



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann  
Tipperary County Council

# **Draft Carrick-on-Suir & Environs Local Area Plan 2025 – 2031**

## **Appendix 9: Appropriate Assessment Natura Impact Report**



CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING,  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE &  
PLANNING

# CARRICK-ON-SUIR LOCAL AREA PLAN 2025-2031

---

## Draft Natura Impact Report

---

**Prepared for:**  
Tipperary County Council



**Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann**  
Tipperary County Council

**Date:** October 2024

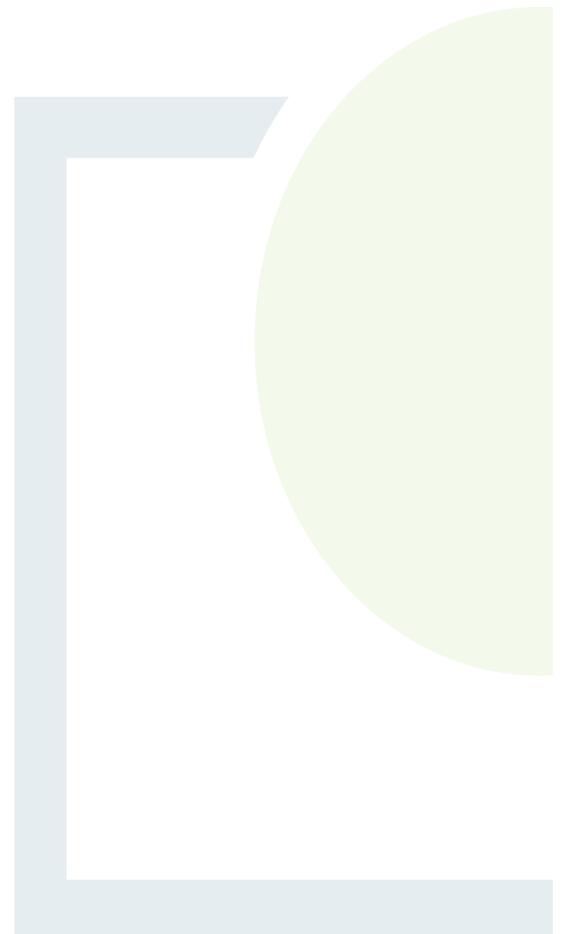
**Document No:**  
P24116-FT-EN-XX-RP-EN-0006

Unit 3/4, Northwood House, Northwood Crescent,  
Northwood, Dublin, D09 X899, Ireland

T: +353 21 496 4133 | E: [info@ftco.ie](mailto:info@ftco.ie)

**CORK | DUBLIN | CARLOW**

[www.fehilytimoney.ie](http://www.fehilytimoney.ie)



## Draft Natura Impact Report for Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan 2025-2031

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

User is responsible for Checking the Revision Status of This Document

Rev. No.	Description of Changes	Prepared by:	Checked by:	Approved by:	Date:
1	For Issue	EW/AD/JC/NSC	RD	RD	18/10/2024

**Client:** Tipperary County Council

**Keywords:** Tipperary, Appropriate Assessment, AA, Natura Impact Report, LAP, Local Area Plan, Carrick-on-Suir.

**Abstract:** Fehily Timoney and Company is pleased to submit this Draft Natura Impact Report to Tipperary County Council for the Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan 2025-2031.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION .....	1
1.1	Background.....	1
1.2	Legislative Context .....	1
1.3	Approach .....	1
2.	DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAFT LOCAL AREA PLAN.....	4
2.1	Overview.....	4
2.2	Plan Content.....	4
2.3	Relationship of the Plan with other Relevant Plans and Programmes .....	6
3.	SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT .....	7
3.1	Introduction to Screening.....	7
3.2	Identification of Relevant European Sites .....	7
3.3	Assessment Criteria and Screening .....	8
3.3.1	Is the Draft LAP Necessary to the Management of European Sites?.....	8
3.3.2	Elements of the Draft LAP with Potential to Give Rise to Effects .....	9
3.3.3	Screening of Sites .....	9
3.4	In-combination effects with Other Plans and Programmes.....	18
3.5	AA Screening Conclusion .....	18
4.	STAGE 2 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT .....	19
4.1	Introduction.....	19
4.2	Characterisation of European sites Potentially Affected .....	19
4.3	Identifying and Characterising Potential Significant Effects .....	19
4.3.1	Types of Potential Effects .....	20
5.	MITIGATION MEASURES .....	30
6.	CONCLUSION .....	36

## LIST OF APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 – Background Information to European sites  
 Appendix 2 – Relationship with Other Plans and Programmes

## LIST OF FIGURES

	<u>Page</u>
Figure 3-1: European sites in and surrounding the Plan Area.....	10
Figure 3-2: Hydrological connectivity from the Plan Area to nearby European sites .....	11

## LIST OF TABLES

	<u>Page</u>
Table 3-1: Screening of European sites which have ecological pathways for potential effects .....	12
Table 4-1: Characterisation of Potential Effects arising from the subject land area .....	21
Table 4-2: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area ..	22
Table 4-3: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Habitat or Species Fragmentation..	23
Table 4-4: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Disturbance to Key Species .....	25
Table 4-5: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Reduction in Species Density .....	26
Table 4-6: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Indicators of Conservation Value ...	28
Table 4-7: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Climate Change .....	29
Table 5-1: Embedded Environmental Mitigation .....	31
Table 5-2: Environmental Mitigation defined in the CDP .....	32
Table 5-3: Additional Environmental Mitigation.....	33
Table 5-4: Amendments to Pre-existing Plan Objectives/Policies .....	34



## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

This Natura Impact Report (NIR) was prepared in support of the Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan (LAP) 2025-2031 in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) (hereafter referred to as the “Habitats Directive”).

This report is part of the AA process that was undertaken alongside the preparation of the Draft LAP.

### 1.2 Legislative Context

The Habitats Directive provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the “favourable conservation status” of habitats and species of European Community Interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives (Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds) with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as European sites which form the Natura 2000 Network.

AA is required by the Habitats Directive, as transposed into Irish legislation by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act (as amended). AA is an assessment of the potential for adverse or negative effects of a plan or project, in combination with other plans or projects, on the conservation objectives of a European site. These sites consist of SACs and SPAs and provide for the protection and long-term survival of Europe’s most valuable and threatened species and habitats.

### 1.3 Approach

The AA is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological and hydrological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and grey literature<sup>1</sup> was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS) website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives (including spatial data collected for the most recent Article 17 conservation status reporting cycle, 2019).

All of these data sources are likely to be useful for AAs that must be undertaken for lower-tier plans/projects under the Plan.

---

<sup>1</sup> Various documents where publishing, in journals for example, is not the primary activity of the producing body. Examples include: conference presentations; regulatory data; unpublished trial data; government publications; and dissertations/theses.



The ecological desktop study completed for the AA of the Draft LAP comprised the following elements:

- Identification of European sites within 15km of the LAP boundary with identification of potential pathways links for specific sites (if relevant) greater than 15km from the LAP boundary.
- Review of the NPWS site synopsis and conservation objectives for European sites with identification of potential pathways from the LAP area.
- Examination of available information on protected species.

There are four main stages in the AA process as follow:

**Stage One: Screening**

The process that identifies the likely impacts upon a European site of a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant.

**Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment**

The consideration of the impact on the integrity of the European site of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's structure and function and its conservation objectives. Additionally, where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts. If adequate mitigation is proposed to ensure no significant adverse impacts on European sites, then the process may end at this stage. However, if the likelihood of significant impacts remains, then the process must proceed to Stage Three.

**Stage Three: Assessment of Alternative Solutions**

The process that examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoids adverse impacts on the integrity of the European site.

**Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain**

An assessment of compensatory measures where, in the light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), it is deemed that the project or plan should proceed.

