogweed, Zebra Mussel etc.) and noxious weeds (e.g. Ragwort, thistle, dock etc.) within the Plan area.

Invasive Species Action Plans are available for a number of species on the Invasive Species Ireland website. Information on invasive species can be found at:

<http://www.invasivespeciesireland.com/>

The National Roads Authority has produced a report entitled the “Management of Noxious Weeds and Non-Native Invasive Plant Species on National Roads” which can be found at: <http://www.nra.ie/Publications/DownloadableDocumentation/Environment/file.16172.en.pdf>

In addition, the National Biodiversity Data Centre (referenced in Section 2.2) contains online maps and information showing the distribution of invasive species on a national level which should be consulted where relevant.

The measures set out in these documents should be applied at a Plan level where appropriate and could control further spread of these species at regional, county and local level.

2.5 Inland waters – rivers, streams, wetlands

A relevant policy should be included to enhance biodiversity richness by protecting rivers and stream corridors and valleys by reserving riparian zones / ecological corridors, maintaining them free from inappropriate development, and discouraging culverting or realignment.

2.6 European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011

You are referred to the requirements of the recent *European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011*, (S.I. No. 477 of 2011), which should be taken into account in implementing the Plan. These Regulations consolidate the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 to 2005 and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Control of Recreational Activities) Regulations 2010, as well as addressing transposition failures identified in the CJEU judgements.

3 AIR, NOISE AND CLIMATIC FACTORS

3.1 Noise

The Plan should include reference to and, as appropriate, promote the implementation of Noise Directive and associated national regulations as well as the specific “measures”/ “actions” set out in or due to be set out in a proposed “ Noise Action Plan” for the relevant local authority area within the Plan area.

3.2 Air & Climatic Factors

Consideration should be given to promoting specific Policies / Objectives in the Plan for the protection and improvement, as appropriate, of air quality within the Plan area, particularly in areas zoned for increased urban and transport related development.

The Plan should promote specific Policies/Objectives and associated provisions for the development and promotion of appropriate climate change adaptation and mitigation measures that can be implemented through relevant land use plans and/or specific plans e.g. Flood Risk Management Plans etc.

The Plan should also promote the inclusion of specific Policies within local authority land use plans, which promote the integration of the implications of Climate Change at a regional and local level, in land use planning within the Plan area. In particular the Plan should refer to *Ireland’s National Climate Strategy 2007 – 2012*. This is available at:

<http://www.envirom.ie/en/Environment/Atmosphere/ClimateChange/>



As referred to above, the European Environment Agency (EEA) has released *10 Messages for 2010* including a publication on ‘*Climate Change and Biodiversity*’ which provides a short assessment focusing on climate change. This is available at:
<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/10-messages-for-2010>

The Plan should also address how climate change might impact on the implementation of land use plans in the Plan area. In this regard you are referred to the potential impact of climate change on “increased risk of flooding” and possible “increased occurrence of drought conditions”

You are referred to *Air Quality in Ireland 2009, (EPA, 2010)*, which sets out the most recent status in each of the four air quality zones in Ireland. You are referred to this report at:
<http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/air/quality/>

The objectives of EU and Irish air quality legislation is “*to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole*”, and the relevant local authorities, where appropriate, “*shall promote the preservation of best ambient air quality compatible with sustainable development.*” To this effect the Plan should include as appropriate a Policy/Objective to ensure this requirement is complied with.

Consideration should be given to promoting specific Policies / Objectives in the Plan for the protection and improvement, as appropriate, of air quality within the Plan area, particularly in areas zoned for increased urban and transport related development.

4 ENERGY CONSERVATION/RENEWABLE ENERGY

Consideration should be given to the inclusion in the Plan, as appropriate, of a Policy/Objective in relation to the preparation and implementation of “An Energy Conservation Strategy” and associated awareness campaign within the Plan area. Specific timescales should be assigned to the preparation of such a strategy.

The Plan should promote, where appropriate, the use of renewable energy systems (e.g. solar, wind, geothermal etc.) within the Plan area. The Plan should also provide for promotion of energy conservation measures in buildings. Relevant guidance can be found on the website of Sustainable Energy Ireland: www.sei.ie

5 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

The Plan should promote the protection of designated scenic landscapes, scenic views, scenic routes and landscape features of regional, county and local value. Where not already available the Plan should promote the undertaking of Landscape Character Assessment in accordance with the relevant Guidance from the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government and the Heritage Council.

The Plan should also take into account the landscape character adjoining the Plan area. There is a need to take into account landscape features and designations adjoining the Plan area.

Consideration should also be given to promoting the requirement for an appropriate “Visual Impact Assessment” for proposed development with potential to impact adversely on significant landscape features within the Plan area. The Plan should promote the application of standard impact assessment methodology for all such development.

Consideration should also be given to the promotion of the designation, and use of, agreed and appropriate viewing points for these assessments. The scope of each assessment should be agreed in consultation with the relevant Planning Department staff.

The Plan should promote the recognition of visual linkages between established landmarks and landscape features and views which should be taken into account when land is being zoned and when individual development proposals are being assessed / considered within the Plan area.

6 HUMAN HEALTH / QUALITY OF LIFE

The Plan should ensure provision of adequate and appropriate infrastructure and to serve both the existing community and likely future predicted increases in population within the Plan area.

In preparing the Plan, there would be merits in exploring current practice and opportunities with respect to promoting the protection and, as appropriate, improvement of “Quality of Life”. Where relevant, the application of existing “Quality of Life Indices” would be considered in consultation with relevant statutory and non-statutory bodies/organisations.

You are also referred the relevant aspects already referred to above under water, biodiversity, air, energy.

7 TRANSPORTATION

The Plan should promote and, as appropriate provide for, the provision of sustainable modes of transport. The *Department of Transport 2020 Vision – Sustainable Travel and Transport Public Consultation Document (February 2009)* should be reviewed in the context of possible initiatives which could be included as Objectives within the Plan.

8 TOURISM

The Plan should promote where relevant and appropriate long term, sustainable planning for tourism within the Plan area. There may be merits in considering the promotion of the preparation of Integrated Sustainable Regional Tourism Strategy for the region.

9 INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING

The Plan should promote the integrated planning for adequate and appropriate infrastructure to service any development proposed and authorised during the lifetime of the individual land use plans within the Plan area.

In particular, the Plan should promote the provision of adequate and appropriate wastewater treatment, water supply, surface and storm water drainage, transport, waste management, community services and amenities etc. on a planned and phased basis to address any current problems and/or deficits and to reflect predicted increases in population during the life of individual plans adopted within Plan area.

The Plan should promote the development of traffic management measures to reduce the potential for traffic congestion and associated vehicular emissions within the Plan area. In particular the preparation of Integrated Traffic Management Plans, where relevant and appropriate, for the existing urban areas and proposed new urban developments should be

promoted as appropriate through the Plan. This approach should address the short, medium and long-term traffic management requirements within the Plan area.

10 URBAN WASTE WATER DISCHARGE LICENSING

The Plan should refer to the requirement under The Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations (as described in *Section 1.3 Wastewater Treatment* above) for all for all wastewater discharges, including storm water discharges which come within the scope of these Regulations to be licensed. The EPA is currently in the process of licensing discharges from wastewater treatment facilities.

11 WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Plan should promote the integration of land use zoning and development to existing and planned availability of waste infrastructure and capacity. Priority should be given to provision of adequate and appropriate waste related infrastructure in advance of any development.

The Plan should seek to incorporate relevant guidance and legislation to address issues such as Waste Prevention, Food Wastes, Identification of Historic Landfill Sites, Backyard Burning, Illegal Dumping, Brown Field Development etc

The Plan should promote and incorporate the information, and any recommendations, in the following EPA reports:

- *The Nature and Extent of Unauthorised Waste Activity in Ireland (Sep 2005)* - This report sets out the findings of a nationwide investigation by the EPA's Office of Environmental Enforcement (OEE) on unauthorised waste activities in Ireland and sets out an Action Plan to deal with the issue. You are referred to the report at: <http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/waste/unauthorisedwaste>
- *National Waste Report 2009* – you are referred to this Report at: <http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/waste/stats/>
- *National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2008 – 2012* – available at <http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/waste/haz/>
- *Ireland's Environment 2008* – State of the Environment report - This fourth state of the environment report evaluates the state of the environment across a number of themes including, water quality, air quality and emissions, waste, chemicals, land and soil. You are referred to this report at: <http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/other/indicators/irlenv/>.

12 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

The Plan should highlight that under the EIA and Planning and Development Regulations certain projects that may arise during the implementation of the Plan may require an Environmental Impact Assessment. There are also requirements with regard to EIA for sub-threshold development. In this regard, you are referred to the following Publications:

- “*Guidelines on Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements*” (EPA, 2002).
- “*Advice Notes on Current Practice in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements*”, (EPA, 2003).



In addition to the above, you are referred to the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government's Publication:

- “*Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidance for consent Authorities regarding sub-threshold development*”, (DoEH&LG, 2003).

These documents can be downloaded at: <http://www.epa.ie/downloads/advice/ea/guidelines/>

It should be noted that the Projects would also be required to be screened with respect to the requirement for Habitats Directive Assessment/Appropriate Assessment as required by Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

You are also referred to the recently published DoEHLG guidance available in relation to Appropriate Assessment ‘*Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland*’ (DoEHLG, 2009) at:

<http://www.npws.ie/en/media/NPWS/Publications/CodesofPractice/AA%20Guidance.pdf>

13 STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT(SEA)

Consideration should be given to the inclusion of a specific Policy/Objective in the Plan to ensure full compliance, with the requirements of *Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment* – The SEA Directive and the associated *Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations, 2004*.

Your attention is brought to the new SEA Regulations, which should be referenced and integrated into the Plan and SEA process. Two amending SEA Regulations were signed into Irish law on 3 May 2011, amending the original SEA Regulations:

- European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations 2011, (S.I. No. 200 of 2011), amending the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 435 of 2004), and
- Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2011, (S.I. No. 201 of 2011), amending the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004).

You are also referred to the recent DoECLG Circular (PSSP 6/2011) issued on the 26th July 2011 to each County/City Manager, Director of Services and Town Clerk in relation to ‘*Further Transposition of the EU Directive 2001/42/EC on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*’ which should also be referred to and integrated into the Plan.

Kildare County Council need to be cognisant of their responsibilities with respect to the SEA Directive and related SEA Regulations through the Plan. This is of relevance to County Development Plans, Town Plans, Local Area Plans including reviews, variations and amendments etc.

The Plan should promote the development and implementation of Procedures to ensure compliance with the requirements of the SEA Directive and related SEA Regulations for all Land Use Plans within the Plan area.

14 OBLIGATIONS WITH RESPECT TO NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES AND EU ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION

The Plan should refer to the Kildare County Council's responsibilities and obligations in accordance with all national and EU environmental legislation. It is a matter for Kildare County Council to ensure that, when undertaking and fulfilling their statutory responsibilities, they are at all times compliant with the requirements of national and EU environmental legislation.

15 EPA REPORT: IRELAND'S ENVIRONMENT 2008 "MAIN ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES"

The Plan should include relevant Policies and Objectives are included, to address, where appropriate, the "Main Environmental Challenges" for Ireland as set out in Chapter 16 – "Main Environmental Challenges" of EPA Ireland's Environment 2008 (EPA, October 2008). These are as follows:

Limiting and Adapting to Climate Change

1. Mitigating the causes and effects of climate change
2. Adapting to climate change impacts
3. Improving our understanding of climate change

Reversing Environmental Degradation

1. Preventing eutrophication and other water pollution
2. Protecting natural habitats and species populations
3. Remediation of contaminated land

Complying with Environmental Legislation and Agreements

1. Building of a culture of compliance
2. Enforcement of legislation at national and local levels
3. Meeting EU and other international obligations

Mainstreaming of Environmental Considerations

1. Incorporating environmental considerations into policies and plans
2. Ensuring environmentally responsible businesses
3. Changing behaviours

This Chapter can be downloaded at:

<http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/other/indicators/irlenv/43366%20epa%20report%20chap%2016.pdf>

Kildare County Council, in implementing the Plan and in fulfilling its responsibilities should ensure Plan –making authorities take into account and address, where appropriate, the relevant Environmental Challenges" set out above.

