



CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING,  
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PLANNING

# APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

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## AA SCREENING REPORT FOR THE KILDARE LOCAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY PLAN 2024-2029

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**Prepared for:**

Kildare County Council



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Kildare County Council

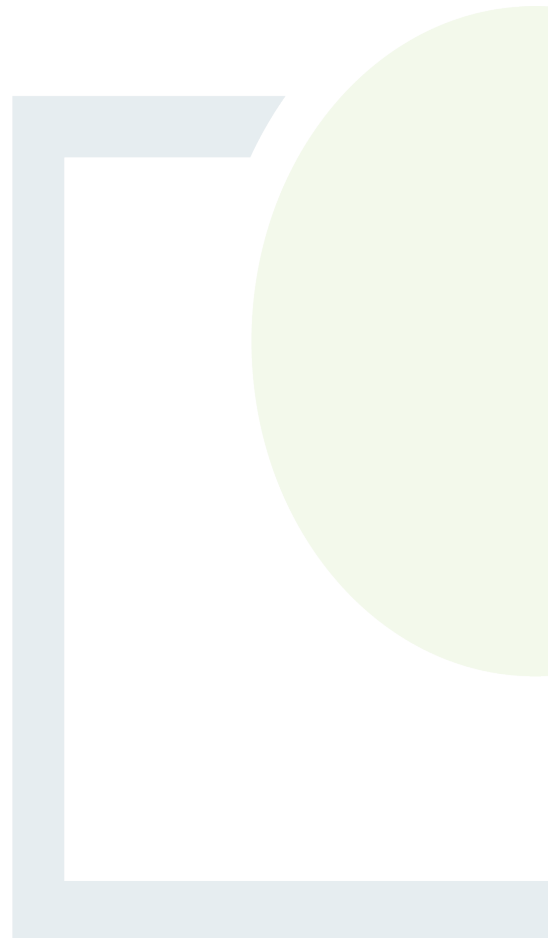
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## REVISION CONTROL TABLE, CLIENT, KEYWORDS AND ABSTRACT

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**Abstract:** This document is to inform the Kildare County Council in carrying out their statutory obligations relating to the Habitats Directive requirement for Appropriate Assessment for plans and projects seeking consent. Appropriate Assessment is required under Article 6 (3) of the Habitats Directive for any plan or project that may give rise to significant effects on a European (Natura 2000) site.



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1.</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Legislative Context .....	1
1.2	Methodology .....	2
1.2.1	Guidance .....	2
1.2.2	Process .....	2
<b>2.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAFT PLAN .....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1	Overview of the Kildare Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2029 .....	4
2.2	High-Level Goals and Objectives of the LECP .....	4
2.3	Relationship with other Relevant Plans and Programmes .....	11
<b>3.</b>	<b>SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT .....</b>	<b>13</b>
3.1	Introduction.....	13
3.2	Potential Effects of a Plan or Project that may give rise to effects on European Sites.....	13
3.3	Identification of Relevant European Sites .....	14
3.4	Plan Effects .....	17
3.5	Screening for Appropriate Assessment .....	59
3.6	Consideration of in-combination Effects with other plans or projects .....	74
<b>4.</b>	<b>SCREENING CONCLUSION.....</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>76</b>

## LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1      Background Information on European Sites

## LIST OF FIGURES

	<u>Page</u>
Figure 3-1: European sites with connectivity to the Plan area considered within the assessment process .....	15
Figure 3-2: Hydrological pathways supporting European site connectivity with the Plan area .....	16

## LIST OF TABLES

	<u>Page</u>
Table 2-1: Overview of High-Level Goals of the Kildare Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2029 .....	5
Table 3-1 Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each High-Level Goal and Objectives of the LECP 2024-2029 .....	18
Table 3-2: Identification of European Sites within the Zone of Influence of the Draft Plan.....	60



## 1. INTRODUCTION

Fehily Timoney and Company (FT) was commissioned by Kildare County Council to prepare an Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the Draft Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP). The LECP is a statutory Plan designed in compliance with the Local Government Reform Act, 2014, and the Guidelines for Local Economic and Community Plans, which aims to promote the economic and community development of the Local Authority Area over a six-year period between 2024 to 2029.

This report presents an examination of whether the proposed plan is likely to have a significant effect on a European site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) and is based on best available scientific knowledge. This report has been prepared to inform the competent authority in completing their statutory obligations in relation to Appropriate Assessment, as required by Article 6(3) under Council Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive).

### 1.1 Legislative Context

Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats Directive) provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The Directive requires that where a plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site, while not directly connected with or necessary to the nature conservation management of the site, it will be subject to 'Appropriate Assessment' to identify any implications for the European site in view of the site's Conservation Objectives. Specifically, Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive states:

*"6(3) Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (Natura 2000 sites) but likely to have significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public."*

The competent authority must carry out a screening for appropriate assessment to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge, if the development, individually or in combination with another plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on the European site. If it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site, an appropriate assessment of its implications for the European Site(s) in view of the Site's conservation objectives is required to be carried out.

The provisions of Article 6(3) do not apply where the proposed plan or project is 'connected with or necessary to the management of the site'. In this case, the proposed project is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site(s).



## 1.2 Methodology

### 1.2.1 Guidance

The assessment was conducted in accordance with the following guidance:

- Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg (European Commission, 2002).
- Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites - Methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. Commission Notice (2021) Brussels, 28.9.2021 C(2021) 6913 final (European Commission, 2021).
- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin (2009, updated 2010) (Environment Heritage and Local Government, 2009).
- Managing Natura 2000 sites. The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. European Commission (2019). Brussels, (2019/C 33/01). OJ C 33, 25.1.2019.
- Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats. Version EUR 28. (European Commission, 2013)
- OPR Practice Note PN01 Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management, (Office of the Planning Regulator, 2021).

### 1.2.2 Process

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

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

In the context of this report, a source is any identifiable element of the proposed Plan that is known to interact with the receiving environment. A receptor is the Qualifying Interests (QI)<sup>1</sup> for an SAC or Special Conservation Interests (SCI)<sup>2</sup> for an SPA or an ecological feature that is known to be utilised by the QI/SCI. In practice, the term Qualifying Interests also applies to SCIs (and is used in this document for simplicity). A pathway is any connection or link between the source and the receptor.

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<sup>1</sup> SACs are areas designated under the Habitats Directive to conserve habitats listed in Annex I of the Directive and plant and animal species listed in Annex II. Collectively these are referred to as the 'Qualifying Interests' or 'QIs' of the SAC.

<sup>2</sup> SPAs are sites classified under the Birds Directive to protect rare or vulnerable bird species listed in Annex I to the Directive as well as regularly occurring migratory species and wetlands. Wetland habitats that support internationally important populations of migratory birds may be coastal or inland. Collectively, these species and habitats are referred to as the 'Special Conservation Interests' of the SPA.



The European Commission Notice (2021) on the ‘Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites – Methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, states that in identifying European sites (Natural 2000 sites), which may be affected by the plan, the following should be identified:

- Any European sites geographically overlapping with any of the actions or aspects of the plan or project in any of its phases, or adjacent to them;
- Any European sites within the likely zone of influence of the plan or project. European sites located in the surroundings of the plan or project (or at some distance) that could still be indirectly affected by aspects of the plan, including as regards the use of natural resources (e.g., water) and various types of waste, discharge or emissions of substances or energy;
- European sites whose connectivity or ecological continuity can be affected by the plan or project.

The zone of influence of a proposed development is the geographical area over which it could affect the receiving environment in a way that could have potential effects on the Qualifying Interests of a European site. The OPR (2021) practice note states that the Zone of Influence must be established on a case-by-case basis using the Source-Pathway-Receptor (S-P-R) framework and not by arbitrary distances (such as 15 km).

Potential environmental effects of a plan or project that may give rise to impacts are identified in Section 3.2.

All European sites within the Zone of Influence of the Plan area or which are connected to the Plan area ecologically, hydrologically or through hydrogeology have been identified in Section 3.3.

An evaluation of potential environmental effects of Plan implementation is presented in Section 3.4.

An evaluation of the likelihood of Plan implementation having a significant effect on European sites relevant to the Plan is examined in Section 3.5 - having regard to the environmental effects of the Plan, pathways and identified receptors.

The potential for in-combination effects with other plans and projects is examined in Section 3.6, having regard to the identified impacts of the Plan.

Having regard to the European Commission Communication on the Precautionary Principle (European Commission, 2021) the:

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

Where significant effects are determined to be likely, or where there is uncertainty regarding the likelihood of significant effects, the plan or project will be required under law to be subjected to Appropriate Assessment.

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



## 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAFT PLAN

### 2.1 Overview of the Kildare Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2029

The Kildare LECP 2024-2029 was developed by Kildare County Council and their Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee (SPC), to replace the former LECP (2016-2021). In the interest of a strongly integrated, collaborative approach and a mutual understanding that a strong economy and strong communities are mutually beneficial, an Advisory Steering Group (ASG), composed of members from the LCDC, SPC, and other key agencies, was established to oversee the development of this LECP.

The purpose of the LECP is to, over a six-year period, identify goals, objectives, actions and outcomes to promote the economic and community development of the Kildare Local Authority Area, both by the Kildare County Council and other economic and community stakeholders. The LECP is an important way to set out how Kildare County Council and other stakeholders can work together to ensure that their initiatives, programmes, and projects support an improved quality of life for people living and working in the County. The draft vision of the Kildare LECP 2023-2029 is "*County Kildare; working together as a sustainable, fair, healthy, economically vibrant county for all.*"

As the framework for the economic development and local/community development of the Local Authority area, the LECP will also be the primary mechanism at local level to bring forward relevant actions arising from the proposed high-level goals and specific objectives in addition to other government policies. The high-level goals, objectives and outcomes within the LECP will have a direct effect on the services, supports and amenities in the Local Authority area.

A two-year implementation plan has been developed by the relevant Kildare County Council Departments and stakeholders. The implementation of the LECP has been delegated to relevant agencies/bodies, inclusive of, but not limited to, Kildare County Council. A collaborative approach between Kildare LCDC and SPC has been proposed for the implementation of their respective elements in the Plan. The ASG will be responsible for collating an LECP Monitoring and Implementation Team post adoption who will be supported by Kildare County Council staff.

### 2.2 High-Level Goals and Objectives of the LECP

A High-Level Goal is an idea of the future or a desired result that an individual, group or organisation plan and commit to achieve.

Four high-level goals and forty-eight objectives have been developed for the Plan. These goals and objectives were developed to be in alignment with policy objectives in the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029. These were developed having regard to findings and insights that emerged from socio-economic analyses and consultation with relevant stakeholders. The high-level goals seek to recognise the challenges the County will face over the lifetime of the new LECP and are broader in scope. The Objectives underpinning each of these Goals are more defined and measurable. Table 2-1 lists the High-Level Goals and Objectives as outlined in the LECP.



**Table 2-1: Overview of High-Level Goals of the Kildare Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2029**

High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective	Objective Category <sup>3</sup>
High Level Goal 1 - County Kildare is a PLACE with resilient communities where all people live full, healthy and inclusive lives	1.1 To advance the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 to progress a range of universally accessible, multi-use and inclusive social facilities. This includes community, arts/cultural, museums, enterprise, sports, family resource centres, childcare and recreational facilities in close proximity to the communities that they serve. These facilities will also support and promote social inclusion and enterprise development.	
	1.2 To increase the provision of children’s play facilities, teen spaces, sports fields, civic spaces, outdoor gyms, open space and adult exercise equipment in central locations that are accessible to all and promote social inclusion.	
	1.3 To support the ongoing development and upgrading of existing library facilities in central accessible locations and encourage their use as key facilitators of community, arts, educational, social and cultural activities.	
	1.4 To cater for the needs of all school-going children and young people across the county, particularly targeting high-growth areas, by actively planning for the expansion and building of centrally located schools that support sustainable transport access through continued collaboration with the Department of Education and Children and with Kildare Wicklow Education and Training Board and other applicable patrons.	
	1.5 To increase the range and types of childcare facilities across the county, particularly in high-growth areas, to enable children to develop equitably and to support parents to return to employment, education/training and caring duties.	

<sup>3</sup> Table Key

Community Objectives	
Economic Objectives	
Joint Objectives	



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective	Objective Category <sup>3</sup>
	1.6 To increase the provision and range of healthcare and eldercare facilities/ services across the county, particularly in areas of high growth and where service deficits are identified. These will respond to general healthcare requirements across the lifecycle and to specific health needs such as mental health, addiction and disability.	
	1.7 To continue to work with central Government, relevant State Agencies, local organisations and communities to support the provision of accommodation and other services for International Protection Applicants and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection from Ukraine and to support their longer-term economic and community inclusion.	
	1.8 To establish a comprehensive and integrated network of remote working hubs and identify suitable locations and support existing co-working facilities, digital hubs/e-hubs and e-working centres across the county, targeting city-based employers and promoting flexible, local working.	
	1.9 To promote and support economic development across the county, particularly targeting areas where economic engagement is weak and where traditional economic activity is no longer viable/sustainable, e.g., due to the closure of the peat industry.	
	1.10 To facilitate and support the expansion and sustainment of the retail offering in County Kildare.	
	1.11 To develop and promote Kildare as an attractive and age-friendly retail destination.	
	1.12 Encourage promotion of mixed-use developments and support dwellings over shopfront buildings to regenerate urban living and increase housing availability in towns and villages.	
	1.13 To provide high quality, accessible, sustainable and environmentally friendly housing to respond to the varied and strong housing demands in Kildare, particularly responding to those with specialist accommodation needs.	
	1.14 To progress policy outlined in Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 through the provision of appropriate infrastructure to promote sustainable development through facilitating movement to, from and through the County that is accessible to all and that prioritises walking, cycling and public transport.	
	1.15 Encourage and support Irish Rail and other transport agencies in the delivery of sustainable transport projects in the County such as Dart+West and Bus Connects project.	





High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective	Objective Category <sup>3</sup>
	1.16 To continue to develop the infrastructure of the Greenways/ Blueways/Peatways and their surrounding towns/villages across the county to support tourism and healthy lifestyles.	
	1.17 To support the safety of our citizens through the provision of Gardaí, fire and emergency services that are in line with the requirements of a county of our size.	
	1.18 To increase high-quality broadband and telecom infrastructure across the county.	
High Level Goal 2 - County Kildare nurtures its PEOPLE to reach their full potential and to enjoy a high quality of life at all stages	2.1 Through networks, including the Kildare Public Participation Network, Comhairle na nÓg, Older Persons Council, Disability Access Groups, Kildare Traveller Action, Kildare Volunteer Centre and other representative voluntary groups, meaningful engagement will be encouraged and supported to inform local community initiatives, planning and decision-making, as well as to promote social inclusion in line with national policy	
	2.2 To support people of all ages across Kildare, particularly in newly developing, socially excluded and expanding communities, to meet and engage in social, educational, health, employment, recreational, arts and cultural opportunities through a range of community development, social inclusion, community arts, education, health and other targeted programmes. This will develop local leadership, ownership, inclusion and a sense of pride and belonging in local communities.	
	2.3 To fully utilise libraries, museums and arts opportunities across Kildare to engage people, particularly those least likely to use them, in order to learn, develop new skills, meet new people, and build strong, inclusive communities.	
	2.4 To promote, encourage and support volunteering and to recognise its role in developing communities across Kildare.	
	2.5 To establish an ongoing awareness of the skills required by local enterprises. This will help educators and trainers to proactively support people into employment opportunities - particularly people and areas experiencing unemployment.	
	2.6 To encourage and support businesses across Kildare to become more accessible and proactively employ groups who experience challenges to engage in the labour force, e.g., long-term unemployed, older people, people with disabilities, people with low educational attainment, lone parents, ethnic minorities and Travellers.	