The Habitats Directive promotes a hierarchy of avoidance, mitigation and compensatory measures. This approach aims to avoid any effects on European sites by identifying possible effects early in the plan-making process and avoiding such effects. Second, the approach involves the application of mitigation measures, if necessary, during the AA process to the point where no adverse effects on the site(s) remain. If potential effects on European sites remain, the approach requires the consideration of alternative solutions. If no alternative solutions are identified and the plan/project is required for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, then compensation measures are required for any remaining adverse effect(s).

The assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted following a standard source-pathway-receptor model<sup>2</sup>, where, 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 model is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

---

<sup>2</sup> Source(s) – e.g. pollutant run-off from proposed works; Pathway(s) – e.g. groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and Receptor(s) – qualifying aquatic habitats and species of European Sites



In the interest of this report, receptors are the ecological features that are known to be utilised by the qualifying interests or special conservation interests of a European site. A source is any identifiable element of the LAP provision that is known to interact with ecological processes. The pathways are any connections or links between the source and the receptor. This report provides information on whether direct, indirect and cumulative adverse effects could arise from the LAP.

The NIR exercise has been prepared taking into account legislation including the aforementioned legislation and guidance including the following:

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2009.
- “Commission Notice: Managing Natura 2000 sites - The provisions of Article 6 of the ‘Habitats’ Directive 92/43/EEC”, European Commission 2018.
- “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, 2002.
- “Managing Natura 2000 sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC”, European Commission, 2000.
- Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management; OPR Practice Note PN01; Office of the Planning Regulator, 2021.

The scope of the AA was informed by the submissions received on the scope of the accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment<sup>3</sup> (SEA) process being undertaken on the LAP.

---

<sup>3</sup> Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme before a decision is made to adopt it.



## 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAFT LOCAL AREA PLAN

### 2.1 Overview

This Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan 2025 – 2031 (LAP) has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended (“the Act”). LAPs are required for towns with a population over 5,000. Therefore, a new LAP is mandatory for Carrick-on-Suir. This LAP replaces the Carrick-on-Suir Town Development Plan 2013 (as varied and extended).

This LAP outlines the local spatial planning framework for Carrick-on-Suir with planning policies and objectives unique to the town set out at the end of each chapter. Planning policies will inform private and public sector local development proposals, and planning objectives represent the key local objectives of the Council to be achieved over the lifetime of the LAP.

This LAP has been prepared having consideration to Local Area Plans – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DECLG, 2013), their accompanying best-practice manual and the Development Plan Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DHLGH, 2022).

### 2.2 Plan Content

This LAP sets out a strategic vision for Carrick-on-Suir and has been informed by collaboration and consultation with stakeholders and the general public. This LAP has been prepared to underpin the Core Strategy of the Tipperary CDP and its Core Ambition to deliver ‘Vibrant, Living Towns driving the Regional and Local Economy’. The 10 Strategic Objectives of the Tipperary CDP each comply with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and are reflected in the local spatial planning framework outlined.

The LAP sits at the 'local' tier of planning policy and is consistent with the objectives of national and regional level planning policies, as well as the Tipperary CDP. The LAP is comprised of the following documents:

- A Written Statement with specific policies and objectives laid out across 10 sections.
- Maps including land-use zoning with flood risk areas, and built and natural heritage.
- Appendices as follows:
  1. Serviced Land Assessment
  2. Sustainable Travel Plan
  3. Regeneration Sites
  4. Social Infrastructure Audit
  5. Monitoring and Implementation Strategy
  6. Architectural Conservation Area Statement of Character
  7. Town Centre First Plan

The LAP is focused on a renewed and targeted approach to compact growth and regeneration, with the town centre as the heart and focal point of Carrick-on-Suir, and with clear consideration of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures and modal shift change in terms of how we get around. At the centre of this LAP is consideration of quality of life for the community in the form of housing, jobs, education and amenities.



The LAP includes policies and objectives at the end of each Chapter. The policies of the Plan seek to manage and guide new development of the town in a sustainable way. The objectives of the Plan are included to provide clarity on the active role of the Council in managing, supporting, and implementing the vision for the Plan. The policies and objectives of this LAP have been framed in a manner to ensure consistency with the provisions of the NPF, RSES and Tipperary CDP 2022-2028. This provides for a compact approach to growth with the aim of facilitating the delivery of climate resilient and sustainable communities in the town.

The strategic goal and aim of each section of the LAP are presented as below.

LAP Section/Chapter	Strategic Goal and Aim
2. Planning and Development Strategy	In 2031, Carrick-on-Suir will be a vibrant, sustainable and age-friendly community. The community will benefit from a high quality of life, quality housing choices, improved access to employment options and an improved range of services in the town. The town will benefit from significant investment and regeneration in the central areas of the town, enhanced social, cultural and tourism activities in the town, an increasing town centre residential population, and thriving and vibrant local businesses and services.
3. Town Centre Strategy	The Town Centre Strategy for Carrick-on-Suir will seek to ensure that the vibrancy and vitality of the town is maintained and enhanced. This will be achieved by increasing the residential population of the town centre, regenerating town centre brownfield lands, implementing and delivering the local town centre heritage-led strategies for the town, and providing a high-quality, pleasant and enjoyable town centre environment focused on active modes of travel.
4. Economic Development Strategy	By 2031, Carrick-on-Suir will have consolidated its existing employment base with enhanced employment opportunities for local residents. This will be achieved by supporting existing businesses to diversify and expand, supporting the development of existing business parks in the town, promoting and enabling tourism development and by improving the town centre experience through the delivery of new infrastructure and a heritage-led Town Centre First approach.
5. Sustainable Communities	Over its lifetime, this Carrick-on-Suir LAP, as part of a larger multi-stakeholder social and economic framework, will help facilitate the development of sustainable and socially inclusive communities, where high-quality and age friendly housing is provided consistently, and integrated with the delivery of community and social infrastructure to support a high quality of life for the residents of the town.
6. Transport and Connectivity	By 2030, Carrick-on-Suir will have initiated a model shift change in transport modes, with greater numbers of residents, workers and visitors utilising active travel such as walking and cycling and public transport, thereby enabling more sustainable transport patterns. This will be achieved by investing in sustainable transport infrastructure, provision of a high-quality public realm and the facilitation and activation of new development close to the town centre.
7. Recognising Our Local Heritage	In 2031, Carrick-on-Suir will have an enhanced built heritage, amenity and green and blue infrastructure that will showcase the best of the natural and built heritage of the town; enhancing amenity and providing a high-quality environment for locals, visitors and future generations. This will be achieved by ensuring that new development contributes to urban greening and local ecology, and by sensitive investment in the built heritage in the town.



LAP Section/Chapter	Strategic Goal and Aim
8. Infrastructure, Energy and Utilities	Over the lifetime of this Plan, there will be continued investment in a sustainable network of physical strategic infrastructure and utilities to support sustainable socio-economic growth and protect the quality of the environment of Carrick-on-Suir. This will be achieved through the identification of required infrastructure in collaboration with infrastructure providers, and continued investment in the right locations, and at the right time.
9. Land use Zoning Framework	The purpose of the land use zoning framework is to guide development to the right location and ensure that development takes places in a co-ordinated and coherent way, while protecting the built and natural environment of the town. The land use framework is underpinned by the SLA with a tiered approach to zoning in accordance with the NPF requirements and is informed by the Development Plan Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DHLGH, 2022).
10. Monitoring and Evaluation	The Council places an emphasis on monitoring, and it is a key objective of this Plan to carry out effective, cross-sectional monitoring and evaluation of the policies and objectives contained in this LAP.

### 2.3 Relationship of the Plan with other Relevant Plans and Programmes

An examination of how the LAP interrelates with other national, regional and local plans and programmes has taken place and is documented in Appendix 2.



## 3. SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

### 3.1 Introduction to Screening

This stage of the process identifies any potential significant effects to European sites from a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans.

An important element of the AA process is the identification of the “conservation objectives”, “Qualifying Interests” (QIs) and/ or “Special Conservation Interests” (SCIs) of European sites requiring assessment. QIs are the habitat features and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive for which each European Site has been designated and afforded protection. SCIs are wetland habitats and bird species listed within Annex I of the Birds Directive. It is also vital that the threats to the ecological / environmental conditions that are required to support QIs and SCIs are considered as part of the assessment.