Appendix C

Relevant Plans, Programmes and Policies

International Level Plans, Policies and Programmes

Topic	Title
Biodiversity	UN Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)
Climate Change	UN Kyoto Protocol The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Kyoto Protocol, 1997
Cultural Heritage	The World Heritage Convention United Nations Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (Paris 1972)
Human Health/Air	World Health Organisation (WHO) Air Quality Guidelines (2005) and Guidelines for Europe (1997)

European Level Plans, Policies and Programmes

Topic	Title
Noise	The Environmental Noise Directive (END) (2002/49/EC)
Biodiversity	The EU Biodiversity Strategy Communication from the Commission: Our life insurance, our natural capital: An EU biodiversity strategy to 2020 [COM (2011) 244]
	The EU Habitats Directive Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna (92/43/EEC)
	The EU Birds Directive Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) as amended by Council Directive (2009/147/EC) on the Conservation of Wild Birds
	Freshwater Fisheries Directive (78/659/EEC) as amended by Council Directive (2006/44/EC) on the quality of fresh waters needing protection or improvement in order to support fish life
Cultural Heritage	Convention for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage of Europe (revised) (Valletta 1992)

Topic	Title
	Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1985)
Sustainable Development	Review of the EU Sustainable Strategy (EU SDS) - Renewed Strategy (2006): European Council DOC 10917/06
	The Gothenburg Strategy (2001) Communication from the Commission on “a Sustainable Europe for a Better World”
	The Sixth Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community 2002- 2012
	The SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)
	The EIA Directive (85/337/EEC) as amended by Directives 97/11/EC and 2003/35/EC
	Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) 2005
Water	The Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)
	EU Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)
	Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC)
	The Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)
	The Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC) as amended by Directive 98/15/EEC
	Drinking Water Directive (80/778/EEC) as amended by Directive 98/83/EC
Waste	The Landfill Directive (99/31/EC)

National Level Plans, Policies and Programmes

Topic	Title
Biodiversity	National Biodiversity Plan – Actions for Biodiversity 2011-2016
	The Wildlife Act 1976 and the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000
	Flora Protection Order 1999

Topic	Title
	European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, S.I. 94/1997, as amended S.I. 233/1998, S.I. 378/2005 and European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011)
	Quality of Salmonid Waters Regulations 1988 (S.I. 293 of 1988)
Climate	National Climate Change Strategy (2000) and National Climate Change Strategy 2007-2012
	Department of Transport, 2013: 'Statement of Strategy: 2011-2014'
Heritage	National Heritage Plan 2002 - 2006
	The National Monuments Acts (1930 to 2004)
	The Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999
	Planning and Development Act 2000
Planning	National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020
	National Development Plan 2007-2013 Transforming Ireland - A Better Quality of Life for All
	Planning and Development Act 2000
	Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (S.I. 600 of 2001)
	Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006

Topic	Title
	The Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas Guidelines 2009
	Retail Planning Guidelines for Planning Authorities, 2012
Sustainable Development	Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland, 1997
	Making Ireland's Development Sustainable - 2002
	National Climate Change Strategy 2007 - 2012
	Housing Policy Framework: Building Sustainable Communities, 2005
	Delivering Homes, Sustaining Communities, 2007
	Towards Sustainable Communities; Guidelines on Local Agenda 21, 2001
Transport	Transport 21
	Smarter Travel Policy, 2009
Water	Arterial Drainage Acts, 1945 and 1995
	European Communities (Drinking Water) (No. 2) Regulations 2007 (SI No. 278 of 2007)

Topic	Title
	Water Services Acts 2007 and 2012 (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems) Regulations 2012 (S.I. No. 223 of 2012)
	Water Pollution Acts 1977-1990
	European Communities (Waste Water Treatment) Prevention of Odours and Noise) Regulations 2005 (SI No. 787 of 2005)
	Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007 (SI No. 684 of 2007) as amended by Waste water Discharge (Authorisation) (Amendment) Regulations 2010 (SI No. 231 of 2010)
	European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 (S.I. No. 272 of 2009) as amended by European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 (S.I. No. 327/2012)
	Water Services Investment Programme 2010-2012
Waste	The Waste Management Act 1996 and amendments
	Changing our Ways (1998)
	Delivering Change - Recycling and Preventing Waste (2002)
	Waste Management – Taking Stock and Moving Forward (2004)
	National Overview of Waste Management (2004)

Regional and County Level Plans, Policies and Programmes

Topic	Title
Transport	A Platform for Change Strategy 2000-2016
	Greater Dublin Area Draft Transport Strategy 2011-2030
Cultural Heritage	Kildare Heritage Plan 2005-2011 (new Heritage Plan proposed for 2014-2018)
Water and Wastewater	Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study
	Water Supply Project – Dublin Region
Planning	Regional Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area 2010-2022
	Retail Planning Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2008-2016
	Kildare Development Plan 2011-2017
	Relevant Local Area Plans

Appendix D

Matrix Assessment of Policies/ Objectives

Policies and Objectives

B/FF: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna; P: Population; W: Water; S: Soil; C: Climate Change; CH: Cultural Heritage; L: Landscape, MA: Material Assets

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
Phasing of Lands									
PLD 1: To monitor carefully the scale, rate and location of newly permitted developments and apply appropriate development management measures to ensure compliance with the core strategy including population targets and to achieve the delivery of strategic plan led and coordinated balanced development within the town.									Screened Out
New Housing									
HL 1: To ensure that the density and design of development respects the character of the existing and historic town in terms of structure, pattern, scale, design and materials with adequate provision of open space.									
HL 2: To facilitate the provision of purpose built dwellings for those with special needs, including the needs of the elderly, persons with physical disabilities and persons with learning disabilities and in conjunction with voluntary bodies and the private sector.	- / 0	+	- / 0	- / 0	0	0	- / 0	0	Potential for impacts on B/FF, W, S and L. No specific location planned therefore not possible to undertake detailed assessment in terms of proposed location.
HL 3: To encourage appropriate densities for new housing development in different locations in the town while recognising the need to protect existing residential communities and the established character of the area.	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	Appropriate densities will help to mitigate against potential impacts to L. This policy will also support higher densities closer to public transport which will have positive effects in terms of P, C and MA.
HL 4: To refuse permission for residential development on zoned open green spaces and/or on lands that are designated as public space.									Screened Out All open space and public space should be preserved.
HL 5: To require applications for residential developments over 20 units, to demonstrate the provision of an appropriate mix of dwelling types having regard to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature of the existing housing stock and existing social mix in the area; The desirability of providing for mixed communities; The provision of a range of housing types and tenures; The need to provide a choice of housing, suitable for all age groups and persons at different stages of the 									Screened Out The requirement to ensure that there is clear outline of the mix of dwellings proposed is positive on the environment as it ensures that the appropriate residential needs of the town are exhibited.

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
life cycle; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to cater for special needs groups. 									
HL 6: To restrict apartment developments generally to town centre locations or suitably located sites adjoining public transport connections. Apartments will not be permitted where there is an over concentration of this type of development. Higher density schemes will only be considered where they exhibit a high architectural design standard creating an attractive and sustainable living environment. Duplex units shall not generally be permitted.	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	Appropriate densities will help to mitigate against potential impacts to L. This policy will also support higher densities closer to public transport which will have positive effects in terms of P, C and MA.
HL 7: To facilitate and co-operate in the provision of community facilities in tandem with residential development including, in particular, local services, schools, crèches and other education and childcare facilities.	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	This policy will have positive effects on P and M. The phasing of development along with provision of services will help to ensure a viable and vibrant centre for the population within the Draft LAP
HL 8: To require applications for residential developments over 25 units, to demonstrate how the proposed increase in population will be accommodated in terms of education provision.									Screened Out This policy ensures that no development occurs without the necessary educational services being in place.
HL 9: To require all new residential estates to provide the "White Light" Compact Fluorescent Lamp (CFL) public lighting concept.	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	Positive effects on C, MA and P.
HL 10: To facilitate sustainable development in Newbridge in accordance with the settlement strategy set out in Kildare CDP 2011–2017.									Screened Out Compliance with the CDP and the core strategy settlement strategy is positive in relation to development in Newbridge.
Housing in Agricultural Zone									
HA 1: To manage the provision of one off housing in lands zoned as ' <i>l: Agricultural</i> '. Limited one off housing will be permitted in this zone subject to compliance with the rural housing policy for Rural Housing Policy Zone 1 set out in the Kildare County Development Plan 2011-2017. Documentary evidence of compliance with this policy must be submitted as part of the planning application, including a separate statement by the applicant on the need to reside in the area.	- / 0	+	- / 0	-	-	0	-	-	Policy requires managements of one off housing which has overall positive effects. Facilitation on off housing in the countryside is likely to have negative effects on L, C, MA and S.
HA 2: To ensure that, notwithstanding compliance with policy HA1, applicants comply with all other normal siting and design considerations.	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	Policy is positive in terms of L, P and MA.
HA 3: To protect the physical, environmental, natural and heritage resources of the agricultural zone.									Screened Out Protection of the agricultural zone is of great importance to the environment.
HA 4: To facilitate working from home subject to relevant									Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
planning criteria and the protection of the residential amenity of neighboring properties.									
Housing Objectives									
HPO 1: To promote a high standard of architecture in the design of new housing developments and to encourage a variety of house types, sizes and tenure to cater for the needs of the population and facilitate the creation of balanced communities.	0	+	0	0 / -	+	0	+	+	This policy has long term positive impacts especially for P and L due to good quality design and mix of tenure. Indirect positive effects on C and MA due to good design.
HPO 2: To encourage the appropriate intensification of residential development in existing residential areas and the town centre, subject to compliance with relevant development management criteria and the protection of residential amenity of adjoining properties.	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	Intensification of residential development will result in consolidated development, close to transport links and reduce need for greenfield development.
HPO 3: To provide adequate accommodation for Travellers in accordance with the Council's Traveller Accommodation.	- / 0	+	- / 0	- / 0	0	0	- / 0	0	Positive effects on P, particularly travelling community. Potential for impacts on B/FF, W, S and L due to likely Greenfield development. No specific location planned therefore not possible to undertake detailed assessment in terms of proposed location.
Economic Development Policy									
ED1: To promote enterprise creation opportunities and initiatives, in line with the designation of Newbridge as a Primary Economic Growth Town.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	+ / -	0	+ / -	+	The provision of local employment and a sustainable community has long term positive impacts on P and MA. Potential impacts on B/FF, W, S and L due to potential greenfield development.
ED 2: To promote and facilitate synergy between heritage, retail and tourism developments that enhances the economic profile of Newbridge town.	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	Positive effects on P and C.
ED 3: To engage with existing employers and potential new employers in creating and fostering enterprise and research and development in the town.	0	+	0	0	+ / -	0	0	+	Positive effects on P and in terms of C and MA due to resultant jobs creation in the town.
ED 4: To facilitate the sustainable development of commercial, office, incubator units, light industrial and warehousing development on appropriately zoned and serviced lands in co-operation with the IDA, Enterprise Ireland, the County Enterprise Board, Cill Dara Ar Aghaidh and the County Development Board.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	+ / -	0	+ / -	+	The provision of development and employment is positive for P and MA as jobs and employment is created. However the development will have potential negative impacts in terms of B/FF, W, S, CH and L due to development of greenfield land in the plan area. There are sufficient policies in the plan to ensure planned development for these uses though.
ED 5: To promote the IDA Business Park (H2 lands) and the strategic landbank on the east of the town (H1 lands) as appropriate sites to develop enterprise and employment.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	+ / -	0	+ / -	+	The planned development of these sites is positive for P and MA as jobs and employment is created. However the development will have potential negative impacts in terms of B/FF, W, S, CH and L due to development of greenfield land in the plan area. There are sufficient policies in the plan to ensure planned development of