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective	Objective Category <sup>3</sup>
	2.7 To promote local entrepreneurship through models of clustering and support their ongoing development through integrated, accessible support services targeting micro, small business and social enterprises across the county.	
	2.8 To increase the competitiveness and productivity of small and micro enterprises and support the ambition of local businesses to scale and compete internationally.	
	2.9 To promote Kildare as the Thoroughbred County through the discovery, sharing and application of new knowledge that will enhance the health, performance and management of horses.	
	2.10 To encourage and support upskilling, job mobility and enterprise creation management.	
	2.11 To recognise, increase awareness of and embrace minority ethnic groups by listening and responding to their distinct needs. This will promote and support full inclusion in community and economic development across Kildare.	
	2.12 To develop and promote locally based festivals and cultural events across Kildare to support community engagement, pride and inclusion. Larger festivals such as Brigid 1500 will also serve to promote and support Kildare’s tourism potential.	
	2.13 To ensure that the developing smart economy and digital upskilling impacts towns and villages across the county, benefiting all communities - particularly areas and people that are traditionally excluded from technology (e.g., older people, people with low education levels, Travellers).	
	2.14 To progress the Kildare Climate Action Plan to embed the principles of sustainability and the circular economy through empowering local people, state agencies and businesses, particularly more vulnerable communities within the county, to make informed, sustainable, circular and climate-positive choices.	
	2.15 To promote and support the full utilisation of public transport and active travel as a means of accessing employment, education, recreation and other day-to-day activities.	
High Level Goal 3 - County Kildare promotes and prioritises CLIMATE	3.1 To increase the awareness and understanding of local communities to build their capacity for climate action and a just transition for economic and community development, particularly targeting more excluded groups/communities.	



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective	Objective Category <sup>3</sup>
ACTION, CLIMATE JUSTICE and SUSTAINABILITY	3.2 To support local businesses to become leaders in sustainable energy through the provision of energy efficiency training and supports. This will result in increased competitiveness.	
	3.3 To progress the implementation of the County Kildare Climate Action Plan with Kildare County Council as leaders in mitigating climate emissions and mainstreaming climate action in conjunction with the Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (CARO).	
	3.4 Support the Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan to ensure that the public transport network encourages and supports changes in demand for transport, improves regional connectivity, and provides an enhanced alternative to the private car.	
	3.5 To progress the objectives in the County Kildare Climate Action Plan to protect and enhance the natural environment and green infrastructure by supporting biodiversity and natural water systems, reducing the risk of negative impacts of climate change, and enhancing the health and wellbeing of all citizens.	
	3.6 To promote the design and delivery of environmentally sustainable and energy efficient housing, including through the refurbishment and upgrading of existing local authority housing stock.	
	3.7 Promote and support the development of eco-tourism, particularly in rural Kildare, to diversify farm income, increase use of the Barrow Blueway and Greenways, and increase employment opportunities in line with planning and environmental considerations.	
	3.8 That Kildare will be a leader in low-carbon development, with a focus on sustainable sectors including the circular/green economy, land use diversification and the potential of the bioeconomy, and that this leadership be recognised nationally and internationally.	
	3.9 That the Agricultural sector will be supported and will continue to be an important part of the county's economy while transitioning to reduce emissions and become more sustainable.	
High Level Goal 4 - County Kildare attracts the RESOURCES and	4.1 To fully utilise recently developed strategic plans highlighting the need for additional resourcing to respond to the needs of children, young people, older people, vulnerable communities, Family Resource Centres, Travellers, and other groups.	



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective	Objective Category <sup>3</sup>
INVESTMENT to be a sustainable, inclusive, economically vibrant community for all	4.2 To highlight and seek resourcing to expand education provision, particularly targeting secondary provision in the north and high-growth areas of the county. In addition to increasing the number of DEIS schools in the county.	
	4.3 To continue to highlight the need for ongoing, committed and sustainable resources to reduce social exclusion and to prevent further increases in the gap between affluence and poverty in the county.	
	4.4 To promote Kildare as the location of choice for new Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and support existing FDI companies in sustaining and expanding their business	
	4.5 To utilise the social infrastructure audits carried out as part of KCC Local Area Planning to allocate existing resources and work with Government Departments and Agencies to identify funding opportunities to inform funding applications to support community and economic development across the county.	
	4.6 To ensure that the systems are in place to collate and analyse accurate and timely data to inform resource priorities and allocations for business and community development across the county. This includes data to supplement the Haase deprivation index for Kildare.	



## 2.3 Relationship with other Relevant Plans and Programmes

The LECP has been informed by and is consistent with the aims and objectives of other plans, programmes and strategies that were or are being developed at international, national, regional and local levels. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals provide the overarching global framework for the policy context within which the LECP is situated. Other international and European Union policy that impact the LECP include the EU Green Deal and the Common Agricultural Policy.

The Kildare LECP is placed within a hierarchy of plans and strategies that were or are being developed at national, regional and local levels. These include but are not limited to:

### National Level

- Project Ireland 2040 : National Planning Framework 2018
- Project Ireland 2040: National Development Plan 2021-2030
- National Recovery and Resilience Plan
- Climate Action Plan 2024
- Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy
- National Volunteering Strategy 2021 – 2025
- Sustainable, Inclusive and Empowered Communities: A Five-Year Strategy to Support the Community and Voluntary Sector in Ireland 2019 – 2024
- Our Rural Future - Rural Development Strategy 2021-2025
- Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026
- Housing for All - a New Housing Plan for Ireland
- Heritage Ireland 2030: A Framework for Heritage (2022)
- Town Centre First: A Policy Approach for Irish Towns 2022
- Enterprise 2025 Strategy
- Action Plan for Jobs
- National Anti-Poverty Strategy
- Investing in Our Transport Future: A Strategic Framework for Investment in Land Transport
- Healthy Ireland Framework 2019-2025
- HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025
- National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017-2030
- People Place and Policy - Growing Tourism to 2025 (DTTAS, 2014)

### Regional and Local Level

- Eastern and Midland Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy 2019-2031
- Eastern Midlands Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021
- Mid-East Regional Enterprise Plan to 2024
- Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029
- Integrated Implementation Plan 2019-2024



- A Digital Strategy for County Kildare to 2025
- Greater Dublin Area (GDA) Transport Strategy 2022-2042
- Kildare County Council Corporate Procurement Plan 2022-2026
- Healthy Kildare Plan 2022-2026
- County Kildare Heritage Plan 2019-2025
- County Kildare Biodiversity Plan 2009-2014
- Kildare Hub Strategy 2022-2025
- Kildare Local Enterprise Development Plan 2021-2024
- Kildare Play Strategy 2018-2028
- County Childcare Committee Plan 2023-2026
- Kildare LEADER Local Development Strategy 2023-2027
- County Kildare Integration Strategy 2021-2026
- Age Friendly Kildare Strategy 2023-2027
- Kildare Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) Plan 2023-2027
- Kildare County Council's Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029
- Kildare County Council Corporate Plan 2019-2024
- Kildare Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023-2027
- Kildare Library Service Interim Development Plan 2020-2022
- Kildare Public Participation Network (PPN) Vision for Community Wellbeing Statement 2023
- Any other Local Area Plan Provisions responsible for the protection and management of the environment including environmental sensitivities



## 3. SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

### 3.1 Introduction

This section of the report examines if the proposed Plan is likely to have a significant effect upon European sites, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

### 3.2 Potential Effects of a Plan or Project that may give rise to effects on European Sites

European Commission guidance<sup>4</sup> outlines the types of effects that may affect European sites. These include effects from the following activities that may result from implementation of a plan or project:

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

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

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

The dominant ecological pathways to consider when evaluating how a plan or project may affect a European site are:

- Direct physical interactions or changes to the local environment;
- Air dispersal (noise, dust, odour emissions, smoke etc.);
- Hydrological interactions (from site run off after fire management); and
- Dispersal patterns of mobile species.

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



In order for effects on a European site to occur, as discussed in Section 1.2.2, all three elements of the S-P-R mechanism must be in place. The absence of one of the elements of the mechanism means there is no likelihood for the effect to occur.

### 3.3 Identification of Relevant European Sites

The OPR (2021) AA Screening practice note states that the Zone of Influence must be established on a case-by-case basis using the Source-Pathway-Receptor model. The S-P-R model has been used to identify the ZoI to ensure that relevant European sites are identified. The S-P-R model minimises the risk of overlooking distant or obscure effect pathways, while also avoiding an over reliance on buffer zones (e.g. 15 km), within which all European sites should be considered. This approach follows the DoEHLG (2009 rev 2010) guidance on AA which states that:

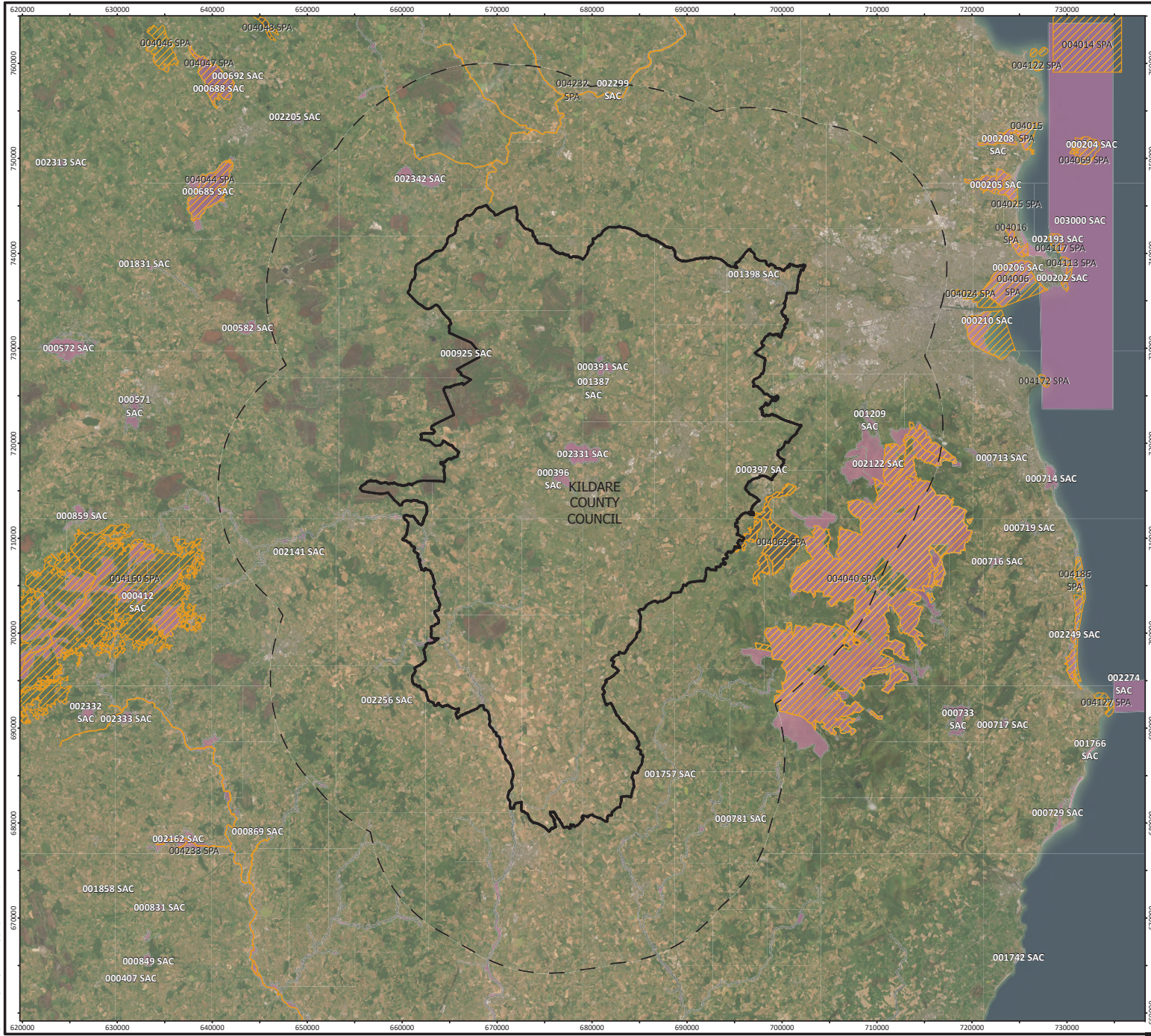
*“For projects, the distance could be much less than 15 km, and in some cases less than 100m, but this must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis with reference to the nature, size and location of the project, and the sensitivities of the ecological receptors, and the potential for in combination effects”*

All European sites within the Zone of Influence of the Plan area or which are connected to the Plan area ecologically, hydrologically or through hydrogeology have been identified - having appropriate regard to the interaction criteria defined in Section 3.2.

A map showing these European sites is presented in Figure 3-1. A map showing hydrological pathways supporting European site connectivity with the Plan area is presented in Figure 3-2. Background information on these European sites is presented in Appendix 1, including:

- Quality and site characteristics of European sites considered in the assessment.
- Background data for European sites considered in the assessment; including the Qualifying features (Qualifying Interests or Special Conservation Interests) and the known threats and pressures as recorded by the National Parks and Wildlife Services.
- Known threats and pressures related to the qualifying interests from each Special Area of Conservation as per article 17 reporting from the National Parks and Wildlife Services.
- Known threats and pressures related to the qualifying interests from each Special Area of Conservation as per article 17 reporting from the National Parks and Wildlife Services.