The following NPWS Generic Conservation Objectives have been considered in the screening:

- For SACs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected.
- For SPAs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

Where available, Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) designed to define favourable conservation status for a particular habitat<sup>4</sup> or species<sup>5</sup> at that site have been considered.

### 3.2 Identification of Relevant European Sites

All European sites that are in the Plan area, within the zone of influence of the Plan area, or connected by environmental pathways (e.g., hydrological connections) to the Plan area have been considered within this assessment. The assessment process also considers hydrogeological processes and possible effects to ground water with respect to ground water sensitive habitats and species.

Details of European sites considered in the assessment are provided in Table 3-1. European sites in and surrounding the Plan area are also mapped in

---

<sup>4</sup> Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when: its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing; the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future; and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.

<sup>5</sup> The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when: population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats; the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future; and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.



Figure 3-1 below. Information on QIs, SCIs and site-specific vulnerabilities and sensitivities (see Appendix 1) and background information (such as that within Ireland's Article 17 Report to the European Commission, site synopses and Natura 2000 standard data forms) have been considered by both the AA screening assessment (provided under this section) and Stage 2 AA (provided under Section 4). Conservation objectives that have been considered by the assessment are included in the following National Parks and Wildlife Service documents:

- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Lower River Suir SAC [IE002137] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Nier Valley Woodlands SAC [IE000668] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Comeragh Mountains SAC [IE001952] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Hugginstown Fen SAC [IE000404] Version 1.
- NPWS (2011) Conservation Objectives for River Barrow and River Nore SAC [IE0002162] Version 1.
- NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives for Tramore Back Strand SPA [IE004027] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for Mid-Waterford Coast SPA [IE004193] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for River Nore SPA [IE004233] Version 1.

The assessment considers available conservation objectives. Since conservation objectives focus on maintaining the favourable conservation condition of the QIs/SCIs of each site, the screening process concentrated on assessing the potential effects of the Draft LAP against the QIs/SCIs of each site. The conservation objectives for each site were consulted throughout the assessment process.

### 3.3 Assessment Criteria and Screening

#### 3.3.1 Is the Draft LAP Necessary to the Management of European Sites?

The overarching objective of the Draft LAP is to provide a framework for sustainable development within the County. Therefore, the Draft LAP is not considered to be directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites.



### 3.3.2 Elements of the Draft LAP with Potential to Give Rise to Effects

The Draft LAP provides a land use planning framework for the Plan Area. There are a number of environmental sensitivities within the area and an assessment of effects indicates the potential effects relate to the following:

- *Arising from both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure.*
- *Loss of/damage to biodiversity in designated sites (including European sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna.*
- *Habitat loss, fragmentation and deterioration, including patch size and edge effects.*
- *Disturbance (e.g. due to noise and lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species.*
- *Potential interactions if effects upon environmental vectors such as water and air.*
- *Adverse effects from tourism, amenity and recreation.*
- *Damage to the hydrogeological and ecological function of the soil resource.*
- *Adverse effects upon the status of water bodies arising from changes in quality, flow and/or morphology.*
- *Increase in the risk of flooding.*
- *Failure to provide adequate and appropriate waste water treatment (water services infrastructure and capacity is needed to ensure the mitigation of potential conflicts).*
- *Emissions to air including greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions.*

All policies and objectives defined in the Draft LAP are considered in this assessment with respect to the ecological integrity of all relevant European sites identified - considering the sensitivities/vulnerabilities of the QIs and SCIs in relation to all potential sources for effects and potential pathways for such effects. Where sources and pathways for effects are identified potential effects will be assessed in relation to the SSCOs.

### 3.3.3 Screening of Sites

Table 3-1 examines whether there is potential for effects on European sites considering information provided above, including Appendix 1. Sites are screened in based on one or a combination of the following criteria:

- The existence of potential for pathways for significant effects, such as hydrological links, Draft LAP proposals and the site to be screened.
- The distance of the relevant site from the Draft LAP boundary.
- The existence of a link between identified threats or vulnerabilities at a site to potential impacts that may arise from the Draft LAP.

Mapping Reproduced Under Licence from the Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. CVAL503682746 Government of Ireland Creative and Commons Attribution 4.0 International [CC BY 4.0] Licence <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>  
 World Imagery: Earthstar Geographics  
 OpenStreetMap, © OpenStreetMap contributors, CC-BY-SA



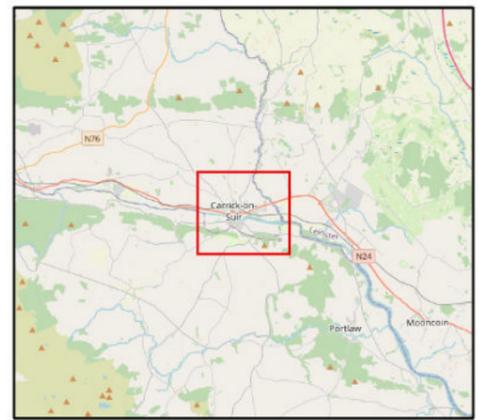
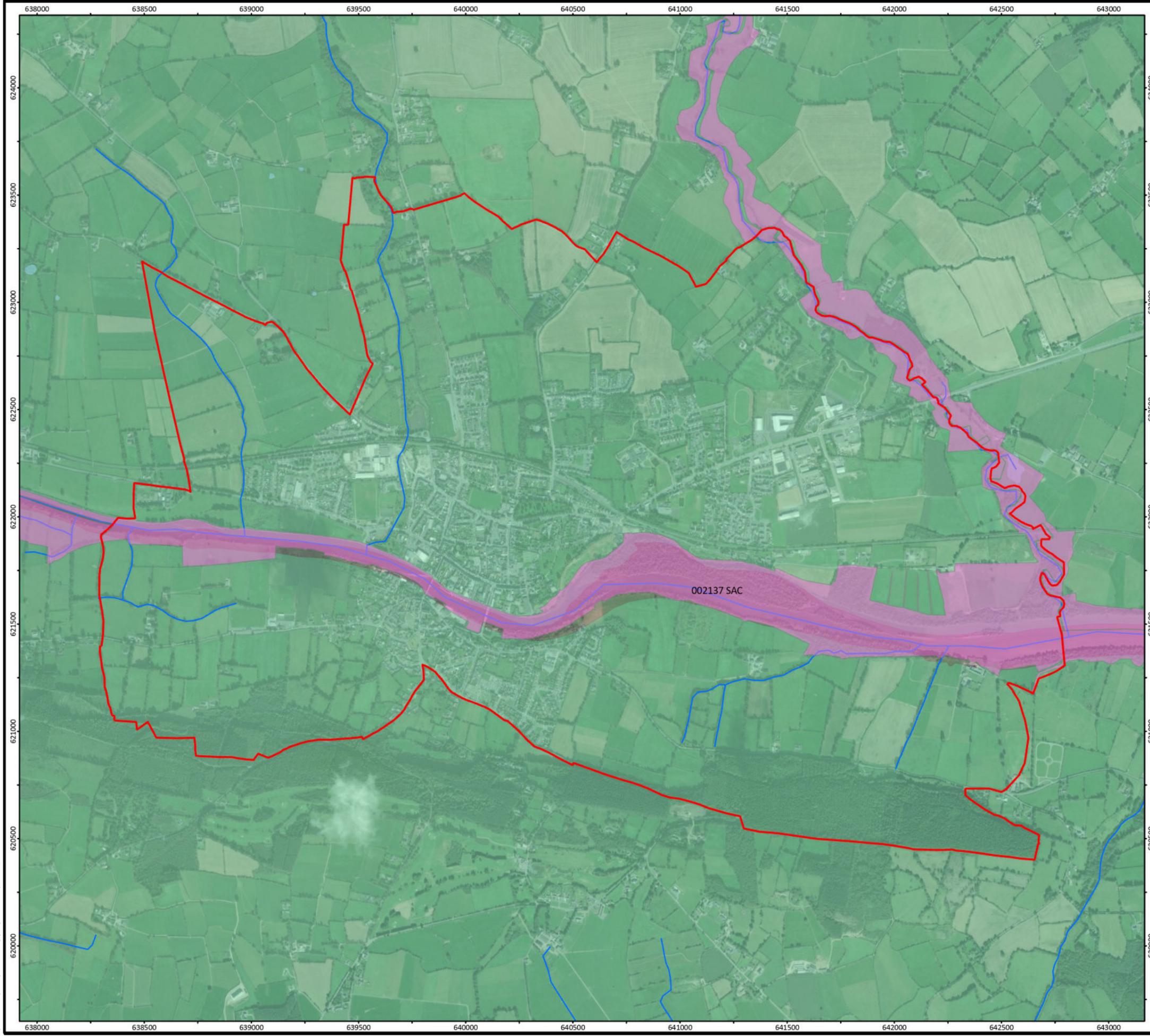
**Legend**