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
									these sites.
<p>ED 6: To encourage the provision of a number of incubator units for enterprise, as part of larger light industrial or office developments</p>	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	+ / -	0	+ / -	+	<p>The provision of such units in terms of is positive for P and MA as jobs and employment is created. However the development will have potential negative impacts in terms of B/FF, W, S, CH and L due to development of greenfield land in the plan area. There are sufficient policies in the plan to ensure planned development for these uses though.</p>
<p>Economic Development Objectives</p>									
<p>EDO 1: To promote and facilitate the development of an industrial and employment campus on appropriately lands zoned H1 “Industrial and Warehousing” to the west of Newbridge town. Lands zoned H1 (110 Ha) shall be the subject of a detailed Masterplan, to be agreed with the Planning Department, achieving a high standard of layout, landscaping, design and phasing of the overall site, with specific reference to infrastructure, layout and the zoning of lands. The overall development shall integrate well with the existing natural and built environment and deliver a high quality-working environment. Design factors that shall be taken into account in the preparation of the Masterplan shall include:</p> <p>Green Infrastructure/Landscaping – A detailed strategy based on the site’s natural setting, views and adjoining land uses and the existing mature trees, hedgerows, and natural boundaries of the site is required. The Pinkeen Stream shall integrate into the scheme as part of a green infrastructure network. All buildings, groups of buildings and open green spaces shall be integrated into the site by using landscaping that reflects the site’s topography, natural context and location.</p> <p>Visual impact – The overall design and landscaping of the site shall complement and enhance the surrounding area. Particular regard shall be had to all views to and from the existing and proposed roads through the site. The design brief shall detail the appropriate use of key buildings and building frontages, internal green zones, landscape buffers and hard and soft landscaping features which enhance the development of this site.</p> <p>Building design and elevation treatment – The use of high quality building design will be required along a hierarchy of routes with particular emphasis on creating attractive building elevations at key intersections. High quality materials will be used to create a visually attractive campus style layout and design.</p>	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	+ / -	0	+ / -	+	<p>The Draft LAP identifies a plot of employment land in the West of the town suitable for use for industrial and employment purposes.</p> <p>This policy includes objectives which specifically promote a good standard of design and layout. These specific objectives will potentially mitigate impacts on W, C, CH and L.</p> <p>The creation of employment will positively benefit the population of the Draft Plan Area as well as the Material Assets available to that area.</p>

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
<p>Integrated design themes – The use of lighting, advertising, signage and information boards that are based on an overall designed theme. The design and location of these elements shall be visually appropriate to the site’s context and reinforce the site as a high quality industrial and employment campus</p> <p>Transport links - Generate links to public transport infrastructure. A Mobility Management Plan shall be prepared and implemented which will consider all modes of transport. The overall layout shall be in accordance with the new roads objective (indicative only) as shown on Maps 2 and 7 shall be delivered as part of phase one.</p> <p>Phasing - A phasing plan, which will detail phasing arrangements in the context of services and infrastructure for the overall site and the individual employment units and associated landscaped areas</p> <p>Sustainability –The overall design and layout shall be based on implementing sustainable building practices in the construction and management of the scheme including the use of suitable materials, the implementation of sustainable drainage solutions and energy conservation measures.</p>									
<p>EDO 2 To promote and facilitate the development of an enterprise and employment zone on the south side of Military Road on appropriately lands zoned “Q: Enterprise and Employment”. In order to redress the lack of enclosure and undefined building line, lands zoned “Q: Enterprise and Employment” shall be the subject of a detailed design brief in advance of development. The brief shall be agreed with the Planning Department and shall achieve the following:</p> <p>High standard of layout, landscaping and design to create an attractive streetscape.</p> <p>Key emphasis will be placed on creating an attractive, modern and high quality-working and built environment. Investigate the possibility of delivering rear access via the Newbridge Industrial Estate. Development of these lands will be the subject of Appropriate Assessment screening.</p>	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	+ / -	0	+ / -	+	<p>The Draft LAP identifies zoning for an enterprise and employment zone on the south side of Military Road.</p> <p>This policy includes objectives which specifically promote a good standard of design and layout and requirement to provide a detailed design brief for the site. These specific objectives will potentially mitigate impacts on W, C, CH and L.</p> <p>The creation of employment will positively benefit the population of the Draft Plan Area as well as the Material Assets available to that area.</p>
<p>EDO 3 To ensure that sufficient and suitable land is zoned for employment generating uses in Newbridge. Such land will, normally, be protected from inappropriate development that would prejudice its long term development for these uses.</p>	+ / -	+	0	+ / -	0	0	+ / -	+	<p>The provision zoned lands for employment is positive in terms of P. However potential negative impacts in terms of B/FF, W, S, CH and L. There are sufficient policies in the plan to protect these resources.</p>
<p>EDO 4 To ensure the provision of adequate and appropriate water, wastewater treatment and waste management facilities</p>									Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
to accommodate future economic growth of the town.									
EDO 5 To investigate the potential for a Business Improvement District (BID) or similar initiative to encourage business growth in Newbridge.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	+ / -	0	+ / -	+	The provision of lands is positive for P and MA in support of jobs and employment. However potential negative impacts in terms of B/FF, W, S, CH and L depending on the BIDs location. There are sufficient policies in the plan to protect these resources.
EDO 6: To acquire suitable land where deemed appropriate, subject to the availability of funding, to stimulate and support creative and innovative entrepreneurial initiatives.	+ / -	+	+ / -	0 / -	0 / -	0	+ / -	0	The provision of lands is positive for P and MA in support of jobs and employment. However potential negative impacts in terms of B/FF, W, S, CH and L depending on the its location. There are sufficient policies in the plan to protect these resources.
Tourism Development Policy									
TM 1: To support the County Kildare Fáilte publication 'Focus on the Future, Tourism Development Strategy 2013-2016' in improving Newbridge and the County as a tourism destination.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	0	+	+ / -	0	Promotion of tourism based enterprise is considered positive in terms of P, CH and MA in support of jobs and employment. However potential negative impacts in terms of B/FF, W, S, and L depending on tourism proposals and their location. There are sufficient policies in the plan to protect these resources.
TM 2: To improve the visitor experience to the town and to cooperate with all stakeholders and appropriate agencies in promoting tourism and securing tourist based enterprises and facilities in the town.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	0	+	+ / -	0	As above.
TM 3: To capitalise on potential tourist income by seeking to: Increase the number and rate of 'bed nights' in the town. Improve the public realm by creating a retail and café culture supporting indigenous boutique style retailing on the Main Street and Eyre Street. Promote existing accommodation and new accommodation choices in the town. Improve the promotion and marketing of Newbridge as a tourism destination.									Screened Out
TM 4: To encourage and facilitate the development of strong linkages between retail, tourism and leisure sectors within the town.	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	
TM 5: To support the sustainable development of new walking, cycling and biodiversity routes and bridges along the River Liffey in accordance with the Newbridge Liffey Valley Park study prepared by the Parks Department, Kildare County Council in September 2011.	+ / -	+	-/0	+/-	+	0	+	0	Overall positive effects in support of walking and cycling and biodiversity. Any proposed bridges planned will be subject to environmental assessment at that stage.
TM 6: To enhance and facilitate proposals for alternative forms of tourism such as:	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	0	+	+ / -	0	Promotion of tourism is considered positive in terms of P, CH and MA in support of jobs and employment and quality of life for those

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
Promotion of suitable public outdoor festivals and events. Encouraging active recreational tourism through improvements to walks and cycle links along the Liffey River bank which link to wider pathway networks as well as allowing greater river access for fishing and small non motorised boats.									living within the town. However potential negative impacts in terms of B/FF, W, S, and L depending on tourism proposals and their location. There are sufficient policies in the plan to protect these resources.
TM 7: To support the provision of appropriate signage along existing heritage and tourism walking routes in Newbridge.									Screened Out
TM 8: To prepare a sustainable tourism and retail development strategy for Newbridge. The study will be prepared in consultation with the area committee and will identify appropriate policies and mechanisms which optimise tourism as an important element of the retail strategy for the town.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	0	+	+ / -	0	Need to ensure that proposals take environment into consideration therefore recommend inclusion of word ' sustainable '.
TM 9: To support the creation of a Heritage Trail, incorporating access and signage to Pollardstown Fen and also taking in built heritage of the town.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	0	+	+ / -	0	
Tourism Development Objectives									
TMO1: To facilitate and guide the development of additional attractions and facilities within the town in order to encourage tourists to extend their stay and increase tourism generated expenditure in the town.	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	
TMO 2: To identify sites, streets and areas of the town for visual enhancement in order to improve the aesthetics of the town.	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	+ / 0	
TMO 3: To identify in consultation with the area committee a high quality and appropriate design and style of civic furniture that will consistently be adhered to. This style and design will be prepared in consultation with local representatives and approved by same.									Screened Out
Core Retail Policy									
CR 1: To facilitate the needs of existing and growing residential areas through a network of local and neighbourhood centres. All local and neighbourhood centres shall complement rather than detract or displace retail or other activities from the town centre. Large-scale convenience format centres will not be permitted.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	+ / -	+	The provision of a balanced mix of services in the neighbourhood centres is critical to the positive development of these nodes for the surrounding residential population. As with any development and especially on greenfield land there is the potential for negative impacts on B/FF, S and W. The consolidation of these centres is very positive and ensures that services are not spread out within the LAP. Access to public transport will have positive effects on C.
Town Centre Policy									
TC1: To create a hierarchy of civic spaces in order to increase legibility and the general attractiveness of the town centre.									Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
TC2: To create a more attractive, vibrant and consolidated town centre by utilising quality urban design principals.	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	Generally positive.
TC3: To ensure that the important economic, social, cultural and residential role of the town centre is protected and enhanced and that its vibrancy, vitality and environmental quality are maintained and improved.									Screened Out
Retail Policy									
RR 1: To encourage the development of the retail and service role of Newbridge as a Level 2 County Town Centre (with Naas) in accordance with the policies contained in the County Development Plan, the Retail Planning Guidelines 2012 and any future Retail Planning Guidelines or strategy that may be issued during the life of this plan.	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	Positive effects in terms of P. Indirect positive effects in terms of C and MA due to improved retail and service in Newbridge which will result in less travel outside area.
RR 2: To secure the continued consolidation of Newbridge Town Centre through the regeneration of backland and brown field areas in the town centre.	+ / -	+	+ / -	0	+	0	+	0	Largely positive. Potential for negative effects in terms of B/FF and W through redevelopment of site.
RR 3: To encourage and facilitate the development of a combined and unique heritage, retailing and tourism experience within the town and to encourage strong linkages between these attractions.									Screened Out
RR 4: To encourage and facilitate the delivery of tourism related retail developments and initiatives in and around the town centre									Screened Out
RR 5: To improve the town's attraction as a retail and tourist destination through additional investment in the public realm; attracting a critical mass of new retail investment within and adjacent to the heart of the town centre and, by the enhancement of supporting tourism infrastructure (e.g. hotels, restaurants, bars and car parking).	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	0	0	-/+	+	Largely positive economically and in terms of P. Potential for some negative effects due to development.
RR 6: To reinforce Main Street/Edward Street as a vibrant town centre with a diverse mix of uses and to consolidate the town centre areas surrounding these streets by intensifying development in order to create a compact core.	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	Consolidation likely to have positive effects.
RR 7: To provide for sustainable urban expansion areas by prioritising the development of derelict/ brownfield and key infill/gap sites.	+ / -	+	+ / -	0	+	0	+	0	Largely positive. Potential for negative effects in terms of B/FF and W through redevelopment of sites.
RR 8: To promote and encourage high quality urban design and to improve the image of the town by enhancing the physical environment and streetscape.	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
RR9: To seek the provision of higher order retail uses along North Main Street between the Bank of Ireland and St. Clonleths Bridge. In particular the cumulative impact of bookmakers amusement arcades and takeaways will be assessed.	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	Positive effects in ensuring that the type of retail uses and their location is properly assessed. Anti-social behaviour can occur where there is a concentration of takeaways and amusement arcades so it is positive to assess the cumulative impact of such establishments.
RR10: To encourage new residential development in the town centre by encouraging mixed use developments, especially at first floor level and above.	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	Positive impacts on P, C and M.
RR 11: To relieve traffic congestion within the town centre by improving permeability.	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	Positive impacts on P, C and M.
Town Centre Objectives									
RO 1: To reinforce the heart of the town as the priority location for new retail development, with quality of design and integration/linkage within the existing urban form/layout being fundamental prerequisites.	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	Promotion of the Town centre development is positive as it will result in less out of centre development and also encourages use of public transport, walking and cycling.
RO 2: To encourage and facilitate the re-use and regeneration of derelict / brown field land and buildings for retail and other town centre uses, having regard to the Sequential Approach outlined in the Retail Planning Guidelines.	+ / -	+	+ / -	0	+	0	+	0	Largely positive. Potential for negative effects in terms of B/FF and W through redevelopment of sites.
RO 3: To facilitate the development of appropriately scaled retail and mixed use development in the sites identified in the Design Briefs 1 to 4 (Section 7.6).	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	See detailed assessment of design briefs below.
RO 4: To investigate the potential for a Business Improvement District (BID) or similar initiative in conjunction with Newbridge Chamber of Commerce and/or Newbridge Tidy Towns to encourage business growth in Newbridge town.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	+ / -	0	+ / -	+	The provision of lands is positive for P and MA in support of jobs and employment. However potential negative impacts in terms of B/FF, W, S, CH and L depending on the BIDs location. There are sufficient policies in the plan to protect these resources.
RO 5: To prepare and implement (subject to funding) a detailed Town Improvement Scheme to visually enhance the streetscapes and key urban spaces in the Town Centre. The Scheme shall accord with the National Transport Authority's 'Statement of Strategy 2012-2014' (or any subsequent Strategy) and the Dept. of Transports 'Smarter Travel - A Sustainable Transport Future 2009-2020' and place an emphasis on; a) Delivering a modal shift by creating a pedestrian, cyclist and public transport friendly environment. b) Integrating land use and transport in the town centre with surrounding residential, schools and employment areas.	0	+	0	+ / -	+	+	+	+	Overall largely positive impacts. Undergrounding of utilities may have potential for negative impacts on soil. However undergrounding likely to take place in urban developed areas.