- Legend**
- Local Authority Boundaries
  - Local Authority Boundary - 15km Buffer
  - Special Protection Area (SPA)
  - Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

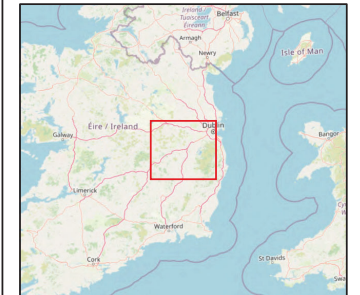
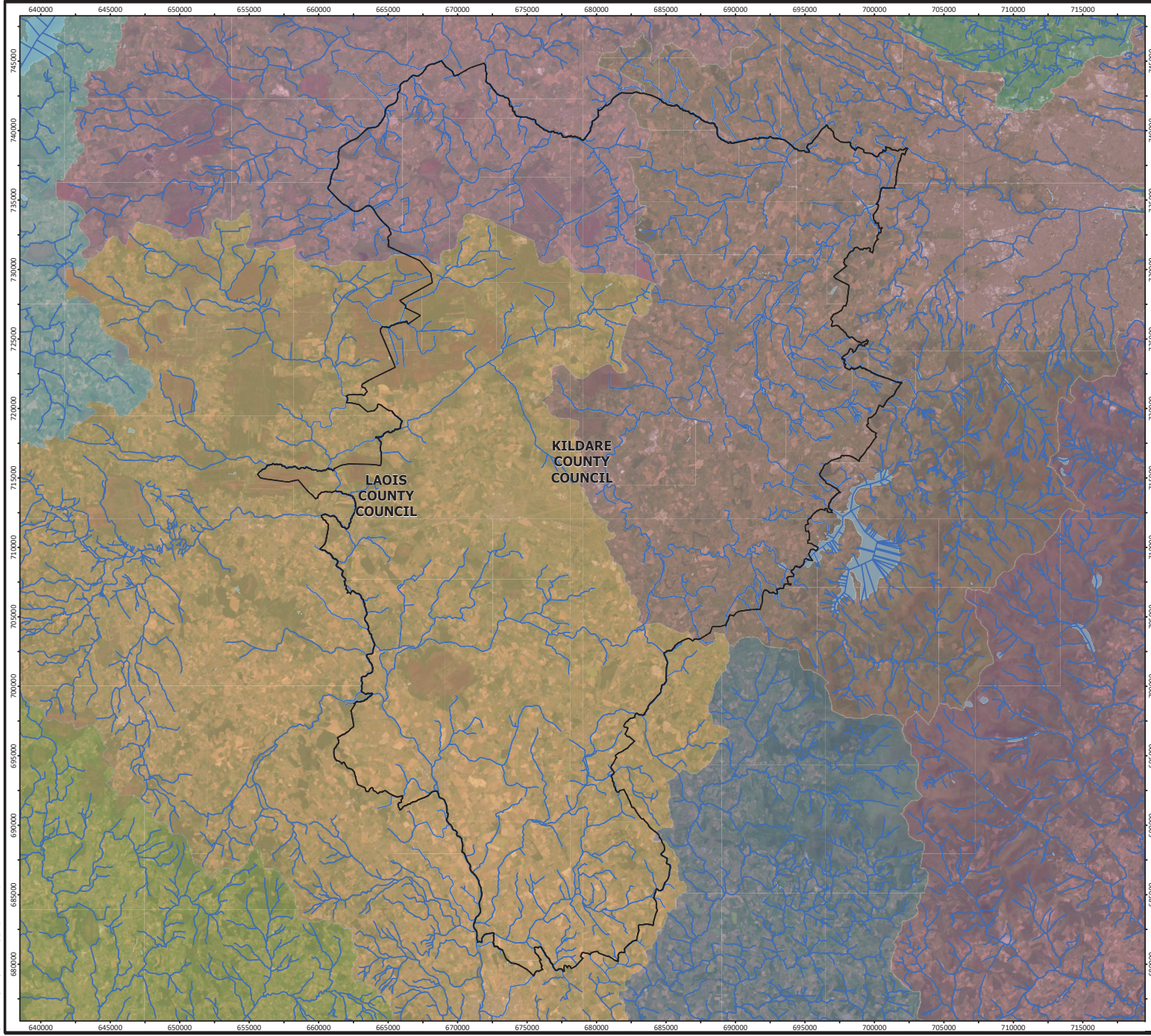
Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protected Areas	
KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL	
<b>FIGURE NO:</b>	3.1
<b>CLIENT:</b>	KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL
<b>DATE:</b>	15/08/2023
<b>SCALE:</b>	1:395,000 @ A3



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 File: R:\Map Production\2023\923-076\Workspaces\NMR\923\_076\_Fig\_3.1\_Special\_Areas\_of\_Conservation\_and\_Special\_Protected\_Areas\_Longford.aprx



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- Legend**
- Local Authority Boundaries
  - Rivers
- WFD Catchments**
- Catchment Name
- Barrow
  - Boyne
  - Liffey and Dublin Bay
  - Lower Shannon
  - Nanny-Delvin
  - Nore
  - Ovoca-Vartry
  - Slaney & Wexford Harbour

Hydrology	
KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL	
<b>FIGURE NO:</b>	3.2
<b>CLIENT:</b> KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL	
<b>DATE:</b> 15/08/2023	<b>SCALE:</b> 1:270,000 @ A3



### 3.4 Plan Effects

An evaluation of the potential environmental implications of each Objective underpinning the proposed High-Level Goals in the LECP has been undertaken to inform the AA Screening. This evaluation is presented in Table 3-1.





**Table 3-1 Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each High-Level Goal and Objectives of the LECP 2024-2029**

High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
<p>High Level Goal 1 - County Kildare is a PLACE with resilient communities where all people live full, healthy and inclusive lives</p>	<p>1.1 To advance the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 to progress a range of universally accessible, multi-use and inclusive social facilities. This includes community, arts/cultural, museums, enterprise, sports, family resource centres, childcare and recreational facilities in close proximity to the communities that they serve. These facilities will also support and promote social inclusion and enterprise development.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion. The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.1 is in harmony with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy's (RSES) Regional Policy Objectives (RPO) 9.13 (Healthy Placemaking), 9.14 and 9.17 (Recreation and Open Space), 9.20 (Childcare, Education and Life Long Learning) and 9.24 (Arts, Culture, Language and Heritage). The objective is furthermore consistent with Kildare CDP Policies SC P2, P3, and P5. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA.</p> <p>The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>The objective pertains to supporting and advancing proposed social facilities (as outlined in the Kildare CDP) and is an overall positive effect for the communities using those facilities.</p>

<sup>5</sup> Table Key

Community Objectives	
Economic Objectives	
Joint Objectives	



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>Supporting social inclusion and entrepreneurship in the County will benefit the local economy and contribute to the overall wellbeing and resilience in the communities. The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>1.2 To increase the provision of children’s play facilities, teen spaces, sports fields, civic spaces, outdoor gyms, open space and adult exercise equipment in central locations that are accessible to all and promote social inclusion.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion. The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.2 is in harmony with the RSES RPOs 9.16 and 9.17 (Recreation and Open Space) and Kildare CDP policy objectives SC P4. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>As the objective pertains to increasing the provision of sports facilities and playgrounds, this will have an overall positive effect on the physical and mental wellbeing of the communities using those facilities.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs.</p> <p>There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>1.3 To support the ongoing development and upgrading of existing library facilities in central accessible locations and encourage their use as key facilitators of community, arts, educational, social and cultural activities.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion. The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.3 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 9.14 (Recreation and Open Space) and 9.24 (Arts, Culture, Language and Heritage), and Kildare CDP policy objectives SC P10 and P11. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>The objective supports the development of library facilities in the County, which is positive for environmental receptors such as Population and Human Health and Cultural Heritage. The communities in the County will benefit from improved accessibility to available socio-economic supports. No land-use changes are associated with this objective.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>1.4 To cater for the needs of all school-going children and young people across the county, particularly targeting high-growth areas, by actively planning for the expansion and building of centrally located schools that support sustainable transport access through continued collaboration with the Department of</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>Education and Children and with Kildare Wicklow Education and Training Board and other applicable patrons.</p>	<p>The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.4 is in harmony with RSES RPO 9.21 (Childcare, Education and Life Long Learning) and Kildare CDP policy objective SC P12. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>The objective pertains to the development of education facilities in the county. County Kildare has seen unprecedented population growth and the key towns such as Maynooth and Naas will require centrally-located, well-connected schools to support the current and any future residents with school-going children. The objective will have an overall positive effect on the communities in County Kildare.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>1.5 To increase the range and types of childcare facilities across the county, particularly in high-growth areas, to enable children to develop equitably and to support parents to return to employment, education/training and caring duties.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion. The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.5 is in harmony with RSES RPO 9.20 (Childcare, Education and Life Long Learning) and Kildare CDP policy objective SC P13. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>The objective pertains to the development of childcare facilities in the county. County Kildare has seen unprecedented population growth and the key towns such as Maynooth and Naas will require childcare facilities to support the current and any future residents with young children to enable return to employment or education and other obligations. The objective will have an overall positive effect on the communities in County Kildare.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>1.6 To increase the provision and range of healthcare and eldercare facilities/ services across the county, particularly in areas of high growth and where service deficits are identified. These will respond to general healthcare requirements across the lifecycle and to specific health needs such as mental health, addiction and disability.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion. The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.6 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 9.12 and 9.13 (Healthy Placemaking), and 9.23 (Provision of Health Services) and Kildare CDP policy objectives SC P6 and P14. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>The objective intends to support the expansion of healthcare and elderly care facilities in the county, which will have an overall positive on the community, particularly for the elderly and vulnerable and marginalised groups. The objective ensures physical and mental wellbeing of these groups, in addition to addressing and reducing social exclusion.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change.</p>





High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>1.7 To continue to work with central Government, relevant State Agencies, local organisations and communities to support the provision of accommodation and other services for International Protection Applicants and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection from Ukraine and to support their longer-term economic and community inclusion.</p>	<p>The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p> <p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion. The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.7 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 9.3 and 9.6 (Housing) and Kildare CDP policy objective Housing HO P8. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>This objective focusses on advocacy, engagement and support, rather than supporting environmentally impactful development or activities not already provided for and considered under the land use planning framework or other plans.</p> <p>The objective intends to facilitate refugees and asylum seekers and their integration within their new communities through provision of stable accommodation and access to other services and supports. This will have a direct positive effect on social inclusivity and overall wellbeing of these vulnerable groups, and contribute to an overall positive effect on the communities. The objective is in complete alignment with existing housing policy framework and does not introduce any sources of environmental effects not already considered - by the SEA for the Kildare County Development Plan, for example.</p> <p>The provision of accommodation in this instance does not infer the carrying out of development not considered within the scope of the CDP. The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>1.8 To establish a comprehensive and integrated network of remote working hubs and identify suitable locations and support existing co-working facilities, digital hubs/e-hubs and e-working centres across the county, targeting city-based employers and promoting flexible, local working.</p>	<p>The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p> <p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion. The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.8 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 4.51 (Naas Key Town), 6.5 and 6.6 (Rural Economy), 6.29 (Technology and Innovation Poles - Anchors: Regional Scientific Centres), 6.30 (Smart Cities, Towns and Villages), and 6.31 (Innovation Policy), and Kildare CDP policy objectives Rural Economy (RE) P5, P6, and P8. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goals 1 and 3 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy and the Goal 2 of the Kildare Local Authority Climate Action Plan (LACAP) 2024-2029. The objective supports business development through improving access to spaces where people can work at. If implemented successfully, this will have an overall positive effect on the environment (Air and Climate in particular through the reduction in emissions associated with business travel) and wellbeing of the communities.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>1.9 To promote and support economic development across the county, particularly targeting areas where economic engagement is weak and where traditional economic activity is no longer viable/sustainable, e.g., due to the closure of the peat industry.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion.</p> <p>The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.9 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.2 (Unexpected Opportunities for Enterprise Development), 6.4 , 6.5, and 6.7 (Rural Economy), 6.38 (Anticipating Economic Structural Change), and 7.25 (Greenways, Blueways and Peatways), and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P1, P2, P3, P4, P7 and RD P1. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goals 1, 3 and 6 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy. The objective intends to identify gaps and weaknesses in the target areas where previously established industries may have extinguished and offer alternative livelihoods to the local community. This will have an overall positive effect on the local economy and the community without leading to any real environmental effects.</p> <p>This objective focusses on advocacy, engagement and support, rather than supporting environmentally impactful development or activities not already provided for and considered under the land use planning framework or other plans.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>1.10 To facilitate and support the expansion and sustainment of the retail offering in County Kildare.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion. The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.10 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 4.27 (Key Towns), 4.34 (Maynooth Key Town), 6.10 and 6.11 (Retail Strategies and Retail Planning Guidelines), and Kildare CDP policy objectives RET P1 and P2. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 7 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy. The objective intends to support existing retail operations and facilitate their expansion in a sustainable manner. If implemented successfully, this will lead to an overall positive effect on the local economy.</p> <p>This objective focusses on advocacy, engagement and support, rather than supporting environmentally impactful development or activities not already provided for and considered under the land use planning framework or other plans.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>1.11 To develop and promote Kildare as an attractive and age-friendly retail destination.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion. The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.11 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 4.27 (Key Towns), 4.34 (Maynooth Key Town), 6.10 and 6.11 (Retail Strategies and Retail Planning Guidelines), 9.12 and 9.13 (Healthy Placemaking), and Kildare CDP policy objectives RET P1, P2, and P4. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 7 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy. The objective will promote Kildare as an attractive destination for commerce. No land-use changes have been proposed as part of this objective. If implemented successfully, there will be positive economic effects without the possibility of any significant environmental effects.</p> <p>This objective focusses on advocacy, engagement and support, rather than supporting environmentally impactful development or activities not already provided for and considered under the land use planning framework or other plans. The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>1.12 Encourage promotion of mixed-use developments and support dwellings over shopfront buildings to regenerate urban living and increase housing availability in towns and villages.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.12 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 4.36 (Maynooth Key Town) and 6.14 (Town Centre Renewal), and Kildare CDP policy objectives RET P1 and P2 and HO P5. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP, but aligns with the promotion of mixed-use developments and urban regeneration to address housing challenges in the County.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>1.13 To provide high quality, accessible, sustainable and environmentally friendly housing to respond to the varied and strong housing demands in Kildare, particularly responding to those with specialist accommodation needs.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion. The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.13 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 5.4 and 5.5 (MASP Housing and Regeneration), and 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, and 9.6 (Housing), and Kildare CDP policy objectives SC P7 and HO P3, P7, and P8. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP, instead aligning with and emphasising on the need to address housing challenges and needs in the County. If implemented successfully, this will have an overall positive effect on communities and the environment.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 2 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>1.14 To progress policy outlined in Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 through the provision of appropriate infrastructure to promote sustainable development through facilitating movement to, from and through the County that is accessible to all and that prioritises walking, cycling and public transport.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion.</p> <p>The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.14 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 5.3 (MASP Sustainable Transport), 8.2 and 8.3 (Integration of Transport and Land Use Planning), 8.13 (Rural Transport Programme), 9.1 (Diverse and Inclusive Region), and 9.10 (Healthy Placemaking), and Kildare CDP policy objectives TM P1 and P3. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 8 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy and Goal 2 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. The objective focuses on the delivery of sustainable modes of transport, which, if implemented successfully, will lead to positive effects on the environment.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>



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	<p>1.15 Encourage and support Irish Rail and other transport agencies in the delivery of sustainable transport projects in the County such as Dart+West and Bus Connects project.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion. The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.15 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 5.2 (MASP Sustainable Transport), 8.8 (Rail Infrastructure) and 8.9 (Bus Infrastructure), and Kildare CDP policy objective TM P3.</p> <p>Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 2 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. The objective focuses on the delivery of sustainable modes of transport, which, if implemented successfully, will lead to positive effects on the environment.</p> <p>This objective focusses on advocacy, engagement and support, rather than supporting environmentally impactful development or activities or other plans.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>1.16 To continue to develop the infrastructure of the Greenways/ Blueways/Peatways and their surrounding towns/villages across the county to support tourism and healthy lifestyles.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion.</p>