- Local Area Plan Boundary
- Special Protection Area (SPA)
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- LAP 15km Buffer

Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protected Areas	
Carrick on Suir	
Local Area Plan 2025 - 2031	
<b>FIGURE NO:</b>	3.1
<b>CLIENT:</b>	Tipperary County Council
<b>DATE:</b> 7/31/2024	<b>SCALE:</b> 1:135,000 @ A3

Cork | Dublin | Carlow  
[www.fehilytimoney.ie](http://www.fehilytimoney.ie)

Mapping Reproduced Under Licence from the Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. CVAL0308274 © Government of Ireland Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International [CC BY 4.0] licence https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/  
 World Imagery: © Bing, Microsoft  
 OpenStreetMap: © OpenStreetMap (map) contributors, CC-BY-SA



- Legend**
- Local Area Plan Boundary
  - Rivers
  - WFD Lake Segments
  - Special Protection Area (SPA)
  - Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- WFD Catchments**
- Catchment Name**
- Suir

<b>Hydrological Connectivity to European Sites</b>	
Carrick on Suir	
Local Area Plan 2025 - 2031	
<b>FIGURE NO:</b>	3.2
<b>CLIENT:</b>	Tipperary County Council
<b>DATE:</b> 02/07/2024	<b>SCALE:</b> 1:17,500 @ A3





**Table 3-1: Screening of European sites which have ecological pathways for potential effects**

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
002137	Lower River Suir SAC	0.00	<p>Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330]            Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260]            Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430]            Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]            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]  <i>Taxus baccata</i> woods of the British Isles [91J0]  <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029]  <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> (White-clawed Crayfish) [1092]  <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> (Sea Lamprey) [1095]  <i>Lampetra planeri</i> (Brook Lamprey) [1096]  <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> (River Lamprey) [1099]  <i>Alosa fallax fallax</i> (Twait Shad) [1103]  <i>Salmo salar</i> (Salmon) [1106]  <i>Lutra lutra</i> (Otter) [1355]</p>	<p>The SAC is sensitive to disturbance effects, direct land use management activities and hydrological interactions.            The LAP provides a framework for development that is likely to result in land use changes, emission sources such as noise and dust, and hydrological interactions.            There is direct overlap between the LAP boundary and the SAC therefore further consideration is required.</p>	Y	Y



Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
001952	Comeragh Mountains SAC	9.50	<p>Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110]</p> <p>Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation [3260]</p> <p>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]</p> <p>European dry heaths [4030]</p> <p>Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]</p> <p>Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]</p> <p>Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110]</p> <p>Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210]</p> <p>Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220]</p> <p>Hamatocaulis vernicosus (Slender Green Feather-moss) [6216]</p>	<p>The SAC is sensitive to disturbance effects, direct land use management activities and hydrological and groundwater interactions.</p> <p>This SAC is located at a significant distance outside the LAP boundary and is not hydrologically connected, therefore no further consideration is required.</p>	N	N



Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000404	Hugginstown Fen SAC	12.60	Alkaline fens [7230]	<p>This SAC is highly sensitive to surface and groundwater interactions.</p> <p>This SAC is located a significant distance outside the LAP boundary and is not hydrologically connected, therefore no further consideration is required.</p>	N	N
000668	Nier Valley Woodlands SAC	13.75	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	<p>The significant pressures facing this SAC are associated with invasive non-native species such as Rhododendron ponticum, cherry laurel (Prunus laurocerasus) and beech (Fagus sylvatica) and overgrazing by deer.</p> <p>This SAC is located a significant distance outside the LAP boundary; therefore no further consideration is required.</p>	N	N
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	14.94	Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> ) [1096], Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i> ) [1330], White-clawed crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> ) [1092], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], Desmoulin's whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> ) [1016], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355],	<p>The SAC is sensitive to disturbance effects, direct land use management activities and hydrological interactions.</p> <p>This SAC is located a significant distance outside the LAP boundary however there is a direct hydrological connection between the LAP area and this site.</p>	Y	Y



Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			<p>European dry heaths [4030], Reefs [1170], Killarney fern (<i>Trichomanes speciosum</i>) [1421], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) [1029], <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Estuaries [1130], Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) [1095], Nore Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera durrovensis</i>) [1990], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220], 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], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106], River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) [1099], Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410]</p>			



Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
004233	River Nore SPA	19.45	Kingfisher ( <i>Alcedo atthis</i> ) [A229]	<p>The QI species of this SPA is sensitive to hydrological interactions, invasive non-native species, changes in hydraulic conditions and direct land use management activities.</p> <p>This SPA is located a significant distance outside the LAP boundary, outside the foraging range for the QI species Kingfisher, and is not hydrologically connected, therefore no further consideration is required.</p>	N	N
004193	Mid-Waterford Coast SPA	21.35	Herring Gull ( <i>Larus argentatus</i> ) [A184], Peregrine falcon ( <i>Falco peregrinus</i> ) [A103], Chough ( <i>Pyrhcorax pyrrhcorax</i> ) [A346], Cormorant ( <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> ) [A017]	<p>The QI species of this SPA are sensitive to land use changes, direct disturbance, and marine pollution.</p> <p>This SPA is located a significant distance outside the LAP and outside the foraging distance for the QI species. There is hydrological connectivity, at a distance of 68km, including approximately 20km of seawater. The dilution effect at this distance means there will be no effects, therefore no further consideration is required.</p>	N	N



Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
004027	Tramore Back Strand SPA	24.07	Bar-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa lapponica</i> ) [A157], Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> ) [A156], Dunlin ( <i>Calidris alpina</i> ) [A149], Light-bellied Brent Goose ( <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> ) [A046], Grey Plover ( <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> ) [A141], Curlew ( <i>Numenius arquata</i> ) [A160], Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) [A142]	<p>The QI species of this SPA are sensitive to land use changes, direct disturbance and marine pollution.</p> <p>This SPA is located outside the LAP and outside the foraging distance for the QI species.</p> <p>There is hydrological connectivity, at a distance of 54.2km, including approximately 5.8km of seawater. The dilution effect at this distance means there will be no effects, therefore no further consideration is required.</p>	N	N



### 3.4 In-combination effects with Other Plans and Programmes

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the plan or project, have the potential to adversely affect European sites. Appendix 2 outlines a selection of plans or projects that may interact with the Draft LAP to cause in-combination effects to European sites. These plans, programmes, strategies etc. were considered throughout the assessment.

The Draft LAP sits within a hierarchy of statutory documents setting out public policy for, among other things, land use planning, infrastructure, sustainable development, recreation, environmental protection and environmental management, which have been subject to their own environmental assessment processes, as relevant. The Plan must comply with relevant higher-level strategic actions.

The National Planning Framework (NPF) sets out Ireland's planning policy direction for the next 20 years. The NPF is to be implemented through Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSEs) and lower tier CDPs and Local Area Plans. The RSE for the Southern Region sets out objectives for land use planning, tourism, infrastructure, sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been subject to environmental assessment and must be implemented through the Draft LAP. As required by the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the Draft LAP is consistent with and conforms with national and regional policies, plans and programmes, including the NPF and the RSE for the Southern Region.

