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# STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

SEA Screening Report For Modifications To  
The South Dublin County Council Local  
Authority Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029

Prepared for:  
South Dublin County Council



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## SEA Screening Report For Modifications To The South Dublin County Council Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024 -2029

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

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

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

This is the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report for Modifications to the South Dublin County Council (SDCC) Local Authority Climate Action Plan (referred to as either the 'LACAP' or the 'Plan') 2024 - 2029.

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

### 1.2 SEA Process to Date

A draft version of the LACAP was prepared. This document was accompanied by a Draft SEA Environmental Report which considered, evaluated and presented the environmental effects of the Draft LACAP on the environmental baseline and presented mitigation measures to avoid or minimize identified environmental effects. This SEA process was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the SEA Directive<sup>1</sup> and transposing national legislation.

Appropriate Assessment (AA) was also undertaken on the Draft LACAP in accordance with the Habitats Directive<sup>2</sup> and transposing national legislation. A Draft Natura Impact Report (NIR) which considered the effects of the Draft LACAP on European sites was therefore prepared also. This report suitably informed the SEA process.

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

All submissions made on this documentation have been reviewed by SDCC. These submissions were taken into consideration prior to finalisation of the LACAP. SDCC have prepared a Chief Executive Report on the submissions received. This document details the submissions received, SDCC responses to the submissions, and Plan Action Modifications arising following consideration of the submissions.

### 1.3 Purpose of this Assessment

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

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<sup>1</sup> Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment

<sup>2</sup> Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.



This report documents the SEA Screening undertaken to identify the need for full SEA in this case. This report will accompany the documented Plan Action modifications.

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

1. The South Dublin County Council LACAP 2024 - 2029.
2. The Draft SEA Environmental Report for the South Dublin County Council LACAP 2024 - 2029.
3. The Draft NIR for the South Dublin County Council LACAP 2024 - 2029.
4. South Dublin County Council LACAP Chief Executive Report.
5. The AA Screening Report for modifications to South Dublin County Council LACAP 2024 - 2029.

## 1.4 Draft SEA Environmental Report

A Draft SEA Environmental Report has been produced for the Draft LACAP. This report contains the information specified in Annex 1 of the SEA Directive and Schedule 2 and 2B of S.I. 435 and 436 of 2004. A checklist of information included in this SEA Environmental Report under the SEA Directive and transposing national legislation is provided in Table 1-1. This checklist cross-references the sections in the report where information can be found.

The information contained in this Draft SEA Environmental Report has been referred to during the carrying out of the SEA Screening Assessment documented in this report.

**Table 1-1: SEA Environmental Report Checklist**

| Information Required  | Relevant Section of the SEA Environmental Report |
|---|--|
| An outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan and relationship with other relevant plans.  | Section 2.                                       |
| The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan.   | Section 4.                                       |
| The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.   | Section 4.                                       |
| Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to the Birds Directive or Habitats Directive.  | Section 4.                                       |
| The environmental protection objectives, established at international, European Union or national level, which are relevant to the plan and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.  | Section 5.                                       |
| The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. | Section 7 and Appendix 3.                        |



| Information Required   | Relevant Section of the SEA Environmental Report |
|--|--|
| The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan.   | Section 8.                                       |
| An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information. | Section 6.                                       |
| A description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring of the significant environmental effects of implementation of the plan.  | Section 9.                                       |
| A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings.  | Front Section                                    |
| Interrelationships between each Environmental Component.   | Section 7 and Appendix 3.                        |



## 2. SEA SCREENING METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Overview of the SEA Process

The SEA Directive – Directive 2001/42/EC on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment, requires that an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.

The overarching objective of the SEA Directive is *‘to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans....with a view to promoting sustainable development’*<sup>3</sup>

SEA is a process for evaluating, at the earliest appropriate stage, the environmental consequences of implementing Plan or Programme (P/P) initiatives prepared by authorities at a national, regional or local level or which have been prepared for adoption through legislative means.

SEA is described within the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government’s (2004) Guidelines for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities on the Implementation of SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) as the *‘formal systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme before a decision is made to adopt the plan or programme’*.