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		<p>The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.16 is in harmony with RSES RPO 7.24 and 7.25 (Greenways, Blueways and Peatways) and Kildare CDP policy objectives TM P1, P2, and P3, and RE P19, P20 and P21. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP, but aligns on the need to develop sustainable infrastructure in the County to support physical and mental wellbeing of the public. If implemented successfully, there will positive effects on both the environment and the people.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 6 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy and Goals 3 and 4 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP, other inter-related plans and programmes and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>1.17 To support the safety of our citizens through the provision of Gardaí, fire and emergency services that are in line with the requirements of a county of our size.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion. The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.17 is in harmony with Kildare CDP policy objective SC P15. The Kildare CDP has been subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP. The objective does not propose any land-use changes. It focuses on the building capability within the emergency services in the County for public wellbeing.</p>



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		<p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>1.18 To increase high-quality broadband and telecom infrastructure across the county.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 1 is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031) which prioritises placemaking and the mitigation of poverty and social exclusion.</p> <p>The goal is additionally consistent with the Kildare CDP and the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy, which emphasise on the 10-minute town and the need for continued investment and retain industry.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 1.18 is in harmony with RSES RPO 8.25 (Communications Networks and Digital Infrastructure) and Kildare CDP policy objective EC P22. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP. It emphasises on the essentiality of telecom infrastructure for supporting access to information and enable people in decision-making. If implemented successfully, this will have positive effects on the local community and economy.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 3 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy and Goal 2 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>



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<p>High Level Goal 2 - County Kildare nurtures its PEOPLE to reach their full potential and to enjoy a high quality of life at all stages</p>	<p>2.1 Through networks, including the Kildare Public Participation Network, Comhairle na nÓg, Older Persons Council, Disability Access Groups, Kildare Traveller Action, Kildare Volunteer Centre and other representative voluntary groups, meaningful engagement will be encouraged and supported to inform local community initiatives, planning and decision-making, as well as to promote social inclusion in line with national policy</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 2.1 is in harmony with RSES RPO 9.18 (Social and Economic Opportunity) and Kildare CDP policy objectives SC P1, P3, P7, and P8 and UD P1. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 4 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. The objective focuses on stakeholder engagement for informing decision-making regarding social inclusion.</p> <p>If implemented successfully, there will be positive social and economic effects, while foregoing the possibility of any adverse environmental effects.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>2.2 To support people of all ages across Kildare, particularly in newly developing, socially excluded and expanding communities, to meet and engage in social, educational, health, employment, recreational, arts and cultural opportunities through a range of community development, social inclusion, community arts, education,</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>health and other targeted programmes. This will develop local leadership, ownership, inclusion and a sense of pride and belonging in local communities.</p>	<p>Sustainable Objective 2.2 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 9.14 and 9.15 (Recreation and Open Space), and 9.18 (Social and Economic Opportunity) and Kildare CDP policy objectives SC P3, P4, P5, P7, P8, and P9. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>The objective focuses on community engagement and improvement of social inclusion and public wellbeing. If implemented successfully, there will be positive social and economic effects, while foregoing the possibility of any adverse environmental effects.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>2.3 To fully utilise libraries, museums and arts opportunities across Kildare to engage people, particularly those least likely to use them, in order to learn, develop new skills, meet new people, and build strong, inclusive communities.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 2.3 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 9.24 and 9.25 (Arts, Culture, Language and Heritage) and Kildare CDP policy objectives SC P10 and P11. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>The objective focuses on community engagement and improvement of social inclusion and public wellbeing through the maximisation of available public services. If implemented successfully, there will be positive social and economic effects, while foregoing the possibility of any adverse environmental effects.</p>



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		<p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>2.4 To promote, encourage and support volunteering and to recognise its role in developing communities across Kildare.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 2.4 is in harmony with RSES RPO 9.18 (Social and Economic Opportunity) and Kildare CDP policy objective SC P1.</p> <p>Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>The objective focuses on community engagement through volunteering initiatives. If implemented successfully, there will be positive social and economic effects, while foregoing the possibility of any adverse environmental effects.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>2.5 To establish an ongoing awareness of the skills required by local enterprises. This will help educators and trainers to proactively support people into employment opportunities -</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>particularly people and areas experiencing unemployment.</p>	<p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 2.5 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.25 and 6.27 (Skills and Innovation) and 9.22 (Childcare, Education and Life Long Learning) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P2, P3, and P4. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 1 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy. The objective intends to identify the gaps in the labour market and the skills required to fill them, which will enable people seeking employment in choosing professional paths. If implemented successfully, there will be positive effects for the community and local economy, while foregoing the possibility of any adverse environmental effects.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>2.6 To encourage and support businesses across Kildare to become more accessible and proactively employ groups who experience challenges to engage in the labour force, e.g., long-term unemployed, older people, people with disabilities, people with low educational attainment, lone parents, ethnic minorities and Travellers.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>Sustainable Objective 2.6 is in harmony with RSES RPO 6.28 (Social Enterprise) ) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P2, P3, P4. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA.</p> <p>The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 1 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy. The objective focuses on businesses becoming more inclusive by employing groups that typically struggle with assimilating into the work force. If implemented successfully, there will be positive effects for the community and local economy, while foregoing the possibility of any adverse environmental effects.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>2.7 To promote local entrepreneurship through models of clustering and support their ongoing development through integrated, accessible support services targeting micro, small business and social enterprises across the county.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 2.7 is in harmony with RSES RPO 6.31 (Innovation Capacity) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P1, P2, P5, and P7. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 1 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy and Goals 2 and 5 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029.</p>



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		<p>This objective supports business development. If successfully implemented, it will generate positive economic effects, however it will not lead to any real environmental effect. It should be noted that the term 'innovative clusters' relates to engagement and communication networks (and not development).</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>2.8 To increase the competitiveness and productivity of small and micro enterprises and support the ambition of local businesses to scale and compete internationally.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 2.8 is in harmony with RSES RPO 6.31 (Innovation Capacity) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P4 and P7. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 1 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy. The objective plans to enable micro and small businesses to become more competitive in the market through improved productivity. If implemented successfully, there will be positive effects for the community and local economy, while foregoing the possibility of any adverse environmental effects.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>





High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>2.9 To promote Kildare as the Thoroughbred County through the discovery, sharing and application of new knowledge that will enhance the health, performance and management of horses.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 2.9 is in harmony with RSES RPO 6.34 (Branding) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P14 and RD P3 and P4. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 4 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy. The objective intends to build on County Kildare's reputation for breeding and racing of Thoroughbred horses via continued research and knowledge dissemination for enhancing the horses' performance and management. If implemented successfully, there will be positive effects for the local economy, while foregoing the possibility of any adverse environmental effects.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>2.10 To encourage and support upskilling, job mobility and enterprise creation management.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 2.10 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.21 (Identification of Destination Towns) and 6.25 (Skills and Innovation), and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P1, P2, and P4 and RD P1. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 1 and 3 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy. The objective focuses on training and building capability within the work force, which will facilitate socioeconomic mobility and expand the labour market. If implemented successfully, there will be positive effects for the communities and local economy, while foregoing the possibility of any adverse environmental effects.</p> <p>This objective focusses on advocacy, engagement and support, rather than supporting environmentally impactful development or activities not already provided for and considered under the land use planning framework or other plans. The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>2.11 To recognise, increase awareness of and embrace minority ethnic groups by listening and responding to their distinct needs. This will promote and support full inclusion in community and economic development across Kildare.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>Sustainable Objective 2.11 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.25 and 6.26 (Skills and Innovation) and Kildare CDP policy objectives SC P3 and P8. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 1 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy. The objective focuses on the empowerment and social inclusivity of marginalised groups through engagement. This will lead to improved comprehension of their needs and consequently, improved and tailored social supports to facilitate their participation in community and economic activities. No likelihood of significant adverse environmental effects were identified.</p> <p>This objective focusses on advocacy, engagement and support, rather than supporting environmentally impactful development or activities not already provided for and considered under the land use planning framework or other plans. The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>2.12 To develop and promote locally based festivals and cultural events across Kildare to support community engagement, pride and inclusion. Larger festivals such as Brigid 1500 will also serve to promote and support Kildare’s tourism potential.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 2.12 is in harmony with Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P23. The Kildare CDP was subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 6 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>The objective will result in positive effects for the community, the local economy and cultural heritage, while foregoing the possibility of any real environmental effects.</p> <p>This objective provides for support related to festivals within the county; however, it does not specify any spatial detail in this regard beyond what is already provided for in the CDP. Festivals may generate environmental effects however these are already considered under the SEA of the Kildare CDP, and in particular within the scope of existing/new festivals supported under policy objective RE P23 in the CDP. Objective RE O166 contained in the CDP supports the carrying out of festival whilst having due regards to environmental matters.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>2.13 To ensure that the developing smart economy and digital upskilling impacts towns and villages across the county, benefiting all communities - particularly areas and people that are traditionally excluded from technology (e.g., older people, people with low education levels, Travellers).</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 2.13 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.25 and 6.27 (Skills and Innovation), and 6.30 (Smart Cities, Towns and Villages) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P8. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 3 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy and Goal 5 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. The objective plans to ensure that the benefits of the growing digital economy does not exclude groups that may traditionally be limited in accessing technology.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>The objective will result in positive effects for the community and the local economy, while foregoing the possibility of any real environmental effects.</p> <p>This objective focusses on advocacy, engagement and support, rather than supporting environmentally impactful development or activities not already provided for and considered under the land use planning framework or other plans.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>2.14 To progress the Kildare Climate Action Plan to embed the principles of sustainability and the circular economy through empowering local people, state agencies and businesses, particularly more vulnerable communities within the county, to make informed, sustainable, circular and climate-positive choices.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 2.14 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 7.32 and 7.33 (Climate Change) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RD P8. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>The objective is in direct support of Goals 4 and 5 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. However, the objective in itself supports the overall implementation of the Local Authority Climate Action Plan, which will lead to an overall positive effect for the environment.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>2.15 To promote and support the full utilisation of public transport and active travel as a means of accessing employment, education, recreation and other day-to-day activities.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 2 recognises the role of quality of life to supporting sustainable regional development and is reflective of the RSES's and Kildare CDP's aim to create a sustainable and competitive region supporting the health and wellbeing of the community and improving access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 2.15 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 8.2 (Integration of Transport and Land Use Planning), 8.7 (Mobility Management and Travel Plans), and 9.10 (Healthy Placemaking) and Kildare CDP policy objectives TM P1, P2, P3, and P4. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goals 2 and 4 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. The objective intends to support the use of public transport, which is a more sustainable travel option over the private car and will have a positive impact on environmental receptors such as Air and Climate. No likelihood of significant environmental effects was identified in relation to this objective.</p> <p>This objective focusses on advocacy, engagement and support, rather than supporting environmentally impactful development or activities not already provided for and considered under the land use planning framework or other plans. The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
<p>High Level Goal 3 - County Kildare promotes and prioritises CLIMATE ACTION, CLIMATE</p>	<p>3.1 To increase the awareness and understanding of local communities to build their capacity for climate action and a just transition for economic and community development, particularly</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
JUSTICE and SUSTAINABILITY	targeting more excluded groups/communities.	<p>The overarching High-Level Goal 3 recognises the need to prioritise climate change and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy and society.</p> <p>The Kildare LACAP 2024-2029 was developed in tandem with this LECP and provides a clear analysis to connect relevant strategies and objectives to inform the climate priorities for County Kildare. The High-Level Goal intends to ensure that vulnerable or marginalised communities, people or businesses are not excluded or disproportionately impacted by the transition to a more carbon-neutral County.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 3.1 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 7.32 and 7.33 (Climate Change) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P12. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goals 4 and 5 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. The objective pertains to increasing awareness and comprehension within the communities regarding climate action, and the transition to a more sustainable and equitable economy through targeted actions aimed at more excluded groups and communities. If implemented successfully, there will be positive social and economic effects without the likelihood of significant effects on the environment.</p> <p>This objective focusses on advocacy, engagement and support, rather than supporting environmentally impactful development or activities not already provided for and considered under the land use planning framework or other plans.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	3.2 To support local businesses to become leaders in sustainable energy through the provision of energy efficiency training and supports. This will result in increased competitiveness.	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 3 recognises the need to prioritise climate change and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy and society.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>The Kildare LACAP 2024-2029 was developed in tandem with this LECP and provides a clear analysis to connect relevant strategies and objectives to inform the climate priorities for County Kildare.</p> <p>The High-Level Goal intends to ensure that vulnerable or marginalised communities, people or businesses are not excluded or disproportionately impacted by the transition to a more carbon-neutral County.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 3.2 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.23 (Low Carbon and Circular Economy), 7.35 (Decarbonising the Energy Sector) and 10.19 (Energy Infrastructure) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P5, P6 and P12. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 8 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy and Goals 4 and 5 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. The objective pertains to training local businesses in becoming more sustainable and boosting economic competitiveness. If implemented successfully, there will be positive effects on Air and Climate and positive socio-economic effects. No likelihood of significant adverse environmental effects were identified.</p> <p>This objective focusses on advocacy, engagement and support, rather than supporting environmentally impactful development or activities not already provided for and considered under the land use planning framework or other plans.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>3.3 To progress the implementation of the County Kildare Climate Action Plan with Kildare County Council as leaders in mitigating climate emissions and mainstreaming climate action in conjunction with the Eastern and</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 3 recognises the need to prioritise climate change and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy and society.</p>