In order to be realised, projects included in the Draft LAP (in a similar way to other projects from any other sector) 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.

All projects within the Draft LAP area and receiving environment will be considered in combination with any and all lower tier projects that may arise due to the implementation of the Draft LAP. Given the uncertainties that exist with regard to the scale and location of developments facilitated by the Draft LAP, it is recognised that the identification of in-combination effects is limited and that the assessment of in-combination effects will need to be undertaken in a more comprehensive manner at the project-level.

Additional information on the in-combination effects relationship with other plans and programmes is provided at Appendix 2.

### 3.5 AA Screening Conclusion

The effects that could arise from the Draft LAP have been examined in the context of several factors that could potentially affect the integrity of any European site. On the basis of the findings of this Screening for AA, it is concluded that the Draft LAP:

- Is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site.
- May, if unmitigated, have significant adverse effects on 2 (no.) European sites: Lower River Suir SAC (002137) and River Barrow and River Nore SAC (002162).

Therefore, a Stage 2 AA is required for the Draft LAP (see Section 4 of this report). An AA Screening Determination undertaken by the planning authority accompanies this report and the Draft LAP.



## 4. STAGE 2 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

### 4.1 Introduction

The Stage 2 AA assesses whether the Draft LAP alone, or in-combination with other plans, programmes, and/or projects, would result in adverse effects on the integrity of the 2 European sites brought forward from screening (those considered on Table 3-1 for which there is “Potential Pathway for Significant Effects” and/or “Potential for In-Combination Effects”), with respect to site structure, function and/or conservation objectives.

### 4.2 Characterisation of European sites Potentially Affected

The AA Screening identified 2 European sites with pathway receptors for potential effects arising from the implementation of the Draft LAP.

### 4.3 Identifying and Characterising Potential Significant Effects

The following parameters can be used when characterising impacts<sup>6</sup>:

- Direct and Indirect Impacts - An impact can be caused either as a direct or as an indirect consequence of a Plan/Project.
- Magnitude - Magnitude measures the size of an impact, which is described as high, medium, low, very low or negligible.
- Extent - The area over that the impact occurs – this should be predicted in a quantified manner.
- Duration - The time that the effect is expected to last prior to recovery or replacement of the resource or feature. Duration should be defined in relation to ecological characteristics (such as the lifecycle of a species) as well as human timeframes.
- Likelihood – The probability of the effect occurring taking into account all available information.
- Ecologically Significant Impact - An impact (negative or positive) on the integrity of a defined site or ecosystem and/or the conservation status of habitats or species within a given geographic area.
- Integrity of a Site - The coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, which enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was classified.

The Habitats Directive requires the focus of the assessment at this stage to be on the integrity of the site as indicated by its Conservation Objectives. It is an aim of the NPWS to draw up conservation management plans for all areas designated for nature conservation. These plans will, among other things, set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest within a site.

---

<sup>6</sup> These descriptions are informed by publications including: Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2022) “Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in Ireland and the UK”; Environmental Protection Agency (2022) “Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports”; and National Roads Authority (2009) “Guidelines for Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Roads Schemes”.



Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) have been prepared for a number of European sites. These detailed SSCO aim to define favourable conservation condition for the qualifying habitats and species at that site by setting targets for appropriate attributes that define the character habitat. The maintenance of the favourable condition for these habitats and species at the site level will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

*Favourable conservation status of a species can be described as being achieved when: 'population data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself, and the natural range of the species is neither being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.'*

*Favourable conservation status of a habitat can be described as being achieved when: 'its natural range, and area it covers within that range, is stable or increasing, and the ecological factors that are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable'.*

Generic Conservation Objective for SACs:

*To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species that the SAC has been selected.*

One generic Conservation Objective for SPAs:

*To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.*

#### 4.3.1 Types of Potential Effects

Assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted utilising a standard source-pathway model (see approach referred to under Sections 1.3 and 3). The 2001 European Commission AA guidance outlines the following potential changes that may occur at a designated site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site: loss/reduction of habitat area; habitat or species fragmentation; disturbance to key species; reduction in species density; changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.); and climate change. Each of these potential changes are considered below and in Table 4-1 with reference to the QIs/SCIs of all of the European sites brought forward from Stage 1 of the AA process (see Section 3).



**Table 4-1: Characterisation of Potential Effects arising from the subject land area**

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects - in the absence of mitigation
002137	Lower River Suir SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures for this SAC relate to cultivation, landfill, land reclamation and drying out, fertilisation, discharges, port areas, pollution to surface waters (limnic &amp; terrestrial, marine &amp; brackish), urbanised areas, human habitation, silviculture, forestry, dykes and flooding defense in inland water systems, reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, invasive non-native species.</p> <p>The LAP provides for future land use development. Development of infrastructure which could result in effects to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in Section 5 below.</p>
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	<p>The known threats and pressures for this SAC relate to invasive non-native species, netting, agricultural intensification, intensive cattle grazing, use of fertilizers (forestry), pollution to surface waters (limnic &amp; terrestrial, marine &amp; brackish), dykes and flooding defense in inland water systems, port areas, peat extraction, reduction in migration or migration barriers, forestry activities not referred to above, changes in abiotic conditions, fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, forest replanting (native trees), water abstractions from surface waters, sand and gravel quarries, removal of hedges and copses or scrub, dredging or removal of limnic sediments, modifying structures of inland water courses, industrial or commercial areas, forest and plantation management &amp; use, intensive fish farming, intensification, human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, leisure fishing and erosion.</p> <p>The LAP provides for future land use development. Development of infrastructure which could result in effects to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.</p> <p>Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in Section 5 below.</p>

#### 4.3.1.1 Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area

The Draft LAP provides a framework for granting consent for land use developments and activities across various sectors (see Section 2) for Carrick-on-Suir. Potential effects arising from developments and activities include land take, habitat destruction, disturbance effects, light pollution, dust, hydrological interactions, airborne pollution and excessive noise. Two European sites have the potential to be impacted by these developments and activities. Various measures have been integrated into the LAP itself and within the higher-order Tipperary County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 (CDP) with the objective of ensuring that there are no significant effects on the ecological integrity of any European Site (see Table 4-2; for example, 7.1, 7.2, 7.5, 11-1, 11-2, see also Section 5 for full list) as a result of loss of habitat or supporting habitat for species that are necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European Sites.

These policies ensure that there will be no loss of habitat or supporting habitat for species that are necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European sites throughout the lifetime of the LAP.



**Table 4-2: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area**

Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	7.1	Protect and conserve the integrity, ecological and biodiversity value of the River Suir, the Glen River and the Lingaun River and the associated riparian zones as they run through the town. Ensure that any development proposals within or adjacent to the rivers are appropriately assessed to ensure the protection of water quality and river access.
LAP	7.2	Support the extension of the Suir Blueway Tipperary along the River Suir, subject to planning and environmental assessment - whilst protecting and enhancing the natural character and ecological value of the river and associated important habitat, including riparian zones.
LAP	7.5	Protect the designated natural heritage sites and sites of high ecological value within the plan area including the Alluvial Wet Woodland habitat on the Islands of the River Suir.
CDP	11-1	In assessing proposals for new development to balance the need for new development with the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and human health. In line with the provisions of Article 6(3) and Article 6 (4) of the Habitats Directive, no plans, programmes, etc. or projects giving rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on European sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans, programmes, etc. or projects).
CDP	11-2	Ensure the protection, integrity and conservation of European Sites and Annex I and II species listed in EU Directives. Where it is determined that a development may individually, or cumulatively, impact on the integrity of European sites, the Council will require planning applications to be accompanied by a NIS in accordance with the Habitats Directive and transposing Regulations, 'Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects, Guidelines for Planning Authorities', (DEHLG 2009) or any amendment thereof and relevant Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and European Commission guidance documents.

#### 4.3.1.2 Habitat or species Fragmentation

The LAP provides a framework for granting consent for land use developments and activities across various sectors (see Section 2). Potential effects arising from developments and activities include the fragmentation of habitat and or species through, for example, light pollution, habitat loss or removal of stepping stone habitats.

