

## Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) Determination for the South Dublin Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2030

This determination whether the South Dublin Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2030 to be adopted<sup>1</sup> would or would not necessitate the undertaking of Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment (AA) under Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended).

An accompanying Screening for AA Report has been prepared to inform this determination. As identified in that report:

- Implementing the plan will involve South Dublin County Council helping to facilitate, promote, support and coordinate stakeholders in their activities in a way that is consistent with existing and emerging plans setting out public policy for sustainable development, including that relating to the economy, communities, infrastructure, land use tourism and environmental protection and environmental management. The plan is situated alongside this hierarchy of statutory documents that has been subject to environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment, as appropriate, and forms the decision making and consent granting framework. The plan does not provide consent or establish a framework for granting consent and will not be binding on any decisions relating to the granting of consent.
- The plan fully aligns with the provisions of the existing National Planning Framework, Ireland 2040, the National Climate Action Plans 2023 and 2024, Housing For All 2021, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and the current County Development Plan, all of which have been subject to legislative requirements relating to public consultation and environmental assessment/screening for environmental assessment. As such, the plan is wholly subject to the requirements of the provisions set out in these documents, including provisions relating to sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been integrated into these documents, including through SEA and AA processes, and does not introduce any alterations or additions to those provisions.
- In order to be realised, projects included in the plan (in a similar way to other projects from any other sectors) will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and other licencing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision making and consent granting framework.
- Following the source-pathway-receptor model, the relevant attributes of European sites were assessed. There are no additional sources for any likely significant effect on any European site introduced by the Plan that were not already considered by the existing planning framework and associated AA processes. As are no provisions in the Plan that introduce any additional sources for any likely significant effect on any European site beyond those already considered by the existing planning framework and associated AA processes, there are no in combination likely significant effects identified.
- Therefore, it is concluded in this Screening for AA to inform the competent authority carrying out the AA Screening, that the Plan is not foreseen to have any likelihood for significant effects on any European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects – and therefore
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<sup>1</sup> Incorporating Framework Plan and Implementation Plan

- any likelihood for a significant effect to any European site as a result of implementing the Plan can be ruled out.
- This evaluation is made in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species for which these sites have been designated. Consequently, Stage Two AA (including the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement) is not required.

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above and in the "Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report". The undersigned hereby determines that the South Dublin Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2030 to be adopted is not likely to result in significant effects on European sites, alone or in combination with any other plans, programmes, and projects etc. Consequently, Stage Two AA (including the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement) is not required.

**Signatory:**

**Date:**