The SEA process comprises the following steps:

- Screening – the process whereby a decision is made on whether a particular P/P (or Plan Action modifications in this case), other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would require SEA.

If SEA is required following the Screening Determination, the following steps are necessary:

- Scoping – Scope and level of detail in the environmental assessment is decided upon, in consultation with the identified statutory bodies;
- Environmental Assessment - An assessment of the likely significant impacts on the environment as a result of the relevant P/P;
- Preparation of an Environmental Report;
- Consultation of the P/P and associated Environmental Report;
- Evaluation of the submission and observations made on the P/P and environmental report; and
- Provision of an SEA Statement, identifying how environmental considerations and consultation have been integrated into the Final P/P.

SEA is intended to provide the framework for influencing decision-making at an earlier stage when P/Ps – which give rise to individual projects – are being developed. It is noted that SEA should result in more sustainable development through the systematic appraisal of policy options.

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<sup>3</sup> Implementation of SEA Directive (2001/42/EC): Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment – Guidelines for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities (Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, 2004)





## 2.2 Overview of the SEA Screening Process

The first step of the SEA process is to carry out SEA Screening to determine the requirement for SEA of a P/P (or Plan Action modifications in this case).

The first stage in determining whether a P/P requires SEA is the carrying out of a 'Pre-screening Check' (also known as a 'Stage 1 Applicability'). This allows rapid screening-out of P/P that are clearly not going to have any environmental impact and screening-in of those that do require SEA. The second stage in determining whether a P/P requires SEA is known as 'Stage 2 Screening.' The purpose of this stage is to determine whether a P/P is likely to have significant effects on the environment and whether SEA must be carried out in conjunction with a P/P. The application of environmental significance criteria is important in determining whether an SEA is required. Annex II of Directive 2001/42/EC sets out the 'statutory' criteria that should be addressed when undertaking this stage. This process is typically undertaken following an 8-step approach Figure 2-1.

The first environmental significance criterion relates to the characteristics of the P/P, having regard to: the degree to which the P/P sets out a framework for other projects and activities; the influence of the P/P on other projects, plans or activities; the role of the plan for integrating environmental considerations to promote sustainable development; environmental issues of relevance to the P/P and the relevance of the P/P for the implementation of EU legislation on the environment.

The second environmental significance criterion refers to the characteristics of the effects and area likely to be affected, having regard to; the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects; the cumulative nature of the effects; the transboundary nature of the effects; the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to special natural characteristics or cultural heritage, exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values or intensive use; the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, European or international protection status.



Figure 2-1: SEA Screening steps as per the EPAs Good Practice Guidance on SEA Screening



## 2.3 Legislative Context

The screening stage of SEA is primarily addressed through Article 2 and Article 3 of the SEA Directive and Annex II which sets out the considerations in relation to determining significant environmental effects.

Article 2(a) of the SEA Directive establishes two cumulative conditions which P/P must satisfy in order for the further elements of the SEA Directive to be applicable to them:

- They must have been prepared and/or adopted by an authority at national, regional or local level or prepared by an authority for adoption, through a legislative procedure, by a parliament or government; and
- They must be required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions.

If these conditions are not satisfied, the measure is not regarded as a P/P which comes within the scope of the SEA Directive.

Once a P/P has been determined to be within the scope of the SEA Directive, Article 3 sets out the criteria for determining which P/P require environmental assessment. Again, several conditions must be met. A P/P must (a) belong to the list of sectors and (b) set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive, or (c) require an Appropriate Assessment under the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).

Annex II of the SEA Directive presents the criteria for determining the likely significant effects referred to in Article 3(5) of the Directive. The significance of effects is determined with reference to the type and nature of the P/P, its position in the planning hierarchy and its influence on other P/P. It also has regard to the nature of the effects and the sensitivity of the receiving environment as well as the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects. Cumulative and transboundary issues must also be considered.

The SEA Directive is transposed into Irish legislation by the following:

- European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations (S.I. 435/2004)
- Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations (S.I. 436/2004). Both pieces of legislation were amended in 2011 through the following amendment regulations:
- European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Amendment Regulations (S.I. 200/2011)
- Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Amendment Regulations (S.I. 01/2011).