The LAP itself and the higher order CDP includes measures to minimise potential fragmentation and to facilitate the enhancement of ecological corridors such as riparian zones, planting of native tree species, management of habitats such as woodlands and minimising inappropriate lighting (see Table 4-3; for example, 7.1, 7.2, 7.5, 7.10, 7A, 7B, 11-1, 11-2, 11-3, 11-4, 11-6, see also Section 5 for full list).



Further to the provisions referred to above, there are provisions related to non-designated sites (that the Plan recognises the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources) and specific ecological resources and/or habitats such as waterways, wetlands and hedgerows that will ensure that habitat or species fragmentation does not occur in relation to the connectivity of the ecological resources necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European Sites.

**Table 4-3: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Habitat or Species Fragmentation**

Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	7.1	Protect and conserve the integrity, ecological and biodiversity value of the River Suir, the Glen River and the Lingaun River and the associated riparian zones as they run through the town. Ensure that any development proposals within or adjacent to the rivers are appropriately assessed to ensure the protection of water quality and river access.
LAP	7.2	Support the extension of the Suir Blueway Tipperary along the River Suir, subject to planning and environmental assessment - whilst protecting and enhancing the natural character and ecological value of the river and associated important habitat, including riparian zones.
LAP	7.5	Protect the designated natural heritage sites and sites of high ecological value within the plan area including the Alluvial Wet Woodland habitat on the Islands of the River Suir.
LAP	7A	Support and work with the local community, and other stakeholders in the development of blue and green infrastructure in the town, including the enhancement of the biodiversity and conservation value of the River Suir, Glen River and Lingaun River.
LAP	7B	Work in partnership with stakeholders and the local community in the delivery of projects for Carrick-on-Suir in the Green and Blue Infrastructure Masterplan Roadmap for Tipperary Waterways (TCC, 2018) and the proposed Tipperary Greenway and Trail Strategy and seek funding opportunities as they arise.
CDP	11-1	In assessing proposals for new development to balance the need for new development with the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and human health. In line with the provisions of Article 6(3) and Article 6 (4) of the Habitats Directive, no plans, programmes, etc. or projects giving rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on European sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans, programmes, etc. or projects).
CDP	11-2	Ensure the protection, integrity and conservation of European Sites and Annex I and II species listed in EU Directives. Where it is determined that a development may individually, or cumulatively, impact on the integrity of European sites, the Council will require planning applications to be accompanied by a NIS in accordance with the Habitats Directive and transposing Regulations, 'Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects, Guidelines for Planning Authorities', (DEHLG 2009) or any amendment thereof and relevant Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and European Commission guidance documents.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
CDP	11-3	Ensure the conservation and protection of existing, and proposed NHAs, and to ensure that proposed developments within or in close proximity to an existing or proposed NHA would not have a significant adverse impact on the status of the site as described.
CDP	11-4	<p>(a) Conserve, protect and enhance areas of local biodiversity value, habitats, ecosystems and ecological corridors, in both urban and rural areas, including rivers, lakes, streams and ponds, peatland and other wetland habitats, woodlands, hedgerows, tree lines, veteran trees, natural and semi-natural grasslands in accordance with the objectives of the National Biodiversity Plan (DCHG 2017) and any review thereof.</p> <p>(b) Safeguard, enhance and protect water bodies (rivers/canals/lakes) and river walks and to provide links, where possible, to wider green infrastructure networks as an essential part of the design process.</p> <p>(c) Require an 'Ecosystems Services' approach for new development to incorporate nature-based solutions to SUDS, in so far as practical, as part of water management systems, public realm design and landscaping, in line with best practice.</p> <p>(d) Where trees or hedgerows are of particular local value, the Council may seek their retention, or where retention is not feasible, their replacement and will seek a proactive focus on new tree-planting as part of new development.</p>
CDP	11-6	Ensure the integration of river corridors with green infrastructure in settlements in line with the 'Planning for Watercourses in the Urban Environment' (Inland Fisheries Ireland, 2020).

#### 4.3.1.3 Disturbance to Key Species

The Draft LAP provides a framework for granting consent for land use developments and activities across various sectors. Disturbance effects are caused by any activity or development that has potential to alter the movement patterns or distribution of species, for example direct disturbance through human activity/movement as a result of human activity/movement or noise pollution.

Noise and light will be managed through provisions such as CDP policies 11-18 and 11-19. Other disturbance effects could relate to a reduction in habitat quality for species. Policies to ensure the protection of habitat quality have been built into the plan as identified above (see also Section 5).

The Draft LAP includes various provisions that would, if unmitigated, have the potential to add sources of effects; however, LAP policies/objectives such as 6.5 and 6B (see Section 5) will mitigate such effects. Policies to ensure the protection of habitat quality have been built into the LAP and are also defined in the higher order; identified in Table 4-4 (further details see Section 5).



**Table 4-4: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Disturbance to Key Species**

Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	6.5	Preserve and safeguard the Route Corridor for the proposed N24 Waterford to Cahir Scheme (Major National Road Project) and support and prioritise the implementation of the scheme - having due regard to the need to protect sensitive aspects of the receiving environment, such as water bodies, biodiversity, flora and fauna, European sites and local population, from potential negative effects of this strategic infrastructural development.
LAP	6B	Work in partnership with TII and regional stakeholders to deliver the proposed N24 Waterford to Cahir Scheme as part of the upgrade of the N24 National Route linking Limerick and Waterford - having due regard to the need to protect sensitive aspects of the receiving environment, such as water bodies, biodiversity, flora and fauna, European sites and local population, from potential negative effects of this strategic infrastructural development.
CDP	11-1	In assessing proposals for new development to balance the need for new development with the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and human health. In line with the provisions of Article 6(3) and Article 6 (4) of the Habitats Directive, no plans, programmes, etc. or projects giving rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on European sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans, programmes, etc. or projects).
CDP	11-2	Ensure the protection, integrity and conservation of European Sites and Annex I and II species listed in EU Directives. Where it is determined that a development may individually, or cumulatively, impact on the integrity of European sites, the Council will require planning applications to be accompanied by a NIS in accordance with the Habitats Directive and transposing Regulations, 'Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects, Guidelines for Planning Authorities', (DEHLG 2009) or any amendment thereof and relevant Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and European Commission guidance documents.
CDP	11-18	Ensure that new development does not result in significant noise disturbance and to ensure that all new developments are designed and constructed to minimise noise disturbance in accordance with the provisions of the Noise Action Plan 2018 and relevant standards and guidance that refer to noise management.
CDP	11-19	Ensure that new development does not result in significant disturbance as a result of light pollution and to ensure that all new developments are designed and constructed to minimise the impact of light pollution on the visual, environmental and residential amenities of surrounding areas.



#### 4.3.1.4 Reduction in species density

Species densities are reliant on species distributions, habitat condition, connectivity of ecological resources and availability of resources such as prey/food. The Draft LAP introduces potential sources for effects to affect these four determinant factors for species densities in the form of construction phase effects such as habitat destruction, light pollution, hydrological interaction or operational effects such as disturbance effects, habitat encroachment and trampling.

The Draft LAP includes provisions related to non-designated sites (that the Draft LAP recognises the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources) and specific ecological resources and/or habitats such as waterways, wetlands and hedgerows that will ensure that habitat or species fragmentation does not occur in relation to the connectivity of the ecological resources necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European Sites. Measures relating to light pollution, noise pollution, habitat loss and fragmentation are addressed above. In addition to this, the LAP and the higher order CDP identify policies/objectives to protect and improve water quality interactions which can influence species densities. There are also a number of provisions relating to protective buffer zones, further assessment requirements as well as commitments to increasing water quality standards. Further details in relation to the mitigation measures incorporated into the text of the LAP and in the CDP are provided in Section 5.