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
c) Improving the appearance (lighting, signage, environmental, landscaping etc) of the town centre and surrounding streets.									
d) Undergrounding of utility cables.									
e) Promote the economic development of the town centre.									
RO 6: To safeguard the important architectural and streetscape heritage of the Town Centre area.									Screened Out
Urban Design and Town Centre Development									
UD 1: To ensure all proposed developments in the traditional and more historic areas are designed to have regard to the urban built fabric of the town including its urban blocks/grain, plots, buildings, streetscape and connecting lanes.									Screened Out
UD 2: To create a more attractive, vibrant and consolidated town centre by utilising quality urban design principles that preserve and enhance the existing townscape character of the town centre.	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	Generally positive.
UD 3: To encourage increased permeability through the larger land parcels to the south of Main Street/Edward Street and to link them to the existing hierarchy of routes and civic spaces within and around the town centre.	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	Positive in terms of P and C.
UD 4: To retain, where appropriate, mature landscaping including hedgerows and trees, which contribute to the character of the town.									Screened Out
UD 5: To improve access and use of new and existing amenity spaces in the town through well designed developments that provide connections from the town centre by way of good linkages and a higher level of permeability.	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	Positive in terms of P and C.
UD 6: To protect key views of the townscape and skyline within the town and from approach roads into the town centre.									Screened Out
UD 7: To improve the visual approaches to the town from all directions and provide well designed entrances to mark the edges of the town centre at appropriate locations that reflect its character.									Screened Out
Design Briefs									
Design Brief 1: Cutlery Road and Bord na Mona									
Appraisal	+ / -	+	+ / -	0	+	+	+	+	Largely positive impacts expected due to infill town centre re-development nature of proposal. Positive impacts in terms of CH as any proposal would retain protected structure on site and would

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
<p>This large urban block is located in the town centre, with a total area of circa 5ha. Although there are a variety of uses in the block such as retailing and commercial, Bord na Mona is the key land user incorporating fine protected structures within an industrial style complex. Higher order commercial uses are concentrated at the periphery – for example the new Penney’s store, the Post Office and a bank to the northern edge along Main Street while smaller individual retail stores and a builders providers are located along Cutlery Road. The overall block is highly legible with three busy routes defining its edges. Access is currently via Main Street and the Athgarvan/Military and Cutlery Roads. Despite this, there is no through road and the block is largely impermeable.</p> <p>Vision</p> <p>Given the strategic location of the site along three main routes in the town, it is critical that this block facilitates the expansion of the town centre within a high quality built environment. The urban block comprises a number of different existing uses and land owners. It is recognised that all lands may not be developed together. The design brief therefore provides an overall strategy within which existing uses are recognised and allowing individual land owners to set out proposals within a clearly defined context.</p> <p>Built Form –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development along Cutlery Road shall include new 3-4 storey developments set back behind the existing building line to create a new built edge • New building form should form new corner developments at the junctions of Main Street and the Athgarvan/Military Road • New built form to create high quality edges to Military Road and the Main Street • Infill development to vacant plots to create new edge to existing perimeter blocks <p>Connectivity/Movement –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing permeability through this area is critical to the town centre expansion • Strategic access points to/from the surrounding road network shall facilitate access to the area • A new street with vehicular and shared surfaces shall connect the Athgarvan/Military Road to Main Street • A number of secondary streets and lanes will facilitate pedestrian movement between key spaces <p>Landscape/Urban Space –</p>									<p>need to be in keeping in design.</p> <p>Positive impacts likely due to creation of new linkages through the site in terms of P and C. Green linkages to riverside amenity area would have positive effects in terms of P, L and B/FF.</p> <p>Potential for negative effects in terms of B/FF, S and W through redevelopment of site, however impacts are likely to be short term and slight due to brownfield and urban nature of site.</p> <p>A detailed assessment of any proposal will be undertaken by the planning authority in respect of the redevelopment of the site.</p>

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New urban squares - creation of new public places within the town centre Creating a central active civic space around the existing Bord na Mona complex that acts as a focal point for the extended town centre and connects with the existing network of public spaces within the town Creation of a necklace of new urban and green links to and from the river side amenity and surrounding streets, especially the historical town centre 									
<p>Design Brief 2: Edward Street to Military Road – Development of New Street(s)</p> <p>Appraisal</p> <p>This large urban block is located to the eastern side of the town and comprises an area of circa 5.8ha. Two main routes - Edward Street and Military Road- run to the north and south respectively. Kildare County Council operates a machinery yard from a key site along Military Road while a new Lidl store has recently opened further west. A large vacant brown field site is also evident in the centre of the block. While there are varying uses within the block, it is primarily industrial in form with mono-functional 'box like' commercial developments.</p> <p>There is a distinct lack of connectivity between the various sites. The northern end of the site along Edward Street currently has an ad-hoc arrangement of buildings and uses with an ill-defined built edge. Similarly there is an absence of a built edge along Military Road save for the gable end of the industrial type buildings in Newbridge Retail Park. Overall the block has the capacity to accommodate a significant quantum of mixed use development within a new built form thereby consolidating the role of the town centre in Newbridge.</p> <p>Vision</p> <p>Given the strategic location of the block on the main route into Newbridge from the south, it is critical that an integrated approach to the orderly expansion of the town centre occurs. As the area is slightly elevated on approach from the south, and given the absence of buildings in the centre of the block, the two large multi-storey car parks dominate the skyline. It is therefore important to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> redress this imbalance by wrapping new buildings around these inactive edges; 	+ / -	+	+ / -	0	+	0	+	+	<p>Largely positive impacts likely as design brief for this site supports the consolidation of the town centre. The proposal is for infill town centre type development.</p> <p>Given the slightly elevated nature of the site on approach from the south particular attention is required in terms of design of any proposal in this regard.</p> <p>Positive impacts likely due to creation of new linkages through the site in terms of P and C.</p> <p>Potential for negative effects in terms of B/FF, S and W through redevelopment of site, however impacts are likely to be short term and slight due to brownfield and urban nature of site.</p> <p>A detailed assessment of any proposal will be undertaken by the planning authority in respect of the redevelopment of the site.</p>

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> create new streets with active frontages; and re-define the skyline from various approaches. <p>A new street is therefore proposed connecting Military Road with Edward Street. Further internal secondary connections are also proposed off this street to deliver east-west movement both within the area and to adjoining sites. Perimeter buildings are also required along Military Road and Edward Street in order to define a new built edge.</p> <p>Built Form –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development along Military Road shall include new 3-4 storey developments to create a new built edge New building form should form new corner developments at key junctions within the site and at Edward Street and the Athgarvan/Military Road New built form to create strong edges to Military Road Infill development to vacant plots to create new edge to existing perimeter blocks <p>Connectivity/Movement –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New central street north/south to increase permeability linking Military Road to Edward Street A number of east/west secondary streets to facilitate additional permeability and pedestrian movement between key spaces New pedestrian connections to the Courtyard Shopping Centre, Newbridge Retail Park and The Whitewater Shopping Centre <p>Landscape/Urban Space –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New urban spaces - creation of new public places Priority on mix of hard and soft landscaped areas within car parks to enhance pedestrian and vehicular links Create designed and landscaped streets as green routes through the area 									
<p>Design Brief 3: Military Road and Athgarvan Road – Perimeter Blocks</p> <p><i>Appraisal</i> This urban block is based around Military Road, a former industrial spine road which was upgraded prior to the opening of the Whitewater Shopping Centre in 2006. The road still</p>	+ / -	+	+ / -	0	+	0	+	+	<p>Proposals for Design Brief 3 include elements of Design Briefs 1 and 2 as it relates to the spine road serving these two areas.</p> <p>Proposals are considered to be largely positive as it is proposed to improve the working order of this area and improve legibility and movement within this area.</p>

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
<p>bears a resemblance to an industrial back street, acting as an inner relief street for the town centre. Poor urban structure has resulted in an ad-hoc arrangement of roads, buildings, landscaping with no environmental harmony. The journey through the street is illegible, lacking a sense of place.</p> <p><i>Vision</i> In order to consolidate the town centre the re-design of this urban street with defined perimeter blocks is critical. The re-organisation of the streetscape must reflect the multiple land use zonings which traverse the area. The individual elements (buildings, streetscape, open space etc) must work together as part of an efficient whole to create an identity for the street. It is also acknowledged that any intervention must be commercially viable for the various landowners in the area.</p> <p>It is important that the vision for this urban street incorporates many of the proposals identified under Design Briefs 1 and 2. Specifically the new streets proposed through Bord na Mona and beside Lidl must make a seamless transition into Military Road. The movement framework for the entire block must be organised around and integrated into a designed environment.</p> <p>Built Form –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development along Military Road shall include new 3-4 storey developments to create a new built edge • New building form should form new corner developments at key junctions within the area • New built form to create strong edges to Military Road • Infill development to vacant plots to create new edge to existing perimeter blocks • Protect the remnants of the old Military Barracks wall and arches <p>Connectivity/Movement –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade the existing road to create an urban street capable of responding to the expansion of the town centre and associated land use zonings in the area • Integrate the new streets proposed under Design Briefs 1 and 2 in a seamless fashion • Facilitate the new link road proposed through the Newbridge Industrial Estate to the Southern Relief Road (exiting at Newbridge Silverware) – refer to Movement Objective SRI 1 and Map 2 of this Plan. • Re-design the carriageway to cater for pedestrians and cyclists 									<p>Positive impacts likely due to creation of new and improved linkages and roadways through in terms of P and C.</p> <p>Potential for negative effects in terms of B/FF, S and W as a result of development, however impacts are likely to be short term and slight due to brownfield and urban nature of area.</p> <p>A detailed assessment of any proposal will be undertaken by the planning authority in respect of the redevelopment proposals.</p>

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance pedestrian and cyclist movement from the town centre through Military Road to the River Liffey <p>Landscape/Urban Space –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-design Military Road to create a green boulevard street as opposed to a link road around the town centre Prioritise multi-modal use – pedestrians, cyclists and plan for future public transport Create new urban spaces 									
<p>Design Brief 4: Town Hall and Georges Street</p> <p><i>Appraisal</i> This urban block is based around the historical central axis of the Town Hall, Georges Street and Market Square. The lack of formality around the Town Hall is noticeable – it is surrounded by inappropriate uses and lacks a physical environment worthy of such a civic building. Views to the Town Hall from Main Street are restricted. However in contrast the building frames the southern view from Georges Street, a pedestrianised street with a wide range of uses – retail, pubs, restaurants, offices etc.</p> <p>Market Square was once a formal square framed by the Courthouse in Newbridge. The old Courthouse was burnt in 2002 and was demolished shortly thereafter. Consequently the Square lacks a defined edge and sense of enclosure. Views to the Square from Georges Street have also been damaged as the sense of enclosure within a ‘framed’ street has been lost.</p> <p>The urban fabric of Georges Street is cluttered and lacks a coherent strategy for signage, advertising, lighting, paving etc. Given the pull of the Whitewater Shopping Centre, Penney’s and The Courtyard Shopping Centre further east, it is important that individual businesses and landowners work together to redress the imbalance of footfall in the town.</p> <p><i>Vision</i> The vision is to re-invigorate the historic heart of Newbridge around the historical central axis of the Town Hall, Georges Street and Market Square (traversing Eyre Street). While this will not compete with the larger retail multiples, there is an opportunity to develop a cultural quarter focusing on boutique style shopping mixed with a café/restaurant culture.</p> <p>In order to re-develop this central axis, designed intervention is required in the form of;</p>	+ / -	+	+ / -	0	+	+	+	+	<p>This design brief will have positive effects particularly in respect to CH and L as it proposes to re-invigorate the historic heart of eth town. This will have positive effects in terms of CH also.</p> <p>Proposals are considered to be largely positive as it is proposed to improve the working order of this area and improve legibility and movement within this area.</p> <p>Positive impacts likely due to creation of new and improved linkages and roadways through in terms of P and C.</p> <p>Potential for negative effects in terms of B/FF, S and W as a result of development, however impacts are likely to be short term and slight due to brownfield and urban nature of area.</p> <p>A detailed assessment of any proposal will be undertaken by the planning authority in respect of the redevelopment proposals.</p>