The criteria defined in Annex II of the SEA Directive has been transposed into national legislation via Schedule 1 of S.I. 435/2004.

This SEA Screening, which considers the modifications to the SDCC Draft LACAP, has been carried out in accordance with above legislation.



## 2.4 Relevant SEA Guidance

This SEA Screening has been carried out in accordance with and having appropriate regard to the following guidance documents:

- Good Practice Guidance on SEA Screening (EPA, 2021).
- Synthesis Report on Developing A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Methodologies For Plans And Programmes In Ireland (EPA, 2013).
- Synthesis Report on Developing A Strategic Environmental Assessment (Sea) Methodologies for Plans and Programmes in Ireland (EPA, 2003).
- Implementation of SEA Directive (2001/42/EC): Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment – Guidelines for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities
- Implementation of Directive 2001/43 on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment (European Commission, ND).

## 2.5 Appropriate Assessment and relationship to SEA Screening

The EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) requires an 'Appropriate Assessment' (AA) to be carried out where a plan or project is likely to have a significant impact on a European site. European sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

The first step in the process is to establish whether AA is required for the particular plan or project. This first step is referred to as 'AA Screening' and the purpose is to determine, on the basis of a preliminary assessment and objective criteria, whether a plan or project, alone and in combination with other plans or projects, could have significant effects on a European site in view of the site's conservation objectives.

Article 3(c) of the SEA Directive requires that an SEA is carried out on a P/P wherever such a P/P requires an AA under the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).

An AA Screening Report has also been prepared for the Plan Action modifications in this case in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC). The Report concludes the following:

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

This AA Screening Report will also accompany the documented Plan Action modifications.



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

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

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

| Action | Summary of Modification   |
|--------|---|
| N/A    | The following new action to be included in the Community Engagement section of the Draft Plan:<br><b>Engage with communities and residents across the County, through local pop-up awareness raising events, on home energy upgrades, funding and other supports available.</b> |
| N/A    | The following new action to be included in the Nature Based Solutions section of the Draft Plan:<br><b>Maintain and expand allotments for local food production across the County, in accordance with SDCC's Allotments Policy.</b>   |
| N/A    | The following new action to be included in the Nature Based Solutions section of the Draft Plan:<br><b>Support the provision of Community Gardens for local food production across the County, in partnership with Community Centres, Schools and other local groups.</b>       |
| N/A    | The following new action to be included in the Energy & Buildings section of the Draft Plan:<br><b>Maximise opportunities to avail of funding sources, to support a range of climate action projects across the County, including European Union (EU) funding streams.</b>      |

#### 3.1 SEA Screening Assessment of Plan Modifications

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

- The likely significant effect on the environment of implementing the Draft LACAP.
- The likely significant effect on the environment of implementing the Plan Action modifications.
- The Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) defined in Section 5 of the Draft SEA Environmental Report for the SDCC Draft LACAP that the Plan modifications must accord with and support.
- The mitigation measures defined in Section 8 of Draft SEA Environmental Report and Section 5 of the Draft NIR.

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



## 4. STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCREENING

This section of the report documents the SEA Screening undertaken.

Stage 1 Applicability Analysis was undertaken initially. This analysis is detailed in Section 4.1 of this report (Table 4-1 and Table 4-2).

Stage 2 Screening Analysis was then undertaken. This analysis is detailed in Section 4.2 of this report (Table 4-3, Table 4-4 and Table 4-5).

### 4.1 Stage 1 - SEA Applicability Analysis

**Table 4-1: SEA Applicability Analysis**

| SEA Applicability Analysis   |  |
|--|--|
| Status of Plan/Programme Maker   |  |
| Is the P/P prepared and/or adopted by an authority at national, regional or local level or prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government?  | The LACAP has been prepared by a local authority in accordance with Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021   |
| Is the P/P required by legislative, regulatory, or administrative provisions?  | The LACAP is required under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021   |
| Nature of the Plan/Programme   |  |
| Is the P/P prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use? | The LACAP is a cross-sectoral plan that targets a variety of sectors, including the energy, industry, transport, waste management and water management sectors.  |
| Does the P/P provide a framework for the development consent for projects listed in the EIA Directive?   | Neither LACAP nor the Plan Action Modifications to the LACAP provide a framework for development consent.  |
| Is the P/P likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site which leads to a requirement for Article 6 or 7 assessments?  | An NIR has been completed for the Draft LACAP. An AA Screening Report has been completed for the Plan Action modifications arising following the Plan/SEA consultation period. These documents have concluded that the neither the Draft LACAP nor Plan Action modifications will not give rise to any significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects, with the adoption of defined mitigation measures. |