**Table 4-5: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Reduction in Species Density**

Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	7.1	Protect and conserve the integrity, ecological and biodiversity value of the River Suir, the Glen River and the Lingaun River and the associated riparian zones as they run through the town. Ensure that any development proposals within or adjacent to the rivers are appropriately assessed to ensure the protection of water quality and river access.
LAP	7A	Support and work with the local community, and other stakeholders in the development of blue and green infrastructure in the town, including the enhancement of the biodiversity and conservation value of the River Suir, Glen River and Lingaun River.
CDP	11-1	In assessing proposals for new development to balance the need for new development with the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and human health. In line with the provisions of Article 6(3) and Article 6 (4) of the Habitats Directive, no plans, programmes, etc. or projects giving rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on European sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans, programmes, etc. or projects).
CDP	11-2	Ensure the protection, integrity and conservation of European Sites and Annex I and II species listed in EU Directives. Where it is determined that a development may individually, or cumulatively, impact on the integrity of European sites, the Council will require planning applications to be accompanied by a NIS in accordance with the Habitats Directive and transposing Regulations, 'Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects, Guidelines for Planning Authorities', (DEHLG 2009) or any amendment thereof and relevant Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and European Commission guidance documents.



Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
CDP	11-4	<p>(a) Conserve, protect and enhance areas of local biodiversity value, habitats, ecosystems and ecological corridors, in both urban and rural areas, including rivers, lakes, streams and ponds, peatland and other wetland habitats, woodlands, hedgerows, tree lines, veteran trees, natural and semi-natural grasslands in accordance with the objectives of the National Biodiversity Plan (DCHG 2017) and any review thereof.</p> <p>(b) Safeguard, enhance and protect water bodies (rivers/canals/lakes) and river walks and to provide links, where possible, to wider green infrastructure networks as an essential part of the design process.</p> <p>(c) Require an 'Ecosystems Services' approach for new development to incorporate nature-based solutions to SUDS, in so far as practical, as part of water management systems, public realm design and landscaping, in line with best practice.</p> <p>(d) Where trees or hedgerows are of particular local value, the Council may seek their retention, or where retention is not feasible, their replacement and will seek a proactive focus on new tree-planting as part of new development.</p>
CDP	11-7	<p>a) Ensure the protection of water quality in accordance with the EU WFD, and support the objectives and facilitate the implementation of the associated Programme of Measures of the River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 and any successor. This includes contributing towards the protection of Blue-Dot catchments and drinking water resources. Also, have cognisance of the EU's Common Implementation Strategy Guidance Document No. 20 and 36 which provide guidance on exemptions to the environmental objectives of the WFD.</p> <p>b) Support an integrated and collaborative approach to catchment management in accordance with the River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 and any successor.</p> <p>c) Require an undisturbed edge or buffer zone to be maintained, where appropriate, between new developments and riparian zones of water bodies to maintain the natural function of existing ecosystems associated with water courses and their riparian zones, and to enable sustainable public access.</p>

#### 4.3.1.5 Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value

Indicators of conservation value are identified as key ecological resources such as water quality, air quality, habitat quality, population health of ecosystem engineers or 'keystone species' etc. The protection of these resources is a key focus of the Plan including provisions contained within Chapter 7 'Recognising Our Local Heritage'. Other chapters such as Chapter 8 'Infrastructure, Energy and Utilities' also contain provisions for ensuring future developments and forward planning is managed in a sustainable manner.

There is potential for interactions at local level between agricultural waste and soil, water, biodiversity and human health – including nitrogen deposition as a result of agricultural activities.

Emissions to air also have potential to adversely affect the conservation status of European Sites. Various provisions have been integrated into the LAP and within the higher-order CDP with the objective of protecting air quality. Additionally, the policies provide broader scope to ensure the protection of the wider landscape associated with riparian zones and habitats sensitive to hydrological interactions; such as 7.1, 7.2, 11-5, 11-6.



**Table 4-6: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Indicators of Conservation Value**

Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	7.1	Protect and conserve the integrity, ecological and biodiversity value of the River Suir, the Glen River and the Lingaun River and the associated riparian zones as they run through the town. Ensure that any development proposals within or adjacent to the rivers are appropriately assessed to ensure the protection of water quality and river access.
LAP	7.2	Support the extension of the Suir Blueway Tipperary along the River Suir, subject to planning and environmental assessment - whilst protecting and enhancing the natural character and ecological value of the river and associated important habitat, including riparian zones.
CDP	11-1	In assessing proposals for new development to balance the need for new development with the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and human health. In line with the provisions of Article 6(3) and Article 6 (4) of the Habitats Directive, no plans, programmes, etc. or projects giving rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on European sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans, programmes, etc. or projects).
CDP	11-2	Ensure the protection, integrity and conservation of European Sites and Annex I and II species listed in EU Directives. Where it is determined that a development may individually, or cumulatively, impact on the integrity of European sites, the Council will require planning applications to be accompanied by a NIS in accordance with the Habitats Directive and transposing Regulations, 'Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects, Guidelines for Planning Authorities', (DEHLG 2009) or any amendment thereof and relevant Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and European Commission guidance documents.
CDP	11-5	Ensure that new developments proposed in or near 'Ground Water Protection Schemes' and 'Zones of Contribution' which contribute to public water supplies, do not result in a significant negative impact on the integrity, function and management of these important assets.
CDP	11-6	Ensure the integration of river corridors with green infrastructure in settlements in line with the 'Planning for Watercourses in the Urban Environment' (Inland Fisheries Ireland, 2020).



#### 4.3.1.6 Climate Change

The LAP includes provisions that potentially conflict with climate mitigation and provisions that will help to contribute towards climate mitigation. Section 7 ‘Recognising Our Local Heritage’ of the LAP provides that ‘no plans, programmes, etc. or projects giving rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on European sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans, programmes, etc. or projects).’ Greenhouse gas emissions arising from the Plan will not affect changes projected to arise from climate change to the degree that it would affect the QIs or SCIs of the European Sites considered.

**Table 4-7: Policies and objectives in the LAP and the CDP relevant to Climate Change**

Plan	Ref.	Objective/Policy
LAP	2.3	Require new development to incorporate best practice in low-carbon and energy efficient planning and techniques as reflected by the policies and objectives of the TCDP and this LAP and in accordance with the Tipperary County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 (and any review thereof).
CDP	5-9	Require that climate change actions and measures be incorporated in new residential development of all scales to demonstrate how the development will minimise energy use, enhance accessibility, manage waste and support biodiversity.
CDP	11-1	In assessing proposals for new development to balance the need for new development with the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and human health. In line with the provisions of Article 6(3) and Article 6 (4) of the Habitats Directive, no plans, programmes, etc. or projects giving rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on European sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans, programmes, etc. or projects).
CDP	11-2	Ensure the protection, integrity and conservation of European Sites and Annex I and II species listed in EU Directives. Where it is determined that a development may individually, or cumulatively, impact on the integrity of European sites, the Council will require planning applications to be accompanied by a NIS in accordance with the Habitats Directive and transposing Regulations, ‘Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects, Guidelines for Planning Authorities’, (DEHLG 2009) or any amendment thereof and relevant Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and European Commission guidance documents.



## 5. MITIGATION MEASURES

This section outlines measures that have been incorporated into the Draft LAP in order to mitigate against potential effects to European sites as identified above. The Draft LAP was prepared in an iterative manner whereby the Plan and AA documents have informed subsequent versions of the other. These mitigation measures ensure that there will be no significant effects to the ecological integrity of any European site from implementation of the Draft LAP. The mitigation measures most relevant to the protection of European sites are identified in Table 5-1 below<sup>7</sup>.

The plan making process was carried out in parallel with the SEA and AA processes. Regular communication and interaction took place between the environmental assessment team and the plan making team. Environmental considerations that came to light during the SEA and AA processes, including consultation processes, were regularly communicated to the plan making team during the plan making process. As necessary, environmental mitigation measures to ameliorate the potential negative environmental effects of implementing the Draft LAP were developed and then integrated into the Draft LAP. Much of the environmental mitigation was embedded in the plan early on in the process as a result of this. This process was carried out in an iterative manner to ensure optimal plan making and environmental outcomes. Environmental considerations were also integrated into the plan so as to facilitate maximizing identified positive environmental effects of the Draft LAP.