High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (CARO).</p>	<p>The Kildare LACAP 2024-2029 was developed in tandem with this LECP and provides a clear analysis to connect relevant strategies and objectives to inform the climate priorities for County Kildare.</p> <p>The High-Level Goal intends to ensure that vulnerable or marginalised communities, people or businesses are not excluded or disproportionately impacted by the transition to a more carbon-neutral County.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 3.3 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 7.32 and 7.33 (Climate Change) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P12. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 1 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. The objective will support the implementation of the Plan in collaboration with relevant stakeholders and does not propose any land-use changes. If implemented successfully, there will be an overall positive effect on the environment.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>3.4 Support the Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan to ensure that the public transport network encourages and supports changes in demand for transport, improves regional connectivity, and provides an enhanced alternative to the private car.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 3 recognises the need to prioritise climate change and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy and society. The Kildare LACAP 2024-2029 was developed in tandem with this LECP and provides a clear analysis to connect relevant strategies and objectives to inform the climate priorities for County Kildare. The High-Level Goal intends to ensure that vulnerable or marginalised communities, people or businesses are not excluded or disproportionately impacted by the transition to a more carbon-neutral County.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>Sustainable Objective 3.4 is in harmony with RSES RPO 8.13 (Rural Transport Programme) and Kildare CDP policy objectives TM P1, P2 and P3. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 2 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. The objective intends to support the use and expansion of public transport network across the country. Improved regional connectivity will offer a more sustainable alternative to the private car, and this will lead to positive effects on environmental receptors such as Air and Climate and Population and Human Health. No likelihood of significant environmental effects was identified in relation to this objective.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>3.5 To progress the objectives in the County Kildare Climate Action Plan to protect and enhance the natural environment and green infrastructure by supporting biodiversity and natural water systems, reducing the risk of negative impacts of climate change, and enhancing the health and wellbeing of all citizens.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 3 recognises the need to prioritise climate change and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy and society. The Kildare LACAP 2024-2029 was developed in tandem with this LECP and provides a clear analysis to connect relevant strategies and objectives to inform the climate priorities for County Kildare. The High-Level Goal intends to ensure that vulnerable or marginalised communities, people or businesses are not excluded or disproportionately impacted by the transition to a more carbon-neutral County.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 3.5 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 7.16 (Biodiversity and Natural Heritage), and 7.32, 7.33, and 7.34 (Climate Change) and Kildare CDP policy objectives BI P1. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in direct support of Goal 3 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>However, the objective in itself supports the overall implementation of the Local Authority Climate Action Plan, which will lead to positive effects on all environmental receptors.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>3.6 To promote the design and delivery of environmentally sustainable and energy efficient housing, including through the refurbishment and upgrading of existing local authority housing stock.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 3 recognises the need to prioritise climate change and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy and society. The Kildare LACAP 2024-2029 was developed in tandem with this LECP and provides a clear analysis to connect relevant strategies and objectives to inform the climate priorities for County Kildare. The High-Level Goal intends to ensure that vulnerable or marginalised communities, people or businesses are not excluded or disproportionately impacted by the transition to a more carbon-neutral County.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 3.6 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 7.40 and 7.41 (Low Energy Buildings), and Kildare CDP policy objectives HO P7 and UD P2. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 2 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. The objective underpins proposed actions in the Kildare CDP and emphasizes the need for sustainable housing in the County. This will be achieved through the combination of refurbishment and upgrading of existing stock and development of new stock and will have positive effects on the community and local economy.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change.</p> <p>The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>3.7 Promote and support the development of eco-tourism, particularly in rural Kildare, to diversify farm income, increase use of the Barrow Blueway and Greenways, and increase employment opportunities in line with planning and environmental considerations.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 3 recognises the need to prioritise climate change and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy and society. The Kildare LACAP 2024-2029 was developed in tandem with this LECP and provides a clear analysis to connect relevant strategies and objectives to inform the climate priorities for County Kildare. The High-Level Goal intends to ensure that vulnerable or marginalised communities, people or businesses are not excluded or disproportionately impacted by the transition to a more carbon-neutral County.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 3.7 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.16 (Natural and Cultural Tourism Assets), 6.23 (Low Carbon and Circular Economy), 6.24 (Agriculture), and 7.24 and 7.25 (Greenways, Blueways and Peatways), and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P19. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 3 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. The development of sustainable, environmentally-friendly tourism initiatives will have positive effects for communities and the local economy.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>3.8 That Kildare will be a leader in low-carbon development, with a focus on sustainable sectors including the circular/green economy, land use diversification and the potential of the</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>bioeconomy, and that this leadership be recognised nationally and internationally.</p>	<p>The overarching High-Level Goal 3 recognises the need to prioritise climate change and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy and society. The Kildare LACAP 2024-2029 was developed in tandem with this LECP and provides a clear analysis to connect relevant strategies and objectives to inform the climate priorities for County Kildare. The High-Level Goal intends to ensure that vulnerable or marginalised communities, people or businesses are not excluded or disproportionately impacted by the transition to a more carbon-neutral County.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 3.8 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.23 (Low Carbon and Circular Economy) and 6.24 (Agriculture) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P12. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 8 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy and Goal 5 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. The objective intends to support the transition to a low-carbon economy, which is a positive effect for all environmental receptors. No likelihood of significant environmental effects was identified.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>3.9 That the Agricultural sector will be supported and will continue to be an important part of the county's economy while transitioning to reduce emissions and become more sustainable.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 3 recognises the need to prioritise climate change and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy and society. The Kildare LACAP 2024-2029 was developed in tandem with this LECP and provides a clear analysis to connect relevant strategies and objectives to inform the climate priorities for County Kildare. The High-Level Goal intends to ensure that vulnerable or marginalised communities, people or businesses are not excluded or disproportionately impacted by the transition to a more carbon-neutral County.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>Sustainable Objective 3.8 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.23 (Low Carbon and Circular Economy) and 6.24 (Agriculture) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P13. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 5 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy and Goal 3 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029. Ireland's agrarian economy will require consideration in its transition to a low-carbon economy and the objective intends to support the agricultural industry in County Kildare in doing so.</p> <p>Subject to successful implementation, there will be positive effects on the environment, economy and communities.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
<p>High Level Goal 4 - County Kildare attracts the RESOURCES and INVESTMENT to be a sustainable, inclusive, economically vibrant community for all</p>	<p>4.1 To fully utilise recently developed strategic plans highlighting the need for additional resourcing to respond to the needs of children, young people, older people, vulnerable communities, Family Resource Centres, Travellers, and other groups.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 4 pertains to resourcing and investment to ensure that the actions for fostering sustainable community and economic development in County Kildare over the next six years can be implemented. This will involve securing, appropriately directing and maximising existing public and private sector funding.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 4.1 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.35 (Bidding Capacity), 9.13 (Healthy Placemaking), 9.14, 9.15 and 9.17 (Recreation and Open Space), 9.19 (Recreation and Open Space), 9.20 and 9.21 (Childcare, Education and Life Long Learning), and 9.23 (Provision of Health Services) and Kildare CDP policy objectives SC P1, P2, P8, P10, P11, P13, and P14. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>The objective intends to maximise the potential of existing strategic plans to plan and obtain resources for the varied needs of communities in County Kildare. If implemented successfully, positive economic effects will be generated without the likelihood of any significant environmental effects.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>4.2 To highlight and seek resourcing to expand education provision, particularly targeting secondary provision in the north and high-growth areas of the county. In addition to increasing the number of DEIS schools in the county.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 4 pertains to resourcing and investment to ensure that the actions for fostering sustainable community and economic development in County Kildare over the next six years can be implemented. This will involve securing, appropriately directing and maximising existing public and private sector funding.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 4.2 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 9.18 (Social and Economic Opportunity) and 9.21 (Childcare, Education and Life Long Learning) and Kildare CDP policy objectives SC P12. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Resourcing educational supports will result in a more resilient and economically capable community. The addition of Delivery Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS) Schools will enable students from disadvantaged areas in achieving their Leaving Certificate. If implemented successfully, it will generate positive economic effects, while foregoing the possibility of any real environmental effects.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>4.3 To continue to highlight the need for ongoing, committed and sustainable resources to reduce social exclusion and to prevent further increases in the gap between affluence and poverty in the county.</p>	<p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p> <p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 4 pertains to resourcing and investment to ensure that the actions for fostering sustainable community and economic development in County Kildare over the next six years can be implemented. This will involve securing, appropriately directing and maximising existing public and private sector funding.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 4.3 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.35 (Bidding Capacity), 9.18 and 9.19 (Social and Economic Opportunity) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P3. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA.</p> <p>This objective focusses on advocacy, engagement and support, rather than supporting environmentally impactful development or activities not already provided for and considered under the land use planning framework or other plans.</p> <p>The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP. It intends to highlight the requirement of resources for addressing and reducing social exclusion and poverty in the County. If implemented successfully, it will generate positive economic effects, while foregoing the possibility of any real environmental effects.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>





High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>4.4 To promote Kildare as the location of choice for new Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and support existing FDI companies in sustaining and expanding their business</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 4 pertains to resourcing and investment to ensure that the actions for fostering sustainable community and economic development in County Kildare over the next six years can be implemented. This will involve securing, appropriately directing and maximising existing public and private sector funding.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 4.4 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.34 (Branding) and 6.35 (Bidding Capacity) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE O54. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>Moreover, the objective is in support of Goal 2 of the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy and Goal 2 of the Kildare LACAP 2024-2029.</p> <p>The objective will promote County Kildare as an attractive location for commerce and support growth of existing businesses. If implemented successfully, it will generate positive economic effects, while foregoing the possibility of any real environmental effects.</p> <p>This objective focusses on advocacy, engagement and support, rather than supporting environmentally impactful development or activities not already provided for and considered under the land use planning framework or other plans. The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>4.5 To utilise the social infrastructure audits carried out as part of KCC Local Area Planning to allocate existing resources and work with Government Departments and Agencies to identify</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
	<p>funding opportunities to inform funding applications to support community and economic development across the county.</p>	<p>The overarching High-Level Goal 4 pertains to resourcing and investment to ensure that the actions for fostering sustainable community and economic development in County Kildare over the next six years can be implemented. This will involve securing, appropriately directing and maximising existing public and private sector funding.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 4.3 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.35 (Bidding Capacity), 9.18 and 9.19 (Social and Economic Opportunity) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P3. Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>The objective has been additionally linked to enabling the action 'Bidding Capacity for Funds' in the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy. The objective does not propose any land-use objectives, instead focusing on research and analysis to inform decision-making and resource allocation in business and community development in the County. If implemented successfully, it will generate positive economic effects, while foregoing the possibility of any real environmental effects.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>
	<p>4.6 To ensure that the systems are in place to collate and analyse accurate and timely data to inform resource priorities and allocations for business and community development across the county. This includes data to supplement the Haase deprivation index for Kildare.</p>	<p>The objectives within the LECP have been informed by and are consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level, as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at an international level.</p> <p>The overarching High-Level Goal 4 pertains to resourcing and investment to ensure that the actions for fostering sustainable community and economic development in County Kildare over the next six years can be implemented. This will involve securing, appropriately directing and maximising existing public and private sector funding.</p> <p>Sustainable Objective 4.6 is in harmony with RSES RPOs 6.35 (Bidding Capacity) and 9.18 (Social and Economic Opportunity) and Kildare CDP policy objectives RE P3.</p>



High Level Goal	Sustainable Objective and Category <sup>5</sup>	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of LECP Objectives
		<p>Both Plans were subject to full SEA and AA. The objective does not propose any developments outside what has been proposed within the Kildare CDP.</p> <p>The objective has been additionally linked to enabling the action 'Bidding Capacity for Funds' in the Kildare 2025 Economic Development Strategy. The objective does not propose any land-use objectives, instead focusing on data management and analysis to inform decision-making and resource allocation in business and community development in the County. If implemented successfully, it will generate positive economic effects, while foregoing the possibility of any real environmental effects.</p> <p>The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land-use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the CDP and all relevant LAPs. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and associated environmental assessments.</p>

### Summary of Plan Effects

The purpose of the LECP is to outline a series of objectives and actions for supporting and promoting the sustainable economic and community development in Kildare County over the six-year period of 2024 to 2029. The Plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives but instead focuses on actions that enhance the social, economic, and environmental wellbeing of the County.

The LECP provides a guiding framework through which stakeholders can engage and collaborate to achieve the outlined goals and objectives, and as such, does not define a detailed framework for projects and other activities that may give rise to environmental effects - in relation to their location, nature, size, operating conditions or allocation of resources.

The Plan does not introduce sources of environmental effect outside the scope of what has already been considered in inter-related plans such as the County Development Plan. The Plan will not have any environmental effect on European sites.

### 3.5 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Table 3.1 examines whether there is potential for effects on identified European sites considering information provided above and the background information on the relevant European sites provided in Appendix 1.



**Table 3-2: Identification of European Sites within the Zone of Influence of the Draft Plan**

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000391	Ballynafagh Bog SAC	0	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>	No	No
000396	Pollardstown Fen SAC	0	Geyer`s whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo geyeri</i> ) [1013], Narrow-mouthed whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo angustior</i> ) [1014], Desmoulin`s whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> ) [1016], Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i> [7210], Alkaline fens [7230], Petrifying springs with tufa formation ( <i>Cratoneurion</i> ) [7220]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				<p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>		
000397	Red Bog, Kildare SAC	0	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>	No	No
001387	Ballynafagh Lake SAC	0	Marsh Fritillary ( <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> ) [1065], Alkaline fens [7230], Desmoulin's whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> ) [1016]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				<p>same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>		
001398	Rye Water Valley/Cartron SAC	0	Narrow-mouthed whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo angustior</i> ) [1014], Petrifying springs with tufa formation ( <i>Cratoneurion</i> ) [7220], Desmoulin's whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> ) [1016]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p>	No	No





Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.		
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	0	Reefs [1170], Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritima</i> ) [1330], Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Twaite shad ( <i>Alosa fallax</i> ) [1103], Killarney fern ( <i>Trichomanes speciosum</i> ) [1421], White-clawed crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> ) [1092], European dry heaths [4030], Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> ) [1410], Freshwater pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> ) [1029], Estuaries [1130], Desmoulin's whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> ) [1016], Nore Pearl Mussel ( <i>Margaritifera durrovensis</i> ) [1990], Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> ) [1096], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitans</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Petrifying springs with tufa formation ( <i>Cratoneurion</i> ) [7220], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			(Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]			
002331	Mouds Bog SAC	0	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>	No	No
004063	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA	0	Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus) [A183], Greylag Goose (Anser anser) [A043]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				<p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>		
004232	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA	0.37	Kingfisher (Alcedo atthis) [A229]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
002299	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC	0.38	Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Alkaline fens [7230], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>	No	No
000925	The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC	0.57	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.		
000781	Slaney River Valley SAC	2.49	Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ( <i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0], Twaite shad ( <i>Alosa fallax</i> ) [1103], Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> ) [1410], Estuaries [1130], Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> ) [1096], Harbour seal ( <i>Phoca vitulina</i> ) [1365], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritimae</i> ) [1330], Freshwater pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> ) [1029], Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095], Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>	No	No
002256	Ballyprior Grassland SAC	2.8	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates ( <i>Festuco-Brometalia</i> ) * important orchid sites [6210]	The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same.	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				<p>The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>		
001757	Holdenstown Bog SAC	3.05	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.		
002342	Mount Hevey Bog SAC	4.13	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>	No	No
002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	6.12	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			ladani) [8110], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230], European dry heaths [4030]	<p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>		
001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	6.47	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>	No	No
002141	Mountmellick SAC	8.76	Desmoulin's whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a</p>	No	No





Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				<p>series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>		
004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	9.07	Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098], Peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus) [A103]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.		
004080	Boyne Estuary SPA	37.55	Knot ( <i>Calidris canutus</i> ) [A143], Oystercatcher ( <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> ) [A130], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Sanderling ( <i>Calidris alba</i> ) [A144], Little Tern ( <i>Sterna albifrons</i> ) [A195], Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) [A142], Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> ) [A156], Grey Plover ( <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> ) [A141], Turnstone ( <i>Arenaria interpres</i> ) [A169], Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140], Redshank ( <i>Tringa totanus</i> ) [A162], Shelduck ( <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> ) [A048]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>	No	No
001957	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC	38.49	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> - white dunes [2120], Estuaries [1130], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110], Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i> ) [1330], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130]	<p>The Kildare LECP is focused on sustainable economic and community development and wellbeing and proposes a series of objectives and actions for the achievement of the same. The objectives and actions have been informed by and are in harmony with preceding key plans, policies and strategies at international, national, regional and local levels.</p> <p>The plan does not propose any spatial land-use objectives outside what has already been outlined in the current Kildare CDP, nor does it provide a consent-granting</p>	No	No



Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				<p>framework. It is important to note that the existing CDP was subject to its own SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>No additional sources for effects from the Plan, which are not in line with existing economic and community processes within the Local Authority area, have been identified. Therefore, there are no further considerations in relation to European Sites.</p>		



### 3.6 Consideration of in-combination Effects with other plans or projects

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires that the effects of a plan or project on a European site are assessed in-combination with the effects of inter-related plans and projects. The principal plans that are related to the subject Plan are defined in Section 2.3. The Plan is consistent with and conforms with these inter-related plans. Some of these plans - such as the Kildare County Development Plan provide a land use framework that supports a variety of projects in the county. Other listed plans support a variety of activities in the county (tourism, climate action, waste management activity etc.).