| SEA Applicability Analysis  |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Exemptions  |                        |
| Is the sole purpose of the P/P to serve national defence or civil emergency or is it a financial/budget P/P or is it co-financed by the current SF/RDF programme? | No, for all questions. |

**Table 4-2: Summary of SEA Applicability Analysis**

| Summary of SEA Applicability Analysis   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Applicability Analysis Criterion  | Outcome (Yes or No) |
| Is the P/P prepared and/or adopted by an authority at national, regional or local level or prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government?   | Yes                 |
| Is the P/P required by legislative, regulatory, or administrative provisions?   | Yes                 |
| Is the P/P prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use?  | Yes                 |
| Does the P/P provide a framework for the development consent for projects listed in the EIA Directive?  | No                  |
| Is the P/P likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site which leads to a requirement for Article 6 or 7 assessments?   | No                  |
| Is the sole purpose of the P/P to serve national defence or civil emergency or is it a financial/budget P/P or is it co-financed by the current SF/RDF programme?   | No                  |
| Conclusion  |                     |
| Having regard to the SEA Screening steps identified by the EPA guidance in Figure 1-1, Stage 2 SEA Screening Analysis is required to whether the Plan Action modifications to the Draft LACAP in this case are likely to have significant effects on the environment and whether SEA must be carried out on such Plan Action modifications. |                     |



## 4.2 Stage 2 - SEA Screening Analysis

To inform the Stage 2 SEA Screening Analysis, an evaluation of the potential environmental implications of each Plan Action modification has been carried out. This evaluation is presented in Table 4-3.

**Table 4-3: Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification**

| Action | Summary of Modification   | Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification   |
|--------|---|---|
| N/A    | The following new action to be included in the Community Engagement section of the Draft Plan:<br><b>Engage with communities and residents across the County, through local pop-up awareness raising events, on home energy upgrades, funding and other supports available.</b> | This engagement-based action will support the reduction/offset of Residential sector GHG emissions. It supports the aims and objectives of the LACAP through community engagement and awareness-raising. The action is only an engagement related action that will serve to underpin climate action generally. It does not introduce additional environmental effects in and of itself.   |
| N/A    | The following new action to be included in the Nature Based Solutions section of the Draft Plan:<br><b>Maintain and expand allotments for local food production across the County, in accordance with SDCC's Allotments Policy.</b>   | This additional action has the potential to increase the level of sustainable food production and has the potential to lead to a slight positive effect on the climate environment. The action will be undertaken in accordance with the Environmental Governance Principles already defined in the Plan. This action will be beneficial; however, it is in keeping with the environmental effects identified and considered under the SEA/AA process to date. There are no additional sources for likely, significant environmental effects. |
| N/A    | The following new action to be included in the Nature Based Solutions section of the Draft Plan:<br><b>Support the provision of Community Gardens for local food production across the County, in partnership with Community Centers, Schools and other local groups.</b>       | This additional action has the potential to increase the level of sustainable food production and has the potential to lead to a slight positive effect on the climate environment. The action will be undertaken in accordance with the Environmental Governance Principles already defined in the Plan. This action will be beneficial; however, it is in keeping with the environmental effects identified and considered under the SEA/AA process to date. There are no additional sources for likely, significant environmental effects. |



| Action | Summary of Modification  | Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification   |
|--------|--|---|
| N/A    | <p>The following new action to be included in the Energy &amp; Buildings section of the Draft Plan:</p> <p>Maximise opportunities to avail of funding sources, to support a range of climate action projects across the County, including European Union (EU) funding streams.</p> | <p>This additional action is finance-related and will serve to underpin climate action, generally. It does not introduce additional environmental effects in and of itself.</p> |

Stage 2 SEA Screening Analysis has been carried out to determine whether a P/P is likely to have significant effects on the environment and whether SEA must be carried out in conjunction with a P/P. This analysis is presented in Table 4-4 and Table 4-5.