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
<p>a) Regeneration of the Town Hall as a civic centre of importance linking Main Street to Georges Street in the form of a designed pedestrian priority zone traversing Main Street.</p> <p>b) Highlight the role of the Town Hall as a framed view to/from Georges Street</p> <p>c) Regeneration of Georges Street – reducing visual clutter on buildings, urban streetscape improvements etc</p> <p>d) Redesigning Market square as an urban green space framed by a new civic building to enclose the streetscape and square</p> <p>Built Form –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any new interventions must respect the fine historical urban grain of the area • New builds must respect the roof profile, plot widths and character of the area • Signage shall be minimum and fit into the overall streetscape and plan for the area • Range of materials and colour scheme must be compatible with the area • New building to frame Market Square and Georges Street <p>Connectivity/Movement –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance movement through the central axis having regard to residential areas further north and proposed movement strategy as identified above • Create pedestrian priority zones/crossings over Main Street and Eyre Street as both design interventions to strengthen the axis and as traffic calming measures <p>Landscape/Urban Space –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-design Market square as a civic space within the historic core • Re-design Georges Street which an emphasis on creating a high quality landscaped space • De-clutter Georges Street with an emphasis on creating a legible urban form 									
Public Transport									
PT 1: To ensure where possible, that all public transport is accessible to people with disabilities.									Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
PT 2: To support the enhancement of facilities at Newbridge Train Station.									Screened Out
PT 3: To improve public transport facilities throughout the town including bus shelters and timetable information.									Screened Out
PT 4: To have regard to Chapter 9 of the Draft National Transport Authority Strategy (or as amended) during the period of this plan regarding cycling and pedestrian measures in Newbridge town.	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	Promotion of cycling and public transport will have long term positive impacts on P, C and MA.
PT 5: To support the extension of the Kildare Route Project to Newbridge town subject to Newbridge town subject to planning and environmental considerations.	+ / -	+	+/-	+ / -	+/-	0	+ / -	+	Improved infrastructure is likely to have positive effects on P and MA. However the establishment of infrastructure and the construction of the scheme might result in loss of B/FF and S, as well as potential effects on W. It could be argued that new road scheme may result in increased traffic, however it will also reduce traffic congestion.
PT 6: All Local Authority development will be subject to the policies, objectives and development management requirements of this Plan and the Kildare CDP where appropriate.									Screen Out
General Movement Objectives									
GMO1 To review and update the Newbridge Traffic Management Plan on an ongoing basis to ensure that the specific measures contained within it reflect the development of the town.									Screened Out
GMO2 To continue to seek the implementation of the recommendations of the Traffic Management Plan, or as may be amended.	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	Positive in terms of P, MA and C.
GMO3 To monitor traffic movements within the town and to provide passive traffic calming measures at appropriate locations as the need arises.	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	The introduction of traffic calming measures will have a positive impact on the centres and have knock on positive effects on P, C and MA.
GMO4 To investigate the role and use of a lower speed limit within the town centre area to improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists and vulnerable road users.									Screened Out
GMO5: To extend/upgrade public lighting throughout the town as the need arises.	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	Generally positive.
GMO6: To include all traffic signal controlled junctions within the town within the existing Urban Traffic Control system in operation where it is appropriate to do so.									Screened Out
GMO7: To develop a network of safe, high quality cycle routes throughout the town by:	0	+	0	+ / -	+	+	0	+	There will be a positive impact on P, C and M through the development of sustainable transport measures within the area.

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
a) carrying out a Cycle Network Study, having regard to the NTA Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network, to determine appropriate cycle routes, and b) seeking the provision of suitable cycle infrastructure on these routes, designed in accordance with the NTA National Cycle Manual.									This cycle and pedestrian link will provide a means for people to move around without the need for use of a car. The construction of such a link could have potential minor negative impacts on B/FF, W and S as the construction process will disturb ground and cross features.
GMO8 : To ensure that all works in Newbridge accord with the principles as set out in the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (2013).									Screened Out
Street and Roads Infrastructure Objectives									
SRO 1 : To prepare and deliver a landscaping plan (hard and soft) as part of any new street or street upgrade in the town.									Screen Out
SRO 2 : To provide a high quality footpath network by improving pedestrian facilities through the refurbishment of footpaths, construction of new footpaths and the provision of appropriate crossing facilities as required	0	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	+ / -	+	The provision of linkages will be positive on P, C and MA. The construction of such a link could have potential minor negative impacts on B/FF, W, S and L as the construction process will disturb ground and cross features.
SRO 3 : To provide appropriate public lighting and facilities for people with disabilities throughout the footpath network.	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	Generally positive.
SRO 4 : To rationalise signage within the town to promote a clearly defined signage network and avoid visual clutter.									Screened Out
SRO 5 : To examine the likely future need for a Northern Relief Road to the north of Newbridge, to examine route options for such a road, and to investigate the feasibility of providing same having regard to environmental considerations, including the likely constraints due to the proximity of the Pollardstown Fen and Mouds Bog Special Areas of Conservation.	+ / -	+	+/-	+ / -	+/-	0	+ / -	+	The construction of any facilities on greenfield land will have potential negative effects on B/FF, W, S and L. Given proximity to Pollardstown Fen and Mouds Bog recommend inclusion of text in this policy setting out requirement to consider environmental considerations.
SRO 6 : To seek the construction of the following transport links, as identified on Maps 2 and 7 and to preserve these routes free from development: a) The Southern Relief Road from the R445 at Littleconnell (a) to the R416 Athgarvan Road at Kilbelin (b), including a new crossing over the River Liffey. b) A link from from the L7042 Green Road (c) to the L7037 Standhouse Road (e), including a new junction with the R445 Ballymany Road (d). c) A link from Military Road (m) to the Southern Relief Road (n).	+ / -	+	+/-	+ / -	+/-	0	+ / -	+	Improved infrastructure is likely to have positive effects on P and MA. However the establishment of infrastructure and the construction of the scheme might result in loss of B/FF and S, as well as potential effects on W. It could be argued that these new road schemes may result in increased traffic, however it will also reduce traffic congestion.

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
SRO 7: To carry out improvement works on those roads and streets identified for road and street upgrades in blue dots on Map 2 in accordance with the principles and standards of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets.	+ / -	+	+/-	+ / -	+/-	0	+ / -	+	As above.
SRO 8: To carry out streetscape improvements on those streets identified for streetscape improvement works in green dots on Map 2 in accordance with the principles and standards of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets.	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	Generally positive
<p>SRO 9: To seek the construction of the following new Town Centre Streets, as identified on Map 2 and to preserve the routes of these streets free from development:</p> <p>a) From Main Street (i) to Military Road (j) (through Bord na Mona)</p> <p>b) From Edward Street (k) to Military Road (l) (adjacent to Lidl).</p> <p>The design of these streets shall ensure that the vehicular movement function is moderated and that a high quality pedestrian and cyclist movement function is achieved, in the context of the type of development that is proposed within these areas. These streets shall be designed in accordance with the principles and standards of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets.</p>	+ / -	+	+/-	+ / -	+/-	0	+ / -	+	Improved infrastructure is likely to have positive effects on P and MA. However the establishment of infrastructure and the construction of the scheme might result in loss of B/FF and S, as well as potential effects on W. It could be argued that these new road schemes may result in increased traffic, however it will also reduce traffic congestion.
<p>SRO 10: To realign, widen and/or improve the following railway bridges:</p> <p>a) Blackberry Lane Bridge</p> <p>b) Morrinstown biller Road Bridge</p> <p>c) Station Road Bridge</p> <p>d) Sexes Bridge</p> <p>e) Mooney's Bridge</p>	+ / -	+	+/-	+ / -	+/-	0	+ / -	+	Improved infrastructure is likely to have positive effects on P and MA. However the realign, widen and/or improve could result in impacts to B/FF, S and W.
<p>SRO 11: It is an objective of the Council to implement safety and/or capacity improvements as necessary at the following junctions:</p> <p>a) The Main St. and Canning Place junction at the Liffey Bridge.</p> <p>b) The Charlotte Street/Edward Street/Main Street junction.</p>	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
c) The Cutlery Road/Edward Street junction. d)The Military Road/Edward Street junction (at Dunnes Stores) e) The R445/Green Road/Morristownbiller Road (Langton Cross). f) The Morristownbiller Road/Standhouse Road junction. g) The R415 Athgarvan Road/Kilbelin junction, pending the completion of the Southern Relief Road. h) The R445 Naas Road/Great Connell junction (Buckley's Cross Roads).									
SRO 12: To investigate the possibility of facilitating two way traffic along the southern section of Cutlery Road between Military Road and the entrance to the Tarmel Centre (at Moore's Builders Providers)	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	There is a general neutral impact on the SEOs with positive impacts on P and MA. This policy is proposing to investigate the possibility of two way traffic and further assessments will be undertaken.
Parking									
PKO 1: To provide accessible car parking spaces, designed in accordance with best practice, at appropriate locations throughout the town.	0 / -	+	0 / -	0 / -	+	0	0 / -	+	Generally positive in terms of P, C and MA given accessible nature of spaces. Potential for negative effects on B/FF, S and W if spaces are developed on Greenfield lands.
PKO 2: To ensure that all new development contains an adequate level of parking provision with regard to the policies outlined in the County Development Plan, and to the standards set out in chapter 19 of the CDP.	0 / -	+	0 / -	0 / -	+	0	0 / -	+	Generally positive in terms of P, C and MA as parking is an integral requirement in terms of any development proposal. Potential for negative effects on B/FF, S and W if spaces are developed on Greenfield lands.
PKO 3: To ensure that all public and private car parking facilities are constructed with a permanent durable surface.	-	+	+	-	0	0	-	+	Generally positive once in it undertaken in line with policies to protect against flooding and make provision of SUDs.
PKO 4: To promote and secure the provision of secure cycle parking facilities within the town at all public facilities.	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	Generally positive.
PKO 5: To implement a requirement for the provision of adequate cycle parking provision at all new developments in accordance with the standards set out in Chapter 19 of the County Development Plan.	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	Generally positive.
Water Supply									
WS 1: To provide water, sufficient in quantity and quality to serve all lands zoned for development in this plan and where this is not yet possible it shall be an objective of the Council to encourage only as much development as can be provided for, based on available water supply.									Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
WS 2: To minimise wastage in the water supply network and to ensure that new commercial and industrial developments incorporate water conservation measures. To prepare a water conservation strategy for the area during the lifetime of the Plan.									Screened Out
WS 3: To preserve free from development the way leaves of all public water mains.									Screened Out
WS 4: To ensure that all new developments in Newbridge utilise and connect to existing water infrastructure.									Screened Out
WS 5: To ensure that the EU Water Framework Directive is implemented.									Screened Out
WS 6: To ensure that specific relevant objectives and measures for individual water bodies set out in the Eastern River Basin Management Plan and associated Programme of Measures will be implemented, where relevant.									Screened Out
WS 7: To ensure that planning applications have regard to any existing groundwater protection schemes and groundwater source protection zones and/or the likely impacts that the development may have on groundwater.									Screened Out
WS 8: To ensure the implementation of the Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration.									Screened Out
WS 9: To require developers to demonstrate that their application meets the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and associated Eastern River Basin Management Plan.									Screened Out
Wastewater Policy									
WW 1: To require developers to provide adequate wastewater service provision for any development proposed where insufficient wastewater facilities are currently in place and to ensure that the requirements of the Eastern River Basin District Plan and associated Programme of Measures are met. In this regard developers should liaise with the Water Services Department of Kildare County Council prior to the lodgement of any planning application, in order to ensure that any proposals made comply with all necessary and relevant standards.									Screened Out
WW 2: To ensure the separation of foul and surface water effluents through the provision of separate sewerage and									Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
surface water run-off networks.									
WW 3: To ensure the changeover from septic tanks to mains connections in all cases where this is feasible and that all new developments utilise and connect to the existing wastewater infrastructure. The provision of individual septic tanks and treatment plants in the Newbridge area will be strongly discouraged to minimise the risk of groundwater pollution. Where such facilities are permitted, full compliance with the prevailing regulations and standards, including the EPA's a Code of Practice: Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Houses (p.e. ≤ 10), (EPA, 2009), as may be amended, will be required.									Screened Out
WW 4: To preserve free from development the wayleaves of all public sewers.									Screened Out
WW 5: To develop a wastewater leak detection programme.									Screened Out
WW 6: To implement and promote the Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations 2001 and 2004, as may be amended.									Screened Out
WW 7: To ensure that the necessary drainage facilities to serve the needs of all development are provided.									Screened Out
Wastewater Objectives									
WWO1: To secure the upgrade the Newbridge Eastern Interceptor Sewer and network upgrade to the Liffey Valley Catchment area.	+/-	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	0	+	Generally positive in terms of P, C and MA due to provision of this necessary service. Potential for negative effects on BFF, W and S due to works taking place in the ground. However if sewer network is not upgraded losses and leakage is likely to have further negative impacts.
WWO2: To minimise leakage from the foul sewer network and to minimise surface water infiltration into the foul sewerage system and at the same time reduce groundwater pollution.									Screened Out
WWO3: To upgrade the existing sewers in Newbridge Town Centre.	+/-	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	0	+	Generally positive in terms of P, C and MA due to provision of this necessary service. Potential for negative effects on BFF, W and S due to works taking place in the ground. However if sewer network is not upgraded losses and leakage is likely to have further negative impacts.
WWO4: To construct a new trunk sewer from the Moorefield Road to a new Pumping Station at Kilbelin.	+/-	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	0	+	As above.
WWO5: To upgrade the existing trunk sewer in the townland of Great Connell.	+/-	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	0	+	As above.
WWO6: To construct a new sewer north of the Railway	+/-	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	0	+	As above.