The Plan sits within this hierarchy of plans a - which set policy for among other things, land use planning, infrastructure, sustainable development, recreation, environmental protection and environmental management. These plans have been subject to their own environmental assessment processes, as relevant. The Plan must comply with relevant higher-level strategic actions defined in these plans.

The Plan provides a guiding framework through which stakeholders can engage and collaborate to achieve the outlined goals and objectives, and as such, does not define a detailed framework for projects and other activities that may give rise to environmental effects - in relation to their location, nature, size, operating conditions or allocation of resources.

In and of itself, the Plan does not introduce any sources of environmental effect outside the scope of what has already been considered in inter-related plans such as the County Development Plan, Local Area Plans, County Heritage Plan etc. The Plan does not therefore have any potential to contribute to in-combination environmental effects on European sites that may occur due to the wider implementation of inter-related plans or projects.



## 4. SCREENING CONCLUSION

The results of the S-P-R modelling process identified that the implementation of Plan will not introduce any sources of environmental effect, and therefore will not result in any likely, significant effect on European sites, including the qualifying interests, special conservation interest or the conservation objectives of such sites.



## 5. REFERENCES

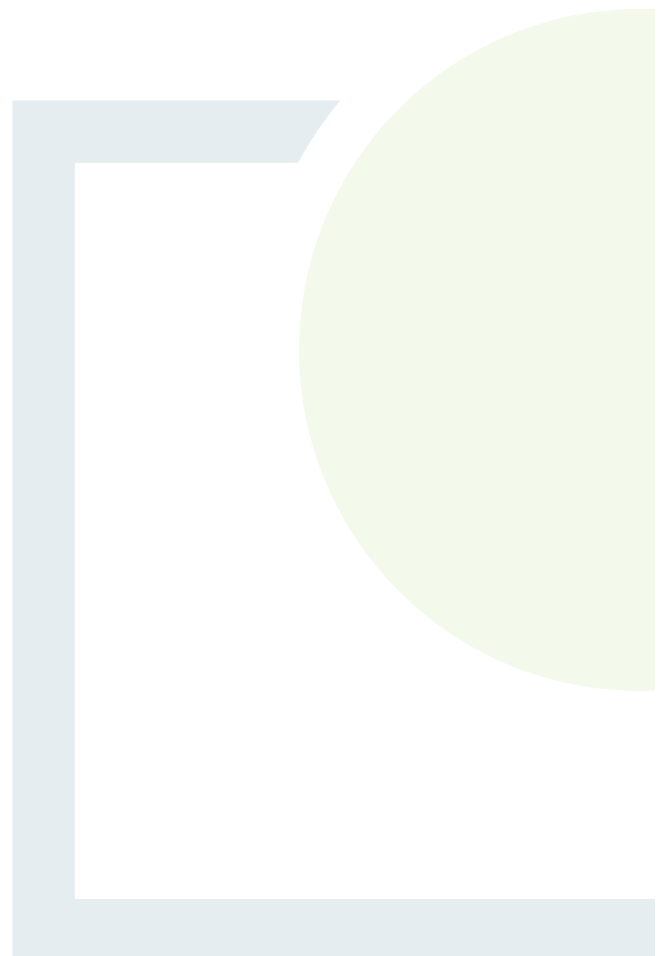
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CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING,  
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## APPENDIX 1

Background Information on  
European Sites



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

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000397	Red Bog Kildare SAC	<p>The site displays a succession from open water (eutrophic in status) to ombrotrophic bog. Transition mire vegetation is considered to be well represented at this site with some typical species. A small colony of <i>Larus ridibundus</i> has bred in the past (current status unknown) which is one of few nesting sites in eastern Ireland and the site also has breeding <i>Aythya fuligula</i> and <i>Fulica atra</i>.</p>	<p>The site comprises a relatively small wetland which lies between moranic ridges. Open water is a principal habitat though there are no obvious inflowing or outflowing streams. Open water is fringed by various wetland habitats with bog (raised type) fens and freshwater marsh. Some willow (<i>Salix</i> spp.) occurs. The surrounding land is improved grassland. An extensive quarrying operation occurs to the east and south of site.</p>
000781	Slaney River Valley SAC	<p>Estuaries and intertidal sand and mud flats are particularly well represented in this site with salinity ranging from full freshwater to full seawater. The quality of these habitats is generally good. The Slaney River and its tributaries display good examples of floating river vegetation. An important area of alluvial forest is found at Macmine while old oak woodlands occur at Toomnafinnoge the latter being a remnant of the ancient oak woods of Shillelagh. The site is of high importance for the conservation of fish species notably <i>Salmo salar</i> <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> <i>L. planeri</i> and the very localised <i>Alosa fallax fallax</i>. <i>Lutra lutra</i> is well distributed throughout while a significant population of <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> occurs on the Derreen River. The site provides year-round haul-out habitat for the Annex II species <i>Phoca vitulina</i> and includes regionally significant breeding and moulting sites. The site has high ornithological importance especially for wintering waterfowl with internationally important populations of <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> <i>Cygnus olor</i> <i>Limosa limosa</i> and <i>Limosa lapponica</i>. There is at least a further 14 species of wintering waterfowl which occur in numbers of national importance. Wintering <i>Larus</i> gulls are well represented especially <i>Larus ridibundus</i> and <i>Larus fuscus</i>.</p> <p>A nesting colony of <i>Egretta garzetta</i> has recently become established within the site and birds are present in the area throughout the year. The site supports one of the best breeding concentrations of <i>Acrocephalus scirpaus</i> in the country. A range of flora and fauna species listed as Red Data Book species occur within the site.</p>	<p>This site comprises almost the entire Slaney system from the headwater streams in the Wicklow Mountains to the extensive estuarine area of Wexford Harbour. The main river tributaries included are the Bann Glasha Clody Derry Derreen Douglas and Carrigower Rivers. The tidal influence extends upriver as far as Enniscorthy. In the upper and central regions the geology consists of granite. Above Kilcarry Bridge the Slaney has cut a gorge into the granite plain. The Derry and Bann Rivers are bounded by a narrow line of uplands which corresponds to schist outcrops. South of Kildavin the Slaney flows through an area of Ordovician slates and grits. The river is often fringed by woodland and/or swamp vegetation. Other habitats which occur alongside the river include wet grassland scrub and in higher areas heath and bog. Improved grassland and arable land is included alongside the river for water quality reasons. Salt marshes are a feature of the lower estuarine area of the site.</p>



Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000925	The Long Derries Edenderry SAC	This is an important site for several reasons. It supports good quality dry calcareous esker grassland in which occurs a substantial population of the rare and protected <i>Orchis morio</i> . An interesting transition between this habitat and acid peaty grassland is found on the eastern side of the site. Gravel quarries on the site support other rare plant species: <i>Acinos arvensis</i> (a protected species) and <i>Erigeron acer</i> as well as the uncommon introduced <i>Minuartia hybrida</i> . The site is an important ornithological site; the most notable species <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i> (Nightjar) of which only about thirty pairs are known to breed in Ireland breeds on the site. Several other important bird species also occur.	The site forms part of a low esker ridge which primarily consists of glacial gravels interspersed with loam and peat soils. The site comprises a mosaic of dry esker grassland (calcareous) <i>Cretagus</i> scrub gravel quarries (used and disused) and humid grassland. The north-eastern side of the site grades into peatland and here an interesting mixture of acid and base loving plants occurs. Much of the western half of the site was previously used as a golf course. A wide variety of activities occur on the site and the western half is the most disturbed.
001387	Ballynafagh Lake SAC	Alkaline fen is a main habitat at this site occurring in mosaic with a range of swamp and transitional bog communities as well as fen woodland. The fen is well-developed and of good quality and represents one of the best examples in eastern Ireland. The site also contains a relict population of <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> . Confirmed record for 1997 and noted to be a large population. All recently surveyed sites with confirmed populations of this species are considered important. The site supports a population of <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> and contains a number of other rare invertebrate species some of which are good wetland indicator species including the mollusc <i>Pisidium pseudosphaerium</i> the lepidopterans <i>Ectoedemia argyropeza</i> and <i>Apomyelois bistriatella subcognata</i> and the coleopterans <i>Chlaenius tristis</i> and <i>Philonthus corvinus</i> . Of some local importance for wintering waterfowl.	The site comprises a former reservoir (generally called Ballynafagh Lake) and an associated canal feeder (Blackwood feeder) the latter now disused and mostly dry. The lake is shallow and is now very overgrown with various wetland vegetation types with only a small area of open water remaining. Fen is the predominant habitat with reed-swamp wet grassland and some bog or heath also occurring. A strip of deciduous woodland occurs on some drier ground. The main habitats along the canal feeder are dry grassland (partly improved) wet grassland swamp vegetation and scrub.
004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	The site supports good examples of both upland and woodland bird communities. It has breeding <i>Falco columbarius</i> and <i>Falco peregrinus</i> as well as <i>Turdus torquatus</i> and <i>Lagopus lagopus</i> both of the latter being Red-listed in Ireland. It is the only site in Ireland where <i>Mergus merganser</i> breeds regularly. It is important for rare breeding passerines of oakwoods notably <i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i> and <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i> . It also has <i>Sylvia borin</i> and <i>Sylvia atricapilla</i> .	This is an extensive upland site comprising a substantial part of the Wicklow Mountains. The underlying geology of the site is mainly of Leinster granites flanked by Ordovician schists mudstones and volcanics. The area was subject to glaciation and features fine examples of glacial lakes deep valleys and moraines. Most of site is over 300 m with much ground over 600 m and the highest peak of Lugnaquilla at 925 m. The substrate over much of site is peat with poor mineral soil occurring on the slopes and lower ground. Exposed rock and scree are features of the site.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
			The dominant habitats present are blanket bog heaths and upland grassland. Fine examples of native Oak woodlands are found in the Glendalough area. The site which is within the Wicklow Mountains National Park is fragmented into about 20 separate parcels of land.
001398	Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC	The importance of the site lies in the presence of a number of rare plant and animal species and a rare habitat i.e. thermal mineral petrifying spring. The spring gives rise to a calcareous marsh the habitat for <i>Vertigo angustior</i> and <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> . This marsh is species-rich and holds a number of plant and insect species which are rare or locally uncommon in Ireland. Four Red Data Book plant species have been recorded from the site two of which <i>Hypericum hirsutum</i> and <i>Viola hirta</i> are legally protected. The woods at the eastern end of the site have some ornithological interest.	A river valley site which includes at its western end a large area of estate woodland and an artificial lake. The eastern section of the site includes a section of railway canal and aqueduct; it continues as far as Leixlip town. The site is underlain by carboniferous limestone over which has been laid a layer of glacial drift.
001757	Holdenstown Bog SAC	The site supports an important though small example of transition mire vegetation. Transition mires associated with raised bogs are particularly rare in the region and this is probably the most easterly example in the country. It has many of the expected plant species for the habitat including the locally rare <i>Carex limosa</i> . The site appears to be in a fairly natural state.	The site is a small wetland in a kettle hole amongst morainic deposits. It is mostly dominated by raised bog but there is some open water. Birch woodland is invading the drier areas of the bog. An area of semi-improved grassland is included for practical boundary purposes. The area surrounding site is agricultural land.
001957	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC	While the site has a good diversity of coastal habitats including fixed dunes most have been modified in some way. The containment of the main tidal channel has altered the tidal pattern which affects the functioning of the various estuarine habitats. Both dune systems were formerly far more extensive but much of the stable areas have now been converted to golf courses. Site is important for wintering waterfowl supporting nine species in nationally important numbers including <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> an Annex I EU Birds Directive species. <i>Sterna albifrons</i> breeds or attempts to breed in most years.	This moderately sized coastal site which is situated below the town of Drogheda comprises most of the estuary of the Boyne River a substantial river which drains a large catchment. On the seaward side the site extends north and south for several kilometres to include the remaining intact areas of dune systems at Baltray and Mornington as well as the adjacent beaches and intertidal sand flats. The main channel of the Boyne is contained by training walls for navigable purposes. As well as intertidal sand and mud flats the inner part of the site has salt marshes and <i>Spartina</i> swards.
002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	The site comprises the largest complex of upland habitats in eastern Ireland with important examples of blanket bog wet heath and dry heath extensive in area and mostly of good quality. Alpine heath occurs at high levels along with calcareous and siliceous rocky habitats harbouring an arctic-alpine flora.	An extensive upland site comprising much of the Wicklow Mountains and extending into Co. Dublin. The solid geology is mainly Leinster granites flanked by Ordovician schists mudstones and volcanics. The area has been glaciated and features fine examples of high corrie lakes deep valleys and moraines.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		<p>A fine series of oligotrophic lakes occur and some have <i>Salvelinus alpinus</i>. Several oakwoods of moderate quality typical of the dry acidic woods of eastern Ireland are found. Seven Red Data Book plant species occur including the rare <i>Alchemilla alpina</i> and <i>Nitella gracilis</i> at its only Irish station. The site supports significant populations of breeding <i>Falco columbarius</i> and <i>Falco peregrinus</i>. The site is important for rare breeding passerines of oakwoods notably <i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i> and <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>. The site also has breeding <i>Turdus torquatus</i> and <i>Lagopus lagopus</i>. <i>Lutra lutra</i> occurs on several of the riverine systems.</p>	<p>Most of the site is over 300m with much ground over 600m and the highest peak of Lugnaquilla at 925m. The site includes the headwaters of several major rivers including the Liffey the Dargle and the Slaney. The substrate over much of the site is peat with poor mineral soil on the slopes and lower ground. Exposed rock and scree is a feature. The dominant habitats on the site are blanket bog heaths and upland grassland.</p>
002342	Mount Hevey Bog SAC	<p>Mount Hevey Bog is one of the most easterly relatively intact raised bogs in Ireland and represents one of the largest bog areas in the eastern half of the country. Although more than half of the site area consists of cutover bog there is a large area of active raised bog. The active areas support well-developed pool areas and have a high <i>Sphagnum</i> cover which include the rare species <i>Sphagnum fuscum</i> and <i>S. imbricatum</i>. A soak area which has developed from an infilled lake and now supports some <i>Betula pubescens</i> trees adds diversity to the bog surface. A substantial area of uncut high bog that is classified as degraded raised big is present. The degraded bog supports a wide range of plant communities depending on factors such as height of water table and past burning events. The bog and especially the active parts contains substantial areas of <i>Rhynchosporion</i> vegetation which have a typical species composition and generally exist in a well-preserved condition. The cutover areas which surround the high bog contain large areas of scrub woodland dominated by <i>Betula pubescens</i>.</p>	<p>Mount Hevey is a large midland raised bog which is situated 3 km north-east of Kinnegad village and lies on the border of counties Meath and Westmeath. The bog overlies Carboniferous limestone bedrock and occurs in four sections. Two of these are small and lie to the north of a railway line while two larger lobes lie to the south of the railway line. These two larger lobes are of higher ecological value due to the presence of active bog. Cutover bog surrounds the uncut high bog. Part of the high bog and also part of the cutover has been afforested with conifers. Other parts of the cutover has been invaded by <i>Betula pubescens</i> scrub and small amounts of broad-leaved woodland. Some of the cutover has been converted to semi-improved grassland.</p>
000391	Ballynafagh Bog SAC	<p>Ballynafagh Bog is a small raised bog site which contains examples of the Annex 1 habitats active raised bog degraded raised bog and <i>Rhynchosporion</i> vegetation. The bog is one of the most easterly examples of a relatively intact raised bog in Ireland and together with Mouds Bog is one of only two such systems in Co. Kildare. A central depression on the high bog dome supports a substantial area of active raised bog with a locally high <i>Sphagnum</i> cover.</p>	<p>This area is directly underlain by muddy fossiliferous limestones interbedded with calcareous shales. A reverse fault runs directly under the bog so that the NW of the bog is underlain by fossiliferous mudmounds. Both have low permeabilities. The subsoils are predominantly clay rich tills of low permeability. Part of the site has been planted with conifers.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		<p>The site is also of ornithological interest being within the breeding territory of a pair of <i>Falco columbarius</i> and providing habitat for breeding <i>Gallinago gallinago</i> and <i>Numenius arquata</i>. <i>Lepus timidus hibernicus</i> occurs within the site.</p>	
000396	Pollardstown Fen SAC	<p>The largest spring-fed fen in Ireland largely intact and responding well to restoration measures. Supports one of the largest stands of <i>Cladium</i> fen and is one of the most studied examples of its kind in Ireland. Type locality for the <i>Cirsio dissecti-Schoenetum nigricantis</i> and contains a significant number of rare and threatened species. A number of internationally important invertebrates have been recorded and rare sub-aquatic invertebrates are particularly well represented. Pollardstown is the only known site in Ireland (or Europe) to support all three Annex II <i>Vertigo</i> species (<i>V. geyeri</i> <i>V. angustior</i> <i>V. moulinsiana</i>) and thus provides unique opportunity to study their different habitat and hydrological requirements. Re-flooding of reclaimed areas has increased the ornithological value of the site.</p>	<p>A large spring-fed fen situated in a shallow basin composed of up to 6m of marl/peat overlying clay. The fen contains the feeder channel of the Grand Canal and has survived several attempts at drainage and reclamation. Supports extensive areas of <i>Cladium</i> fen <i>Schoenus</i> fen reed and sedge swamp <i>Molinia</i> grassland and species-rich seepage areas. Restoration of the central fen area following partial reclamation in 1979 has caused re-flooding and allowed the re-establishment and expansion of aquatic and reedswamp vegetation and their associated fauna.</p>
002299	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC	<p>The main channel of the Boyne contains a good example of alluvial woodland of the <i>Salicetum albo-fragilis</i> type which has developed on three alluvium islands. Alkaline fen vegetation is well represented at Lough Shesk where there is a very fine example of habitat succession from open water to raised bog. The Boyne and its tributaries is one of Ireland's premier game fisheries and offers a wide range of angling from fishing for spring salmon and grilse to sea trout fishing and extensive brown trout fishing. The site is one of the most important in eastern Ireland for <i>Salmo salar</i> and has very extensive spawning grounds. The site also has an important population of <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> though the distribution or abundance of this species is not well known. <i>Lutra lutra</i> is widespread throughout the site. Some of the grassland areas along the Boyne and Blackwater are used by a nationally important winter flock of <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>. Several Red Data Book plants occur within the site with <i>Pyrola rotundifolia</i> <i>Poa palustris</i> and <i>Juncus compressus</i>.</p>	<p>This site comprises most of the freshwater element of the River Boyne from upriver of the Boyne Aqueduct at Drogheda the Blackwater River as far as Lough Ramor and the principal Boyne tributaries notably the Deel Stoneyford and Tremblestown Rivers. This system drains a considerable area of Cos. Meath and Westmeath and smaller areas of Cavan and Louth. The underlying geology is Carboniferous Limestone for the most part with areas of Upper Lower and Middle well represented. In the vicinity of Kells Silurian Quartzite is present while close to Trim are Carboniferous Shales and Sandstones. The rivers flow through a landscape dominated by intensive agriculture mostly of improved grassland but also cereals. Much of the river channels were subject to arterial drainage schemes in the past. Natural flood-plains now exist along only limited stretches of river though often there is a fringe of reed swamp freshwater marsh wet grassland or deciduous wet woodland. Along some parts notably between Drogheda and Slane are stands of tall mature mixed woodland.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Also occurring are a number of Red Data Book animals notably Meles meles Martes martes and Rana temporaria. The River Boyne is a designated Salmonid Water under the EU Freshwater Fish Directive.	Substantial areas of improved grassland and arable land are included in site for water quality reasons. There are many medium to large sized towns adjacent to but not within the site.
002331	Mouds Bog SAC	Mouds Bog is the largest relatively intact raised bog in Co. Kildare and thus is the most easterly site remaining in the country. Although there is extensive industrial peat extraction in the west of the site there is still a fairly large area of wet bog surface present including some active raised bog with a small soak system. The degraded bog is typical of the habitat but displays some diversity by way of a number of dry flushes. Rhynchosporion vegetation is well represented in the wetter areas and includes Drosera anglica a relatively scarce species in Co. Kildare. The site contains one of the few Irish populations of the introduced insectivorous plant species Sarracenia purpurea. Lagopus lagopus a Red listed species in Ireland has been recorded.	Mouds Bog is a large raised bog complex located 3 km north-west of Newbridge Co. Kildare. The bog occurs as two basins separated by a central mineral ridge. Approximately half the site comprises uncut high bog though this is predominantly degraded bog. Much of the western end of the site is affected by industrial extraction of peat. Old cutover surrounds the remainder of the high bog though some of this has been reclaimed for pasture grassland. Part of the cutover has been invaded by Betula pubescens scrub.
004063	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA	The site is of national importance for its population of Anser anser which is one of the largest in the country. The site provides the main roost for the birds with feeding mostly on improved grassland outside of the site. A range of other waterfowl species occur in relatively low numbers including Cygnus cygnus Anas penelope and Bucephala clangula. The reservoir attracts roosting gulls during winter most notably a large population of Larus fuscus which in Ireland is rare in winter away from the south coast.	Poulaphouca Reservoir located in the western foothills of the Wicklow Mountains was created in 1944 by damming of the River Liffey for the purpose of generating electricity from hydropower. The reservoir covers an area of approximately 20 square kilometres and is the largest inland water body in the mid-east and south-east regions. The reservoir receives water from two main sources the River Liffey at the northern end and the Kings River at the southern end. The exit is into the Liffey gorge at the western end. Underlying the reservoir are sands and gravels deposited during the last glaciation. The shores of the lake are mostly sandy. When water levels are low exposed lake muds are colonised by an ephemeral flora of annual plant species.
001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	The site has important examples of petrifying springs. The physical and chemical properties of the springs have been studied. Good examples of orchid rich calcareous grassland including Pseudorchis albida (legally protected) and Orchis morio (Red Data Book species) are found. The quality of grassland is variable owing to agricultural improvement. Molinia meadows are also represented. Several other Red Data Book plant species occur along with a host of rare or scarce plant species for Co. Dublin. The botany of this site has been well	Glenasmole Valley lies at the northern foothills of the Dublin and Wicklow Mountains. It is a glaciated valley with drift deposits consisting of fluvioglacial sands and gravels of varying thickness and rich in Carboniferous limestone occurring on the slopes. Spring lines occur along both sides of the northern part of the valley. The River Dodder flows through the valley and within the site the river has been impounded to form two reservoirs. Associated with the reservoirs are areas of swamp and marsh vegetation. The valley is heavily wooded