**Table 4-4: Criteria for Determining the Likely Significance of Environmental Effects - Characteristics of the Plan**

| Potential Significant Effects  |  |
|--|--|
| Characteristics of the plan or programme having regard, in particular to:  |  |
| The degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources | <p>The Plan Action modifications do not set out a development control related framework for projects or activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources.</p> <p>The Plan Action modifications will not result in the occurrence of any significant environmental effects in this regard.</p>  |
| The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy   | <p>Section 18, Part 3 of the Climate Acts 2015-2021 and Section 10 (2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) require that local authorities take account of their LACAPs when preparing a County Development Plan (CDP).</p> <p>The Plan Action modifications will not however influence the County Development Plan (CDP) to a degree that results in the occurrence of additional, likely significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against under the SEA and AA processes.</p> |





## Potential Significant Effects

### Characteristics of the plan or programme having regard, in particular to:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development                   | <p>The Plan Actions defined in the LACAP are broadly supportive of climate action (mitigation and adaptation) and sustainability. The Plan Actions will support the achievement of GHG emission reduction requirements.</p> <p>The Plan Action modifications will not result in any additional, likely significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against under the SEA and AA processes.</p> |
| Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme  | <p>The Plan Action modifications do not give rise to any environmental problems not previously considered. The Plan Action modifications will not result in any additional, likely significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against under the SEA and AA processes.</p>   |
| The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of European Union legislation on the environment (e.g., plans linked to waste-management or water protection) | <p>The LACAP will support the achievement of European Climate Law (Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 June 2021 establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality and amending Regulations (EC) No 401/2009 and (EU) 2018/1999) at local level. The Plan Action modifications do not materially alter the LACAP however.</p>   |



**Table 4-5: Criteria for Determining Potential for Significant Effects - Characteristics of the Effects**

| Potential for Significant Effects  |  |
|--|--|
| Characteristics of the Effects and the Area likely to be affected, having regard in particular to:                   |  |
| The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects  | <p>The Plan Action modifications will not result in any additional, likely significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against under the SEA and AA processes.</p> <p>The Plan Action modification will not create any material cumulative or transboundary environmental impacts.</p> <p>They will not create any risks to human health or the environment.</p> <p>They will not result in any environmental effect that will affect the sensitivity of the receiving environment or result in the exceedance of any prescribed Environmental Quality Standards.</p> <p>They will not result in an intensive land use not previously considered.</p> <p>They will not give risk to any significant landscape related impacts not previously considered during the SEA process.</p> |
| The cumulative nature of the effects   |  |
| The transboundary nature of the effects  |  |
| The risks to human health or the environment (e.g., due to accidents)  |  |
| The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected) |  |
| The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;</li> </ul>            |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values;</li> </ul>        |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intensive land-use</li> </ul>   |  |
| The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status    |  |



**Table 4-6: Summary of SEA Screening Analysis**

#### Summary of SEA Screening Analysis

Having regard to the Stage 2 Screening Analysis undertaken in Table 4-5, it is concluded that the Plan Action modifications to the Draft LACAP in this case will not result in the occurrence of any additional environmental impacts not previously considered or mitigated against in the Draft LACAP.



## 5. CONCLUSIONS

SEA Screening was carried out to determine the need for a SEA for the Plan modifications to the Draft LACAP in this case. It has been concluded, based on the pre-screening check, and review against the environmental significance criteria as set out in Annex II of the SEA Directive, that the Modifications to the Draft LACAP will not give rise to likely significant effects on the environment.

The principal reasons the Modifications to the Draft LACAP will not give rise to likely significant effects on the environment are as follows:

The modification are not material and will not result in any additional, likely significant environmental effects not already considered in the SEA Environmental Report for the Draft LACAP.

It is concluded that the Modifications to the Draft LACAP will not give rise to likely significant effects on the environment. Consequently, a full SEA is not required for the Plan modifications.



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