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
from Rickardstown to the Tankardsgarden Pumping Station.									
WWO7: To upgrade the Tankardsgarden Pumping Station.	+/-	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	0	+	As above.
WWO8: To construct a new rising main from the Tankardsgarden Pumping Station to the Newhall Pumping Station	+/-	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	0	+	As above.
WWO9: To upgrade the rising main from the Walshestown pumping station to a trunk sewer in the townland of Great Connell. (Note: this is expected to involve a crossing of the River Liffey with the rising main at Connell Ford).	+/-	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	0	+	As above.
WWO10: To upgrade the Walshestowns Pumping Station and/or to secure a new site for the construction of a new pumping station in the Walshestown area	+/-	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	0	+	As above.
WWO11: To upgrade the Rathcurragh pumping station.	+/-	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	0	+	As above.
Surface Water Drainage									
SW 1: To ensure that new developments incorporate appropriate SuDS facilities, designed, constructed and maintained in accordance with the requirements of the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (GDSDS) for treating and controlling the discharge of surface water from developments.									Screened Out
SW 2: To ensure that all new development proposals have regard to the requirements of the Kildare Groundwater Protection Scheme 1999 (as amended) and Environmental Protection Agency/ Department of the Environment guidelines applicable at the time.									Screened Out
SW 3: To ensure the implementation of the Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration.									Screened Out
SW 4: To require developers to adopt site specific solutions to surface water drainage systems in all cases. In this regard the site specific issues set out in section 7.8.4 Surface Water Drainage and Flood Alleviation, shall be considered where relevant.									Screened Out
SW 5: To require on site surface water attenuation measures if, in the opinion of the council, a development is likely to cause flooding or potentially destructive storm surges in existing water courses.									Screened Out
SW 6: To require proposed surface water drainage plans to have regard to the policy and objectives of the Habitat									Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
Mapping and Green Infrastructure (section 7.11.6) of the Plan.									
SW 7: To require surface water runoff to pass through an oil/petrol/silt interceptor prior to discharging to groundwater, existing sewers or surface water.									Screened Out
SW 8: To maintain, improve and enhance the environmental and ecological quality of surface waters and groundwaters by implementing the Programme of Measures contained in the Eastern River Basin District (ERBD) River Basin Management Plan 2009–2015.									
Surface Water Objectives									
SWO 1: To carry out a survey of the surface water culverts in Newbridge to assess their current state, and to improve culverts where necessary.									Screened Out
SWO 2: To carry out a programme of dredging surface water drains in Newbridge and to continue to ensure that the drains are regularly maintained to minimise the risk of flooding.									Screened Out
Flood Risk Management Policy									
FRA 1: To apply the general policies, requirements and objectives contained in Chapter 7 (Water, Drainage and Environmental Services) of the Kildare County Development Plan For the purpose of ensuring that flood risk management is fully integrated into the Draft Newbridge Plan.									Screened Out
FRA 2: To implement the requirements of the DoEHLG, The Planning System and Flood Risk Management ~ Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009) and the Newbridge SFRA in the carrying out of functions during the period of the Plan and to update the SFRA for Newbridge as appropriate.									Screened Out
FRA 3: To ensure that any Flood Risk Assessments conducted in respect of development proposals on lands identified in the Newbridge SFRA as requiring site-specific Flood Risk Assessment are undertaken in accordance with the DoEHLG, The Planning System and Flood Risk Management ~ Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009).									Screened Out
FRA 4: To ensure that new developments incorporate appropriate SuDS facilities, designed, constructed and maintained in accordance with the requirements of the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (GSDSDS) for treating and controlling the discharge of surface water from developments.									Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
<p>FRA 5: To ensure that the requirements of Inland Fisheries Ireland are adhered to in the construction of flood alleviation measures. This includes, but is not limited to:</p> <p>Allowance for dry weather flow conditions to be reflected in channel cross-section;</p> <p>Appropriate programming of any 'instream works' to reflect the requirements of Inland Fisheries Ireland.</p>									Screened Out
Flood Risk Management Objectives									
<p>FRO 1: To carry out a programme of dredging surface water drains and to continue to ensure that the drains are regularly maintained to minimise the risk of flooding.</p>	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	Generally positive in terms of P, C and MA due requirement to provide necessary infrastructure.
<p>FRO 2: To fulfill its responsibilities under the Flood Risk Directive 2007/60/EC and cooperate with the Office of Public Works in the development of any Catchment-based Flood Risk Management Plans as necessary. Any relevant recommendations and outputs arising from the relevant Flood Risk Management Plans shall be incorporated into the Newbridge Plan.</p>									Screened Out
<p>FRO3: To integrate into the Plan, relevant findings of the Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Study when it is finalised, as appropriate.</p>									Screened Out
Pollution Control and Waste Services									
<p>PC 1: To enforce, where applicable, the provisions of all relevant water, noise and air legislation to reduce the occurrences of water, noise and air pollution in the town.</p>									Screened Out
<p>PC 2: To preserve and maintain air quality in accordance with good practice and relevant legislation. The Council also aims to manage and control traffic flows, to reduce congestion and queuing times at road junctions within the Plan area, thereby improving air quality.</p>									Screened Out
<p>PC 3: To ensure that Newbridge has an adequate solid waste collection system.</p>									Screened Out
<p>PC 4: To adequately maintain recycling facilities and to provide additional facilities if required in easily accessible locations.</p>									Screened Out
<p>PC 5: To require that new shopping centres provide secure bring centres.</p>									Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
CL 1: To enforce, where applicable, the provisions of the Litter Pollution Act 1997.									Screened Out
CL 2: To continue education and awareness programmes in local schools and to promote grant schemes and initiatives to residents associations and other groups, in particular the Tidy Towns Committee, which aim to reduce litter in the town.									Screened Out
CL 3: To require the provision of litter bins on or directly adjoining the premises of all neighbourhood facilities.									Screened Out
CL 4: To enforce, where applicable, the provisions of all relevant water, noise and air legislation to reduce the occurrences of water, noise and air pollution in the town.									Screened Out
CL 5: To preserve and maintain air quality in accordance with good practice and relevant legislation. The Council also aims to manage and control traffic flows, to reduce congestion and queuing times at road junctions within the Plan area, thereby improving air quality.									Screened Out
CL 6: To ensure that Newbridge has an adequate solid waste collection system.									Screened Out
CL 7: To adequately maintain recycling facilities and to provide additional facilities if required in easily accessible locations.									Screened Out
CL 8: To require that new shopping centres provide secure bring centres.									Screened Out
Dereliction									
DT 1: To survey derelict or vacant sites and to encourage and facilitate the re-use and regeneration of derelict land/ buildings in Newbridge as a priority. The Council will use its powers, where appropriate, to consider such sites for inclusion in the Register of Derelict Sites.									Screened Out
Energy and Communications									
TEC 1: To promote the expansion of broadband, along with wi-fi and wireless technology. Ducting should be shared where possible and underground services should be placed where they create minimum disturbance to road users.	0 / -	+	0 / -	0 / -	0	0	0	+	Positive in terms of provision of necessary services. Potential negative impacts due to ground disturbance. However protective measures to ensure minimum disturbance.
TEC 2: To ensure that telecommunications infrastructure is adequately screened, integrated and /or landscaped so as to minimise any adverse visual impacts.	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	Positive in terms of L and P.

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
TEC 3: To liaise with the ESB to investigate and encourage where possible the ducting and underground routing of overhead powerlines in Newbridge in tandem with other work programmes, such as road resurfacing and footpath construction works.	0 / -	+	0 / -	0 / -	0	0	+	+	Positive in terms of provision of necessary services. Potential negative impacts due to ground disturbance. However protective measures in plan to ensure minimum disturbance.
Community Policy									
CF 1: To continue to liaise with the Department of Education and Skills and Kildare VEC in the provision of school places.									Screened Out
CF 2: To support and facilitate the improvement of sports, recreational and cultural facilities in Newbridge	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	0	+	+/-	+	With the large amount of lands zoned for residential development there is a direct need for recreational and cultural facilities. The construction of any such facilities on greenfield land will have the potential to have negative effects on B/FF, W, S and L but in relation to P the provision of facilities is very positive.
CF 3: To facilitate the development of health centres, local clinics, nursing homes in or in proximity to the established town centre in Newbridge.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	+ / -	+	The zoning of such facilities is positive for P, C and MA as it will provide essential services and improve sustainability in the Draft LAP as people will not have to travel for services. As with infill and greenfield development there is potential for negative impacts on the environment.
CF 4: To develop opportunities for career development and retraining and develop links between the employment and educational sectors.									Screened Out
CF 5: To provide safer routes to school within Newbridge and to encourage walking and cycling as sustainable modes of transport as part of the Green Schools Initiative Programme and other local traffic management improvements.									Screened Out
CF 6: To encourage shared use of existing educational and community facilities for community and non-school purposes, where possible, in order to promote sustainable use of such infrastructure.									Screened Out
CF 7: To support the development of the Youth Hub in Newbridge.	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	Generally positive.
CF8: To support the Newbridge Chamber of Commerce, Newbridge Tidy Towns Committee and the people of Newbridge in the provision of community facilities in the town.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	+ / -	+	The location of the proposed community facilities are unknown. However the provision of such facilities and in a central location will have positive effects in terms of P, C and MA.
CF9: To encourage and assist in the development of the arts and to support the ongoing development of cultural infrastructure.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	+ / -	+	The location and type of infrastructure is are unknown. However the provision of such facilities and in a central location will have positive effects in terms of P, C and MA.
CF10: To ensure that all arts and cultural facilities in the ownership and management of the Council are accessible to									Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
the wider community and to promote the role of these facilities as focal points for the community.									
Community Objectives									
CO 1: To provide for an extension to the existing cemetery at St. Conleths on the Athgarvan Road.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	0	+	0	+	Generally positive in terms of P and MA due to provision of this facility. Potential for ground disturbance and associated minor impacts on BFF, S and W.
CO 2: To facilitate the use of appropriate sites/buildings within the town for the provision of childcare services in tandem and in the vicinity of all new and existing residential development.	0 / -	+	0	0 / -	+	0	-/0	+	Positive in terms of P and MA as service is important. Positive in terms of C as service will be provided in vicinity of residential areas. The location of the proposed childcare services are unknown and if newly developed has potential to have negative effects on BFF and S.
Architectural, Archaeological and Natural Heritage									
AH 1: To resist the demolition of vernacular architecture of historical, cultural and aesthetic merit, which make a positive contribution to the character, appearance and quality of the local streetscape and the sustainable development of Newbridge.									Screened Out
AH 2: To assist owners of structures of particular significance within Newbridge in their maintenance and repair through advice and to make grant aid available under any future Conservation Grants scheme.									Screened Out
AH 3: To protect those built heritage items as listed below in this Local Area Plan.									Screened Out
AH 4: To protect and preserve the views to and from those items listed below in this plan.									Screened Out
AH 5: To protect views to/ from the River Liffey from St. Clonleths Bridge.									Screened Out
AH 6: To require an appropriate archaeological assessment to be carried out by a licensed archaeologist in respect of any proposed development likely to have an impact on a Recorded Monument or its setting.									Screened Out
AH 7: To seek the protection of burial grounds within Newbridge 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 Gaeltacht (DoAHG), as appropriate.									Screened Out
Nature Conservation Outside of Designated Areas									