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		studied since the 19th century. The site has Alcedo atthis and is important for bats with four Red Data Book species present (Pipistrellus pipistrellus Nyctalus leisleri Myotis daubentoni Plecotus auritus).	mostly with mixed woodland of both deciduous and coniferous species but also some native woodland. Dry calcareous pasture grassland improved to varying degrees is a main habitat of the valley sides and occurs in association with wet grassland and in places of seepage fen or marsh type vegetation.
002141	Mountmellick SAC	Site contains a relict population of <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> . Confirmed record for 1997. Typical wetland habitat. All recently surveyed sites with confirmed populations of this species are considered important.	Site comprises a disused section of the Grand Canal at Dungan's Bridge approximately 3 km east of Mountmellick in Co. Laois. The habitat is fen type vegetation with <i>Typha latifolia</i> <i>Glyceria maxima</i> and <i>Iris pseudacorus</i> . At present the site is not used for any particular activity.
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	The site supports many Annexed habitats including the priority habitats of alluvial woodland and petrifying springs. Quality of habitat is generally good. The site also supports a number of Annex II animal species - <i>Salmo salar</i> <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> <i>M.m. durrovensis</i> <i>Alosa fallax fallax</i> <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> <i>Lutra lutra</i> <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> and <i>L. planeri</i> . Annex I Bird species include <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> <i>Falco peregrinus</i> <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> <i>Limosa lapponica</i> <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> and <i>Alcedo atthis</i> . A range of rare plants and invertebrates are found in the woods along these rivers and rare plants are also associated with the saltmarsh.	This site consists of most of the freshwater stretches of the Barrow/Nore River catchments. The Barrow is tidal as far upriver as Graiguenamanagh while the Nore is tidal as far upriver as Inishtioge. The site also includes the extreme lower reaches of the River Suir and all of the estuarine component of Waterford Harbour extending to Creadan Head. The larger of the many tributaries include the Lerr Fushoge Mountain Aughavaud Owenass Boherbaun and Stradbally Rivers of the Barrow and the Delour Dinin Erkina Owveg Munster Arrigle and King's Rivers on the Nore. Both rivers rise in the Old Red Sandstone of the Slieve Bloom Mountains. They traverse limestone bedrock for a good proportion of their routes though the middle reaches of the Barrow and many of the eastern tributaries run through Leinster Granite. A wide range of habitats associated with the rivers are included within the site including substantial areas of woodland (deciduous mixed) dry heath wet grassland swamp and marsh vegetation salt marshes a small dune system biogenic reefs and intertidal sand and mud flats. Areas of improved grassland arable land and coniferous plantations are included in the site for water quality reasons.
002256	Ballyprior Grassland SAC	An estimated 35 hectares 45% of the site area consists of the Annex 1 Priority Habitat orchid-rich calcareous grassland which supports a rich diversity of both calcicole and calcifuge species the latter occurring on mineral poor drift. The site has an exceptionally rich mycoflora and this is a better indication of grassland quality (in terms of continuity lack of disturbance and low nutrient status) than the vascular flora. The Irish	The site consists of a limestone plateau supporting open calcareous grassland with occasional rocky scarps and valleys but with little surface water and no streams. Soils are thin on the plateau but deeper with local drift in low areas and valley bottom. Scrub of <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> <i>Prunus spinosa</i> <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> with bracken <i>Pteridium aquilium</i> or Gorse Scrub of <i>Ulex europaea</i> is frequent in the east and north of the

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Hare <i>Lepus timidus hibernicus</i> recorded as occurring in the site. This sub-species is listed in Annex III of the Bern Convention and in the Red Data Book as Internationally Important. It is legally protected by the Wildlife Act (1976).	site. Scrub woodland of predominantly Hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i> with <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> and a well developed ground flora occurs in the extreme west of the site. There are also a few ponds scattered within the site.
004080	Boyne Estuary SPA	The Boyne Estuary is one of the most important sites for wintering waterfowl on the east coast. It has a total of 10 species with populations of national importance - of particular note is that it supports 7.0% of the national total of <i>Calidris canutus</i> and 4.0% of the total for <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> . Other species which have populations of national importance include <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> <i>Limosa limosa</i> <i>Tringa totanus</i> and <i>Arenaria interpres</i> . The site provides both feeding and roosting areas for the birds. <i>Sterna albifrons</i> bred in the past but successful breeding has not occurred since 1996.	This moderately-sized coastal site which is situated below the town of Drogheda comprises most of the estuary of the Boyne River a substantial river which drains a large catchment. Apart from one section which is over 1 km wide the width is mostly less than 500 m. The main river channel which is navigable and dredged is defined by training walls the latter being breached in places. Intertidal flats occur on the sides of the channelled river. The sediments vary from fine muds in the innermost areas to sandy muds or sands towards the mouth. The linear stretches of intertidal flats to the north and south of the river mouth are mainly sands. Intertidal areas are fringed by salt marshes in the inner sheltered areas. <i>Spartina</i> is frequent on the flats and salt marshes.
004232	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA	The River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA supports nationally important numbers of <i>Alcedo atthis</i> . Other species which occur within the site include <i>Cygnus olor</i> <i>Anas crecca</i> <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> <i>Ardea cinerea</i> <i>Gallinula chloropus</i> <i>Gallinago gallinago</i> and <i>Riparia riparia</i> .	The River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA is a long linear site that comprises stretches of the River Boyne and several of its tributaries: most of the site is in Co Meath but it extends also into Counties Cavan Louth and Westmeath. It includes the following river sections: The River Boyne from the M1 motorway bridge west of Drogheda to the junction with the Royal Canal west of Longwood Co Meath; the River Blackwater from its junction with the River Boyne in Navan to the junction with Lough Ramor in Co Cavan; the Tremblestown River (and Athboy River) from the junction with the River Boyne at Kilnagross Bridge to the bridge in Athboy Co Meath; the Stoneyford River from its junction with the River Boyne to Stonestone Bridge in Co. Westmeath; the River Deel from its junction with the River Boyne to Cummer Bridge Co. Westmeath. The site includes the river channel and marginal vegetation.