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
<p>NH 1: To protect the Natura 2000 sites of Pollardstown Fen and Mouds Bog, and the Curragh (pNHA), in accordance with the policies and objectives as set out under Chapter 13 of the Kildare County Development Plan 2011-2017.</p>									Screened Out
<p>NH 2 To identify, protect, conserve, and enhance, wherever possible, wildlife habitats and species of local importance, not otherwise protected by legislation. Such habitats may 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. Once a locally important habitat has been identified it shall be surveyed to establish its significance and a site-specific conservation plan prepared to establish development guidelines for the area.</p>									Screened Out
<p>NH 3 To seek the protection of the following trees and groups of trees of special amenity value at the following locations;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trees in convent ground, Dublin Rd. • Trees in the grounds of Oldconnell stud farm, opposite Pfizer, on Dublin Rd. • Copper beech tree in grounds of Catholic Church • Trees in grounds of Sundai School, Green Rd. • Two trees on eastern side of Green Rd. beside red brick dwelling with Mansard roof. • Trees in grounds of Lumville House • Trees along southern side of R445 north of Ballymany interchange • Trees on opposite St. Patrick's School • Trees in grounds of house immediately to the north of St. Patrick's school • trees in grounds of second house immediately to the north of st. patrick's school • Trees in grounds of house immediately to the south of St. Patrick's school • Trees in grounds of Morristownbiller House • 8 trees in open area beside Tesco and Moorefield Park • Trees in the open space area behind the health centre fronting College Park • Trees in the grounds of 'the grange' housing estate • Trees in the grounds of Newbridge College • Trees in the park along the east bank of the Liffey • Chestnut trees at Moore Park 									Screened Out
<p>NH 4 To prohibit development where it is likely that damage</p>									Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation	
would be caused either to trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order or, to those which have a particular local amenity or nature conservation value. Development that requires the felling of mature trees of amenity value, conservation value or special interest notwithstanding the fact that they may not be listed in this plan, will be discouraged.										
<p>NH 5 To conserve and protect the natural habitats in the local river systems</p> <p>Planning applications must;</p> <p>(a) Identify all ecological habitats and corridors, which are present on the proposed development lands (including hedgerows and masonry stone walls) that are likely to be affected by the development proposal.</p> <p>(b) Identify any losses to these habitats and corridors, which would result if the application in question was granted</p> <p>(c) Show that such losses would be fully offset if the application was to be granted through the replacement of the relevant corridors, with corridors composed of similar species prior to any losses to the existing corridors</p> <p>(d) Show that habitat loss will either be offset should the application be granted or is not locally important to the area</p>									Screened Out	
<p>NH 6 To protect the Curragh pNHA, including any additions or amendments to this site, from any development that would adversely affect its conservation and amenity value.</p>										Screened Out
<p>NH 7 To ensure that any development proposal within the vicinity of or having an effect on the Curragh pNHA, will provide sufficient detail illustrating how it will limit any possible impact upon the designated site and will include proposals for appropriate amelioration.</p>										Screened Out
<p>NH 8 To require all proposed development within and adjoining the Newbridge LAP boundary within a 15km radius of a Natura site to be screened for Appropriate Assessment of its potential impacts on the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive. In all such cases the developer shall consult with the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the DoAHG.</p>										Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
NH 9 To ensure the favourable conservation status of Natura 2000 sites in the vicinity of Newbridge are protected.									Screened Out
NH 10 To promote the maintenance and, as appropriate, the achievement of favourable conservation status of Natura 2000 sites and their associated habitats and species, in association with the National Parks and Wildlife Service.									Screened Out
NH 11 To promote the protection of Annex I and Annex II – Natural Habitats, Animal and Plant Species respectively of Community Interest whose conservation requires the designation of Special Areas of Conservation and Annex IV – Animal and Plant Species of Community Interest in need of Strict Protection of “Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora” which occur within Kildare and adjoining areas.									Screened Out
NH 12 To ensure the protection of the groundwater resources in and around the Newbridge area and associated habitats and species.									Screened Out
NH 13 To promote opportunities for enhancement of local biodiversity features, where appropriate.									Screened Out
NH 14 To implement measures to control and manage alien/invasive species (e.g. Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed, etc.) and noxious weeds (e.g. Ragwort, thistle, dock, etc.) within the Newbridge area.									Screened Out
NH 15 To maintain a suitable buffer zone between all water bodies and any development. The extent of the riparian buffer zone should be determined in consultation with a qualified ecologist. In all instances however a minimum buffer of 15 metres of vegetation shall be retained along the riverbank to mitigate against pollution risks, reduce flooding potential and maintain habitats. In the event of lighting being proposed along river corridors an Ecological Impact Assessment (and where necessary an Appropriate Assessment) including bat and otter survey shall be conducted by specialists. The recommendations of the specialist studies shall be implemented. No lighting will be installed without prior consultation with NPWS and shall be in line with advances in knowledge into the impact of lighting on bats and other species and also to reflect advances in technology in the lighting industry.									Screened Out
Green Infrastructure Policy									
GI 1: To require all proposals for major developments to									Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
submit, as part of the landscaping plan for the proposal, details of how any green infrastructure proposed as part of the development (e.g. green open spaces, hedgerows, tree lines, etc.) contribute positively to the development and protection of the overall green infrastructure assets of Newbridge and how it protects and enhance linkages to the wider natural landscape features.									
GI 2: To seek the provision of links between larger areas of green infrastructure (particularly areas of public open space) where appropriate.									Screened Out
GI 3: To ensure biodiversity conservation and /or enhancement measures, as appropriate, are included in all proposals for new development.									Screened Out
GI 4: To ensure that green infrastructure provision and management does not lead to the spread of invasive species.									Screened Out
GI 5: To ensure all planting within developments is of native species.									Screened Out
GI 6: To ensure old stones walls are protected where appropriate and the contribution they make to green infrastructure is protected.									Screened Out
GI 7: To support the development and correct management of semi natural grasslands within new developments and existing amenity grassland areas.									Screened Out
GI 8: To ensure key hedgerows 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.									Screened Out
GI 9: To support the development of small wooded areas within new developments.									Screened Out
GI 10: To seek the creation of new wetlands and/or enhancement of existing through the provision for Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) and Integrated Constructed Wetlands (ICW) where appropriate.									Screened Out
GI 11: To develop links between larger areas of green infrastructure such as the River Liffey, the banks and buffer zones of the railway/motorway, the National Stud, the Curragh and the surrounding countryside.									Screened Out
GI 12: To manage against the spread of invasive species.									Screened Out

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
GI 13: To ensure replacement planting of semi-mature trees where mature trees are removed within developments. Semi mature trees are defined by the BSI as 'Trees with an overall height in excess of 4 metres and or a stem girth measurement circumference of 20 centimetres or larger.									Screened Out
GI 14: To avoid development within the root protection area of the trees/hedgerows to be retained in a development.									Screened Out
Green Infrastructure Objective									
GIO 1: To require all new developments to contribute to the protection and enhancement of existing green infrastructure assets, as identified on Map 6, through the provision of new green infrastructure as an integral part of any planning application.									Screened Out
Recreation and Amenity Policy									
R1: To encourage the provision, improvement and expansion of more varied social, cultural, recreational and sporting facilities to serve the needs of the town.	+ / -	+	0	+ / -	0	0	+ / -	+	The zoning of such facilities is positive for P, C and MA as it will provide essential services and improve sustainability in the Draft LAP as people will not have to travel for services. As with all greenfield development there is potential for negative impacts on the environment.
R2: To support and facilitate the development of indoor and outdoor recreational facilities to cater for all age groups on suitable sites and to ensure that these facilities are accessible to people with disabilities.	+ / -	+	0	+ / -	0	0	+ / -	+	As above.
R3: To encourage recreational /amenity/community facilities in Newbridge to be multi-functional and not used exclusively by any one group.									Screened Out
R4: To co-operate with sports clubs, schools, community organisations and individuals in the provision of sports and recreational facilities to serve the residents of Newbridge.									Screened Out
R5: To retain, enhance and develop routes for recreation and tourism use and to increase permeability within and around the town.	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	0	+	+ / -	0	Promotion of cycling through provision of routes is considered positive in terms of P, C and MA and quality of life for those living within the town. However potential negative impacts in terms of B/FF, W and S depending on extent of works and their location. There are sufficient policies in the plan to protect these resources.
R6: To improve existing open space areas in housing developments that have been taken in-charge by the Council.	0 / +	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	Open space is very positive for the quality of lives of the population living in the area.
R7: To seek the delivery of a skateboard park on appropriately zoned lands over the life of the Plan, subject to obtaining the necessary funding	+ / -	+	0	+ / -	0	0	+ / -	+	The provision of such a facility will have positive effects in terms of P as it will provide a facility for the public. Other impacts will be dependent on location. Potential for impacts in respect of BFF, S

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
									and L as with all greenfield development.
Recreation and Amenity Objective									
RAO 1: To prepare a report during the life of this Plan identifying a site(s) in or in proximity to the town centre for a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), an active children's playground and a Youth Hub/Centre	+ / -	+	0	+ / -	0	0	+	+	The construction of any facilities on greenfield land will have potential negative effects on B/FF, W and S, however there will be large long term positive impacts on the residents living within the LAP area
Open Space and the Liffey Valley Park									
OS 1: To facilitate and encourage a series of high quality open spaces throughout the town, preferably as part of a larger linked network that is available to all ages and accessible to everyone, including people with mobility impairments.	+	+	0 / +	0 / +	+	0	+	0	Generally positive.
OS 2: To retain designated open space lands with established recreational uses.									Screened Out
OS 3: To preserve, manage and maintain to a high standard the existing parks and open spaces in the town.									Screened Out
OS 4: To extend and develop a linear park along both sides of the River Liffey from Tankardstown to the M7 Motorway and to continue the development of the riverside park system in accordance with the objectives outlined in Liffey Valley Park, Newbridge Report and the Liffey Valley Strategy ' Towards a Liffey Valley Park	+ / -	+	+ / -	+ / -	+	0	+	0	Overall positive in terms of P and C as it will promote walking and cycling in the area. However potential to have short term impacts as a result of development of the park.
OS 5: To protect existing open spaces and recreational uses from encroachment by other unsuitable and incompatible uses.									Screened Out
OS 6: To prohibit the loss of existing public and private recreational open space unless alternative recreational facilities are provided at a suitable location.									Screened Out
OS 7: To facilitate the development of community managed gardens/allotments in the town subject to implementation of sustainable environmental practices.	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	Generally positive.
Land Use Zoning Objectives									
Town Centre To provide for the development and improvement of appropriate town centre uses including retail, residential, commercial and civic uses. The purpose of this zoning is to protect and enhance the special character of Newbridge town centre and to provide for and improve retailing, residential,	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+	+	+	+	The Plan identifies Newbridge Town Centre as the focal point for retail, office and service provision. Town centre zoning is largely inherited from previous development planning of the town. Detailed design briefs have been prepared in respect of the redevelopment of the town centre which will be important in achieving consolidation and infill development and associated improvements within the area. This will result in