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

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000391	Ballynafagh Bog SAC	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	D05, G05, C01.03, J01, E01.04, B01	Improved access to site, Other human intrusions and disturbances, Peat extraction, Fire and fire suppression, Other patterns of habitation, Forest planting on open ground
000396	Pollardstown Fen SAC	Geyer`s whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo geyeri</i> ) [1013], Narrow-mouthed whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo angustior</i> ) [1014], Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i> [7210], Desmoulin`s whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> ) [1016], Petrifying springs with tufa formation ( <i>Cratoneurion</i> ) [7220], Alkaline fens [7230]	A04, E01.03, F03.01, J01, E03.01, D02.01, B, C01.01, F02.03	Grazing, Dispersed habitation, Hunting, Fire and fire suppression, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Electricity and phone lines, Sylviculture, forestry, Sand and gravel extraction, Leisure fishing
000397	Red Bog, Kildare SAC	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	A08, F02.03, A04, E01.03, C01.01, F03.01	Fertilisation, Leisure fishing, Grazing, Dispersed habitation, Sand and gravel extraction, Hunting
000781	Slaney River Valley SAC	Harbour seal ( <i>Phoca vitulina</i> ) [1365], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ( <i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0], Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> ) [1096], Twaitte shad ( <i>Alosa fallax</i> ) [1103], Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i> ) [1330], Estuaries [1130], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> ) [1410], Freshwater pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> ) [1029], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106]	F03.02.04, C01.01, H01.08, J02.11, E05, K01.01, A01, A09, D01.05, J02, A08, F01.03, B02, H01.05, J02.12.02, D03.01.03, J02.05.02, D01.01, J02.06, E03, J02.06.01, F02.03.01, A10.01, H01, H01.01, I01	Predator control, Sand and gravel extraction, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Storage of materials, Erosion, Cultivation, Irrigation, Bridge, viaduct, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Fertilisation, Bottom culture, Forest and Plantation management & use, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Dykes and flooding defense in inland water systems, Fishing harbours, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Water abstractions from surface waters, Discharges, Surface water abstractions for agriculture, Bait digging or collection, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Pollution to surface waters by industrial plants, Invasive non-native species

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000925	The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	K01.01, A04.03, D01, G01.03.02, K02.01, E05, X	Erosion, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Roads, paths and railroads, Off-road motorized driving, Species composition change (succession), Storage of materials, No threats or pressures
001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	A04.02.01, E01.02, D01, B01.01, F02.03, H01.08, A08, C01.03, D01.03, B01.02, H01.05, J02, A03.03, A03, B02.02, A04, A04.02.02, H02.07, I01, A04.02.03, B02.01.02	Non intensive cattle grazing, Discontinuous urbanisation, Roads, paths and railroads, Forest planting on open ground (native trees), Leisure fishing, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Fertilisation, Peat extraction, Car parcs and parking areas, Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Abandonment or lack of mowing , Mowing or cutting of grassland, Forestry clearance, Grazing, Non intensive sheep grazing, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to non-sewered population, Invasive non-native species, Non intensive horse grazing, Forest replanting (non native trees)
001387	Ballynafagh Lake SAC	Alkaline fens [7230], Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065], Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016]	F02.03, A04	Leisure fishing, Grazing
001398	Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC	Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], Narrow-mouthed whorl snail (Vertigo angustior) [1014], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]	A08, D01.02, A10.01, E01.03, J02.05.02, A04, E01.01, B	Fertilisation, Roads, motorways, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Dispersed habitation, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Grazing, Continuous urbanisation, Sylviculture, forestry
001757	Holdenstown Bog SAC	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	B01, J02, J02.01.03, A04, A01, X, D02.01.01	Forest planting on open ground, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Grazing, Cultivation, No threats or pressures, Suspended electricity and phone lines
001957	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria - white dunes [2120], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Estuaries [1130], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater	J02.01.03, H01, J02.12, J02.12.01, G05.04, D01.01, D01.05, J02.02,	Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Dykes, embankments, artificial beaches, general, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Vandalism,

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		at low tide [1140], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]	E03.03, E03.01, G01.02, G05, E01, G03, K02, J02, G01.03.02, J03.03, L07, I01, E05	Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Bridge, viaduct, Removal of sediments (mud...), Disposal of inert materials, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Other human intrusions and disturbances, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Interpretative centres, Biocenotic evolution, succession, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Off-road motorized driving, Reduction, lack or prevention of erosion, Storm, cyclone, Invasive non-native species, Storage of materials
002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], European dry heaths [4030], Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110]	E03.01, B02.05, A05.02, C01.03, F04.02, G05.06, G05.07, B06, L05, G05.04, F03, G04.01, G01.03.02, G02.09, I01, D01.01, G01, K04.05, F03.02.02, J01.01, G01.04, G05.01, A04, G05.09, G01.02, E01, K01.01	Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Non-intensive timber production (leaving dead wood or old trees untouched), Stock feeding, Peat extraction, Collection (fungi, lichen, berries etc.), Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees, Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, Grazing in forests or woodland, Collapse of terrain, landslide, Vandalism, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Military manouvres, Off-road motorized driving, Wildlife watching, Invasive non-native species, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Damage by herbivores (including game species), Taking from nest (e.g. falcons), Burning down, Mountaineering, rock climbing, speleology, Trampling, overuse, Grazing, Fences, fencing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Erosion
002141	Mountmellick SAC	Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016]	H05.01, J02.05	Garbage and solid waste, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Sea	F02.03, J02.02.01, E02, A02.01, B02.01.01, B02, B07, A10.01, J02.06, I01, F01.01, J03.02.01,	Leisure fishing, Dredging or removal of limnic sediments, Industrial or commercial areas, Agricultural intensification, Forest replanting (native trees), Forest and Plantation management & use, Forestry activities not referred to above, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Water abstractions from surface waters, Invasive non-native species, Intensive fish

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Freshwater pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> ) [1029], European dry heaths [4030], Reefs [1170], Killarney fern ( <i>Trichomanes speciosum</i> ) [1421], Nore Pearl Mussel ( <i>Margaritifera durrovensis</i> ) [1990], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Estuaries [1130], Twaite shad ( <i>Alosa fallax</i> ) [1103], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0], Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> ) [1410]	D03.01, A04.01.01, C01.03, M01, J02.05.02, C01.01.01, B05, H01, F02.01.02, F02, J02, K01.01, J02.12.02	farming, intensification , Reduction in migration or migration barriers, Port areas, Intensive cattle grazing, Peat extraction, Changes in abiotic conditions, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Sand and gravel quarries, Use of fertilizers (forestry), Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Netting, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Erosion, Dykes and flooding defense in inland water systems
002256	Ballyprior Grassland SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	A04, D01.01, A03, B02.01, A08, A10, A10.01	Grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Forest replanting, Fertilisation, Restructuring agricultural land holding, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub
002299	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC	Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Alkaline fens [7230]	A01, E05, A05.02, E02, A07, A10.01, A08, G02.10, C01.01, A03, E03.02, I01, H01, J02, G05, J02.15, E03.04, G01, G05.06, J02.10, B01.02, D01.02, J02.05.02, E01.04, J02.11, D01.05	Cultivation, Storage of materials, Stock feeding, Industrial or commercial areas, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Fertilisation, Other sport or leisure complexes, Sand and gravel extraction , Mowing or cutting of grassland, Disposal of industrial waste, Invasive non-native species, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other human intrusions and disturbances , Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other discharges, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
				roadside trees, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), Roads, motorways, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Other patterns of habitation, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Bridge, viaduct
002331	Mouds Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110]	C01.03.02, A01, J01, B, I01, A04, E02	Mechanical removal of peat, Cultivation, Fire and fire suppression, Sylviculture, forestry, Invasive non-native species, Grazing, Industrial or commercial areas
002342	Mount Hevey Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	C01.03.02, K04.02, J02.03, D01.01, J02.05, E03.01, B02.02, I01, J02.01, D01.04, I03	Mechanical removal of peat, Parasitism (flora), Canalisation & water deviation, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Forestry clearance, Invasive non-native species, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Railway lines, TGV, Introduced genetic material, GMO
004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	Peregrine falcon ( <i>Falco peregrinus</i> ) [A103], Merlin ( <i>Falco columbarius</i> ) [A098]	G01.02, G03, C01.03, D01.01, B, A04	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Interpretative centres, Peat extraction, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Sylviculture, forestry, Grazing
004063	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA	Lesser Black-backed Gull ( <i>Larus fuscus</i> ) [A183], Greylag Goose ( <i>Anser anser</i> ) [A043]	F03.01, B01, G01.01, F02.03, D01.05	Hunting, Forest planting on open ground, Nautical sports, Leisure fishing, Bridge, viaduct
004080	Boyne Estuary SPA	Oystercatcher ( <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> ) [A130], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) [A142], Sanderling ( <i>Calidris alba</i> ) [A144], Little Tern ( <i>Sterna albifrons</i> ) [A195], Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> ) [A156], Knot ( <i>Calidris canutus</i> ) [A143], Shelduck ( <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> ) [A048], Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140], Redshank ( <i>Tringa totanus</i> ) [A162], Grey Plover ( <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> ) [A141], Turnstone ( <i>Arenaria interpres</i> ) [A169]	G02.01, F02.03, E01, F01, G01.02, J02.11, J02.05, I01, J02.01.02	Golf course, Leisure fishing, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Invasive non-native species, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004232	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA	Kingfisher ( <i>Alcedo atthis</i> ) [A229]	E01.03, E01, D01.02, J02, X	Dispersed habitation, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Roads, motorways, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, No threats or pressures

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

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Geyer's Whorl Snail ( <i>Vertigo geyeri</i> )	[1013]	Loss of riverside and canal side habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail ( <i>Vertigo angustior</i> )	[1014]	Loss of riverside and Canalside habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Desmoulin's Whorl Snail ( <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> )	[1016]	Loss of riverside and canal side habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Freshwater Pearl Mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> )	[1029]	In stream works, hydrological and morphological alterations, sediment and enrichment, pollution due urbanisation etc. Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
Marsh Fritillary ( <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> )	[1065]	Declines in habitat quality lead to species decline.	Habitat management; land use change and drainage.
White-clawed Crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> )	[1092]	Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Invasive species, disease, surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
Sea Lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> )	[1095]	Barriers to upstream migration (e.g. weirs), which limit access to spawning beds and juvenile habitat are main threats to this species.	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity.
Brook Lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> )	[1096]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
River Lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis)	[1099]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
Twaite Shad (Alosa fallax fallax)	[1103]	Habitat quality, particularly at spawning sites is the most notable threat to this species.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
Salmon (Salmo salar)	[1106]	Marine survival rates are of concern for the populations.	Disease, parasites and barriers to movement.
Estuaries	[1130]	Pollution, fishing /aquaculture and habitat quality.	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	[1140]	Aquaculture, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works and invasive species, particularly cord-grass; hard coastal defence structures; sea-level rise.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.
Reefs	[1170]	Professional fishing; taking for fauna; taking for flora; water pollution; climate change; and change in species composition.	Sensitive to disturbance and pollution.
Annual vegetation of drift lines	[1210]	Grazing; sand and gravel extraction; recreational activities; coastal protection works.	Overgrazing and erosion. Changes in management.
Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	[1310]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Marine water dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Infilling, reclamation, invasive species.
Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	[1330]	Overgrazing; erosion; invasive species, particularly common cordgrass (Spartina anglica); infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Overgrazing, erosion and accretion.
Otter (Lutra lutra)	[1355]	Decrease in water quality: Use of pesticides; fertilization; vegetation removal; professional fishing (including lobster pots and fyke nets); hunting; poisoning; sand and gravel extraction; mechanical removal of peat; urbanised areas; human habitation; continuous urbanization; drainage; management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes; and canalization or modifying structures of inland water course.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Sensitivity to pollution.



Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Harbour Seal( <i>Phoca vitulina</i> )	[1365]	Distance to human activities, accidental entanglement in fishing gear competition for prey resources, illegal killing, pollution and habitat degradation.	Prey availability, reduction in available habitat and water quality.
Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> )	[1410]	Over-grazing by cattle or sheep; infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development and reclamation.
Killarney Fern ( <i>Trichomanes speciosum</i> )	[1421]	Threatened by habitat loss, deliberate collection, encroachment of invasive or vigorous species, or indirectly by water pollution, removal of woodland or alteration of watercourses.	Land use management and direct impacts.
River Nore Freshwater Pearl Mussel ( <i>Margaritifera durrovensis</i> )	[1990]	In stream works, hydrological and morphological alterations, sediment and enrichment, pollution due urbanisation etc. Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
Embryonic shifting dunes	[2110]	Natural erosion processes exacerbated by recreation and sand extraction. Coastal protection interfering with natural processes.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Shifting dunes along the shoreline with white dunes( <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> )	[2120]	Recreation and coastal defences, which may interfere with local sediment dynamics.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	[2130]	Recreation; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing: non-native plant species, particularly sea buckthorn ( <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> ).	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains ( <i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i> )	[3110]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	[3160]	Nutrient alterations; management shifts in the associated peatland habitat, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution
Water courses of plain to montane levels with vegetation (Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion)	[3260]	Hydrological and morphological changes, water quality, enrichment, and surface water discharges from industrial site and/or agriculture.	Surface water dependent Highly sensitive to hydrological change and direct physical interactions.
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	[4010]	Reclamation, afforestation and burning; overstocking; invasion by non-heath species; exposure of peat to severe erosion.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
European dry heaths	[4030]	Afforestation, overburning, over-grazing, under-grazing and bracken invasion.	Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
Alpine and Boreal heaths	[4060]	Abandonment; overgrazing; burning; outdoor recreation; quarries; communication networks; and wind farm developments.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
Calaminarian grasslands of the Murawy galmanowa (Violetalia calaminariae)	[6130]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia)* important orchid sites	[6210]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and	[6230]	Bracken encroachment, succession, inappropriate grazing, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
submountain areas, in Continental Europe)			
Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	[6410]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	[6430]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Active raised bogs	[7110]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	[7120]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Blanket bogs (* if active bog)	[7130]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Transition mires and quaking bogs	[7140]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	[7150]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface and ground water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Calcareous fens with species of mariscus sedge and bog cotton	[7210]	Hydrological changes, pollution to surface waters, urbanisation, roads development, groundwater interactions, grazing and cultivation practices and the inappropriate use of pesticides.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
(Cladium mariscus and Caricion davallianae)			
Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	[7220]	Ground water interactions, on site management activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Alkaline fens	[7230]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)	[8110]	Overgrazing, undergrazing and succession were recorded as medium-importance pressures in this reporting period, and Structure and functions were again assessed as Inadequate, the trend is considered to be stable rather than improving. This change is due to improved knowledge and the habitat is considered to have been stable since before the last assessment.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8210]	Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8220]	Pressures associated with the non-native invasive species New Zealand willowherb (Epilobium brunnescens).	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	[91A0]	The introduction of alien species; sub-optimal grazing patterns; general forestry management; increases in urbanisation and human habitation adjacent to oak woodlands; and the construction of communication networks through the woodland.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.

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

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A043	Greylag Goose	Anser anser	A02, A11, C03, D02, F03, G01, H07	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Other forms of pollution
A048	Common Shelduck	Tadorna tadorna	F01, F02, G01, H03, M01	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Changes in abiotic conditions
A098	Merlin	Falco columbarius	A02, B01, B02, C03, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Forest planting on open ground, Forest and Plantation management & use, Renewable abiotic energy use, Changes in biotic conditions
A103	Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus peregrinus	C03, F03, J03, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in biotic conditions
A130	Eurasian Oystercatcher	Haematopus ostralegus	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A140	European Golden Plover	Pluvialis apricaria	A02, A04, B01, C01, C03, F01, G01, H03, J01, K03, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Forest planting on open ground, Mining and quarrying, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Fire and Fire suppression, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
A141	Grey Plover	Pluvialis squatarola	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A142	Northern Lapwing	Vanellus vanellus	A02, C03, F01, G01, H03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A143	Red Knot	Calidris canutus	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A144	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	C03, F01, G01, H03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Changes in abiotic conditions
A156	Black-Tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa islandica</i>	A02, C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A162	Common Redhank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A169	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	C03, F01, G01, H03, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A183	Lesser Black-Backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i>	C03, F02, H03, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A195	Little Tern	<i>Sterna albifrons albifrons</i>	C03, D01, I01, I02, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Invasive non-native species, Problematic native species, Changes in abiotic conditions
A229	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	A11, D01, G01, H01, I01, J02	Agriculture activities not referred to above, Roads, paths and railroads, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Invasive non-native species, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions



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