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
commercial, office, cultural and other uses appropriate to the centre of Newbridge. The Council will encourage the appropriate re-use and regeneration of buildings, backlands and derelict/obsolete land. Innovative design approaches will be welcomed in the area, particularly with regard to residential and commercial development.									<p>positive effects in terms of CH, C, L and P.</p> <p>Potential to have negative effects on B, W and S through normal development of lands. However, integration of this policy with the provision of other protective policies within the plan would be expected to reduce direct negative impacts on environmental receptors, such as water quality, resulting from pressure on these. Any new development would also be subject to conform to the development management requirements of this Plan and the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>The Newbridge planners had originally zoned the town centre to a reduced more consolidated form which extended from the River Liffey following Edward Street and finishing at the end of Athgarvan Street. The zoning stretched a small bit north of Edward Street, encompassing Eyre Street and a small portion of Henry Street. However following full Council Meeting on the 28th May 2013 it was decided by the Councillors to retain the original zoning within the 2003 Newbridge LAP. It is considered that this zoning does not reflect the town centre strategy and undermines the LAP strategy for consolidation.</p>
<p>Existing /Infill Residential</p> <p>To protect and improve existing residential amenity, to provide for appropriate infill residential development and to provide for new and improved ancillary services.</p> <p>This zoning principally covers existing residential areas. The zoning provides for infill development within these residential areas. The primary aim of this zoning objective is to preserve and improve residential amenity and to provide for further infill residential development at a density that is considered appropriate to the area.</p>	+ / -	+	+ / -	+/-	+	0	+	+	<p>Largely positive due to infill nature of zoning objective.</p> <p>Potential to have negative effects on B, W and S through normal development of lands. However, integration of this policy with the provision of other protective policies within the plan would be expected to reduce direct negative impacts on environmental receptors, such as water quality, resulting from pressure on these. Any new development would also be subject to conform to the development management requirements of this Plan and the Kildare CDP.</p>
<p>New Residential</p> <p>To provide for New Residential Development</p> <p>This zoning provides for new residential development and associated ancillary services. Permission may also be granted for home based economic activity within this zone subject to the preservation of residential amenity and traffic considerations. New residential areas should be developed in accordance with a comprehensive plan detailing the layout of services, roads, pedestrian and cycle routes and the landscaping of open space.</p>	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+	0/+	+/-	+	<p>A detailed assessment with respect to residential zonings has been undertaken as part of the alternatives assessment of the draft Plan. Lands zoned for residential development are in accordance with the core strategy.</p> <p>The development of lands for residential use in accordance with the core strategy will have an overall beneficial effect on P, C, L and M as residential development will be developed in a planned, phased and serviced manner. This would result in high quality living environments; it promotes sustainable transport, walking and cycling and will reduce potential effects on landscape from otherwise sprawling developments throughout the environs of the</p>

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
									<p>town.</p> <p>The development of residentially zoned lands has the potential to have cumulative effects (along with other development proposals for the town) on B, W and S through pressure on wastewater systems and water supplies and impact on soils through development of greenfield lands. However, integration of this policy with the provision of other protective policies within the plan would be expected to reduce direct negative impacts on environmental receptors, such as water quality, resulting from pressure on these. Any new residential development would also be subject to conform to the development management requirements of this Plan and the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>This policy is in line with the preferred alternative selected as part of the SEA process as per section 8 of this ER.</p> <p>Comments: Should lands in C15, C12, C13 be zoned for residential uses given that it is located in the floodplain according to the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. In accordance with the DoE's Flooding Guidelines these should be ruled out now at development plan review stage if they are in certain Flood Zones. Recommend inclusion of mapping identifying lands.</p> <p>Could it be explained why the lands to the north of the train station have not been zoned for residential uses instead of open space and amenity. Would it be possible to re-zone lands around train station to residential and rezone lands in the floodplain to open space and amenity.</p> <p>Recommend inclusion of a policy to phase and monitor new residential development to ensure that development takes place in a sequential manner closest to the town centre and public transport in advance of more peripheral development.</p>
<p>Neighbourhood Centre</p> <p>To provide for new/existing neighbourhood centres and associated facilities.</p> <p>The purpose of this zoning is mainly to provide for new neighbourhood centres to serve the needs of new residential areas. A mix of retail, community and recreational development is permitted in this zone. Limited residential development sufficient to ensure the viable and satisfactory working of the neighbourhood centre will be considered in this zone. The neighbourhood centres are intended to serve the</p>	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+	0/+	+/-	+	<p>Positive impacts in respect of P and C likely as will provide an important service to people living in the area and in close proximity to residential areas. There is also a requirement to assess the development in accordance with the retail strategy which ensures that development will be in line with local requirements.</p> <p>Potential to have negative effects on B, W and S through development of lands. However, integration of this policy with the provision of other protective policies within the plan would be expected to reduce direct negative impacts on environmental receptors, such as water quality, resulting from pressure on these. Any new development would also be subject to conform to the</p>

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
<p>immediate needs of a localised catchment i.e. the local working and residential population and complement, rather than compete with similar retail uses within the established town centre. Medical clinics, professional offices, childcare facilities (crèche), small convenience stores, local shops and cafes are envisaged for these particular areas.</p> <p>The threshold or floor area proposed for each neighbourhood centre will be assessed in relation to the nature and extent of retail provision in accordance with the current retail strategy, the intended catchment area for the neighbourhood centre and the impact that the proposal may have on the vitality and viability of the established town centre.</p>									development management requirements of this Plan and the Kildare CDP.
<p>Community and Educational</p> <p>To provide for community and educational facilities</p> <p>The purpose of this zoning is to provide for community and educational facilities including health care, child care, fire station, courthouse, schools, churches, meeting halls and other community facilities, ancillary neighbourhood uses and services.</p> <p>Site E1 on the Walshestown Road is identified for a secondary school.</p> <p>Site E2 at Ryston is generally identified for a nursing home with supporting infrastructure.</p>	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+	-/+	+/-	+	<p>Lands zoned community and education within the plan area are required to provide important facilities such as school to the community.</p> <p>Potential to have negative effects on B, W and S through normal development of lands. However, integration of this policy with the provision of other protective policies within the plan would be expected to reduce direct negative impacts on environmental receptors, such as water quality, resulting from pressure on these. Any new development would also be subject to conform to the development management requirements of this Plan and the CDP.</p>
<p>Open Space and Amenity</p> <p>To protect and provide for open space, amenity and recreational provision.</p> <p>The areas included in this zoning objective cover both private and public open space and are dispersed throughout the town.</p> <p>The aim of this land use zoning objective is to protect recreation, open space and amenity areas, to maintain and improve amenity lands, to preserve private open space and to provide recreational facilities. Existing agricultural uses in open spaces area will continue to be permitted and reasonable development proposals in relation to this issue will be considered on their merits.</p>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	Overall positive impacts due to protection of lands for open space from development.
Industry and Warehousing	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+	-/+	+/-	+	The bulk of this zoning is located to the north east of the town

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
<p>To provide for and improve industrial and warehousing development.</p> <p>The purpose of this zoning is to provide for industrial and warehousing uses. Other uses, ancillary or similar to industry and warehousing will be considered on the merits of the proposed development and may be acceptable in this zone. Where employment is a high generator of traffic, the location of new employment facilities at an appropriate scale, density, type and location will be encouraged to reduce demand for travel.</p> <p>Residential or retail uses (including retail warehousing) or incinerators/thermal treatment plants will not be acceptable in this zone.</p> <p>Where any Industrial/Warehousing land adjoins other land uses, particularly residential uses, a buffer zone (approximately 10-15 metres) shall be provided.</p> <p>H1 Lands - New employment development to the east (Naas Road) of the town shall be of high quality design and layout. Further development of these lands shall be subject to a detailed Masterplan in accordance with objective EDO 1 under Section 7.3.</p>									<p>along the Naas Road and is also subject to preparation of a detailed masterplan. There is a requirement under this zoning to provide high quality design and part of any development which will help to offset negative impacts in terms of L.</p> <p>The locations of the undeveloped industrial zoned lands adjoin existing industry. This is to facilitate the expansion of existing industry and/or the clustering of new industry with existing which may provide for the development of business networking or linkages between industries. These areas are largely serviced as they are located within the envelope of services within the town.</p> <p>The development of these lands is likely to have a positive effect with respect to P and M particularly due to increased employment associated with development of industrial lands. The development of industrially zoned lands has the potential to have negative effects on B, W and S through pressure on soils through development of greenfield lands. However, integration of this policy with the provision of other protective policies within the plan would be expected to reduce direct negative impacts on environmental receptors, such as water quality, resulting from pressure on these. Any new development would also be subject to conform to the development management requirements of this Plan and the CDP.</p> <p>Comment: Should lands in H1 be zoned 'Enterprise and Employment' rather than 'Industry and Warehousing' given the substantial quantum of lands zoned in this area. Should this not be zoned for 'Enterprise and Employment' otherwise it could result in a lot of industrial and warehousing buildings.</p> <p>Recommend inclusion of text in this zoning objective for phased development of these lands also.</p>
<p>Agricultural To retain and protect agricultural uses.</p> <p>The purpose of this zoning is to ensure the retention of agricultural uses and protect them from urban sprawl and ribbon development. Uses which are directly associated with agriculture or which would not interfere with this use are open for consideration.</p> <p>This includes limited housing for members of landowners' families or persons who can demonstrate a need to live in the agriculture zone.</p>	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+	-/+	+	+	<p>Overall positive impacts due to protection of lands for agricultural purposes. This zoning protects lands free from urban type development.</p> <p>There is scope for some development under agricultural zoning, however at a small scale to cater for farming needs and therefore associated impacts are unlikely to be significant.</p>

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
<p>Transport Utilities To provide for the needs of transport and utility uses.</p> <p>The purpose of this zoning is to provide for the needs of public transport and other utility providers. Car parks and commercial development associated with the provision of public transport services are envisaged for this zone.</p>	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+	0	+/-	+	<p>It is important to provide transport and utilities to cater for needs of population living and visiting the town. This will have positive effects in terms of P, C and MA.</p> <p>The development and expansion of transport and utilities has the potential to have negative effects on B, W, L and S through pressure on soils through development of greenfield lands. However, integration of this policy with the provision of other protective policies within the plan would be expected to reduce direct negative impacts on environmental receptors, such as water quality, resulting from pressure on these. Any new development would also be subject to conform to the development management requirements of this Plan and the CDP.</p>
<p>Leisure/Amenity To protect and improve existing leisure and amenity facilities.</p> <p>The purpose of this zoning is to reflect the established hotel use on site (Keadeen Hotel) and to provide for new and improved leisure and amenity facilities and other ancillary uses on site.</p>	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	0	-/+	+/-	+	<p>Important to cater for leisure and amenity facilities within the plan area. Overall positive impacts in terms of P due to improvement of quality of recreational resources.</p> <p>The development and expansion of these uses has the potential to have negative effects on B, W and S through pressure on soils through development of greenfield lands. However, integration of this policy with the provision of other protective policies within the plan would be expected to reduce direct negative impacts on environmental receptors, such as water quality, resulting from pressure on these. Any new development would also be subject to conform to the development management requirements of this Plan and the CDP.</p>
<p>Department of Defence To provide for services associated with the Department of Defence.</p> <p>The purpose of this zoning is to reflect the established use on site.</p>	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	0	-/+	+/-	0	<p>No specific proposals are set out in terms of these lands. Any future development of these lands has potential to affect BFF, S, W and L. However, integration of this policy with the provision of other protective policies within the plan would be expected to reduce direct negative impacts on environmental receptors, such as water quality, resulting from pressure on these. Any new development would also be subject to conform to the development management requirements of this Plan and the CDP.</p>
<p>Retail/Commercial To provide for and improve retailing/commercial facilities.</p> <p>The purpose of this zoning is to reflect the existing retailing use on site. Future development in this zone shall be in accordance with the retail strategy and other retail policies and objectives in this Plan.</p>	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	<p>The Plan identifies Newbridge Town Centre as the focal point for retail, office and service provision and this zoning is located adjacent to the town centre core.</p> <p>Provision of retail uses and offer is essential to the function of any town centre and in keeping people from shopping outside of the locale. The zoning of these lands is likely to have a positive effect with respect to P and C due to facilitation of centrally located services and associated indirect positive impacts on the town centre.</p> <p>Lands are already developed therefore potential of negative effects on B, W and S are unlikely.</p>

Policies/ Objectives	B/FF	P	W	S	C	CH	L	M	Comment/ Mitigation
<p>Enterprise and Employment To facilitate opportunities for employment and enterprise uses, manufacturing, research and development, light industry, employment and enterprise related uses within a high-quality campus/park type development.</p> <p>It is intended that these lands will be used for enterprise and employment uses in a high quality well designed environment. Sites facing Military Road shall be of high quality architectural design and landscaping in accordance with the principles set out in Design Brief 3 in Section 7.6.</p> <p>Heavy industrial proposals more suitable to Industrial and Warehousing zoned land and retail proposals more suitable to Town Centre zoned land will not normally be permitted.</p>	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	<p>Lands are already developed and comprise of large commercial units. Lands are serviced in terms of water supply, surface water, waste water, gas and telecoms.</p> <p>Any further development of these lands is likely to have a positive effect with respect to P and M particularly due to increased employment within the town. Lands are already developed therefore potential of negative effects on B, W and S are unlikely.</p>
<p>Equestrian To facilitate high quality equine/equestrian facilities.</p> <p>The purpose of this zoning is to accommodate Horse Racing Ireland headquarters and to allow for other high quality development which is intrinsic part of the equine industry.</p>	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+	-/+	+	+	<p>Overall positive impacts due to protection of lands for equestrian purposes. This zoning protects lands free from urban type development.</p> <p>There is scope for some development under this zoning, however at a small scale to cater for equestrian needs and therefore associated impacts are unlikely to be significant.</p>