Mitigation measures have been proposed that maximize the co-benefits of positive environmental action for other environmental components such as local air quality, human health, biodiversity, water quality and other interrelated areas (i.e., win-win solutions).

Environmental mitigation measures integrated into early iterations of the Draft LAP to mitigate potential significant negative effects on European sites are presented in Table 5-1.

Environmental mitigation measures defined in the higher order Tipperary County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 (CDP) that mitigate potential significant negative effects on European sites are presented in Table 5-2.

Additional Environmental Mitigation Measures (additional policies/objectives) recommended to mitigate potential significant negative effects on European sites are presented in Table 5-3.

Additional text clarifying environmental protection related obligations and environmental enhancement opportunities has been attached to various previously defined objectives/policies in the Draft Plan. Such recommendations that serve to mitigate potential significant negative effects on European site are presented in Table 5-4.

---

<sup>7</sup> For a complete assessment of the Plan, against all environmental components (These components comprise biodiversity, fauna, flora, population, human health, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors), refer to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report of the Plan.



**Table 5-1: Embedded Environmental Mitigation**

Objective / Policy Reference	Objective / Policy
2.3	Require new development to incorporate best practice in low-carbon and energy efficient planning and techniques as reflected by the policies and objectives of the TCDP and this LAP and in accordance with the Tipperary County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 (and any review thereof).
7.1	Protect and conserve the integrity, ecological and biodiversity value of the River Suir, the Glen River and the Lingaun River and the associated riparian zones as they run through the town. Ensure that any development proposals within or adjacent to the rivers are appropriately assessed to ensure the protection of water quality and river access.
7.2	Support the extension of the Suir Blueway Tipperary along the River Suir, subject to planning and environmental assessment - whilst protecting and enhancing the natural character and ecological value of the river and associated important habitat, including riparian zones.
7.5	Protect the designated natural heritage sites and sites of high ecological value within the plan area including the Alluvial Wet Woodland habitat on the Islands of the River Suir.
7.7	Safeguard the setting and character of Ormond Castle, including the Castle Park, amenity lands and riverscape.
7A	Support and work with the local community, and other stakeholders in the development of blue and green infrastructure in the town, including the enhancement of the biodiversity and conservation value of the River Suir, Glen River and Lingaun River.
7B	Work in partnership with stakeholders and the local community in the delivery of projects for Carrick-on-Suir in the Green and Blue Infrastructure Masterplan Roadmap for Tipperary Waterways (TCC, 2018) and the proposed Tipperary Greenway and Trail Strategy and seek funding opportunities as they arise.
8.2	Support the sustainable and efficient use of existing capacity in water service; permit new connections to the Carrick-on-Suir public water and waste water supply; and safeguard the integrity of the water supply and waste water network. Where local network upgrades are required, to ensure that capacity is provided to individual sites in accordance with the Uisce Eireann Connections Charging Policy and Uisce Eireann's Connections and Developer Service process.



**Table 5-2: Environmental Mitigation defined in the CDP**

Objective / Policy Reference	Objective / Policy
5-9	Require that climate change actions and measures be incorporated in new residential development of all scales to demonstrate how the development will minimise energy use, enhance accessibility, manage waste and support biodiversity.
11-1	In assessing proposals for new development to balance the need for new development with the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and human health. In line with the provisions of Article 6(3) and Article 6 (4) of the Habitats Directive, no plans, programmes, etc. or projects giving rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on European sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans, programmes, etc. or projects).
11-2	Ensure the protection, integrity and conservation of European Sites and Annex I and II species listed in EU Directives. Where it is determined that a development may individually, or cumulatively, impact on the integrity of European sites, the Council will require planning applications to be accompanied by a NIS in accordance with the Habitats Directive and transposing Regulations, 'Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects, Guidelines for Planning Authorities', (DEHLG 2009) or any amendment thereof and relevant Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and European Commission guidance documents.
11-3	Ensure the conservation and protection of existing, and proposed NHAs, and to ensure that proposed developments within or in close proximity to an existing or proposed NHA would not have a significant adverse impact on the status of the site as described.
11-4	<p>(a) Conserve, protect and enhance areas of local biodiversity value, habitats, ecosystems and ecological corridors, in both urban and rural areas, including rivers, lakes, streams and ponds, peatland and other wetland habitats, woodlands, hedgerows, tree lines, veteran trees, natural and semi-natural grasslands in accordance with the objectives of the National Biodiversity Plan (DCHG 2017) and any review thereof.</p> <p>(b) Safeguard, enhance and protect water bodies (rivers/canals/lakes) and river walks and to provide links, where possible, to wider green infrastructure networks as an essential part of the design process.</p> <p>(c) Require an 'Ecosystems Services' approach for new development to incorporate nature-based solutions to SUDS, in so far as practical, as part of water management systems, public realm design and landscaping, in line with best practice.</p> <p>(d) Where trees or hedgerows are of particular local value, the Council may seek their retention, or where retention is not feasible, their replacement and will seek a proactive focus on new tree-planting as part of new development.</p>
11-5	Ensure that new developments proposed in or near 'Ground Water Protection Schemes' and 'Zones of Contribution' which contribute to public water supplies, do not result in a significant negative impact on the integrity, function and management of these important assets.
11-6	Ensure the integration of river corridors with green infrastructure in settlements in line with the 'Planning for Watercourses in the Urban Environment' (Inland Fisheries Ireland, 2020).



Objective / Policy Reference	Objective / Policy
11-7	<p>a) Ensure the protection of water quality in accordance with the EU WFD, and support the objectives and facilitate the implementation of the associated Programme of Measures of the River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 and any successor. This includes contributing towards the protection of Blue-Dot catchments and drinking water resources. Also, have cognisance of the EU's Common Implementation Strategy Guidance Document No. 20 and 36 which provide guidance on exemptions to the environmental objectives of the WFD.</p> <p>b) Support an integrated and collaborative approach to catchment management in accordance with the River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 and any successor.</p> <p>c) Require an undisturbed edge or buffer zone to be maintained, where appropriate, between new developments and riparian zones of water bodies to maintain the natural function of existing ecosystems associated with water courses and their riparian zones, and to enable sustainable public access.</p>
11-13	Seek to control the spread of invasive plant and animal species, including consideration of potential pathways for invasive species spread, i.e. watercourses.
11-18	Ensure that new development does not result in significant noise disturbance and to ensure that all new developments are designed and constructed to minimise noise disturbance in accordance with the provisions of the Noise Action Plan 2018 and relevant standards and guidance that refer to noise management.
11-19	Ensure that new development does not result in significant disturbance as a result of light pollution and to ensure that all new developments are designed and constructed to minimise the impact of light pollution on the visual, environmental and residential amenities of surrounding areas.

**Table 5-3: Additional Environmental Mitigation**

Objective / Policy Reference	Objective / Policy
7.10	Protect and where possible enhance biodiversity and ecological connectivity, including habitat that form part of the ecological network and/or may be considered as ecological corridors or stepping stones in the context of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive. Appropriate mitigation and/or compensation to conserve biodiversity and green infrastructure networks will be required where important habitats are at risk or lost as part of a development.



**Table 5-4: Amendments to Pre-existing Plan Objectives/Policies**

Objective / Policy Reference	Objective / Policy	Amendment
5.2	Require the preparation of a masterplan for the landbank of 'New Residential' zoned land on the northern side of the Coolnamauck Road. A masterplan must provide 1) for a coordinated and phased approach to delivery and sequencing of residential development, public open space, playground / play spaces, road access, active travel and permeability; and 2) an evidence-based assessment to demonstrate that there is adequate capacity in the existing road network to accommodate transport impact from further proposed development OR the phased delivery of required transport infrastructure delivery. Any identified transport upgrade requirements are to be provided as part of the proposed development, in accordance with the phasing plan for the lands.	Require the preparation of a masterplan for the landbank of 'New Residential' zoned land on the northern side of the Coolnamauck Road. A masterplan must provide 1) for a coordinated and phased approach to delivery and sequencing of residential development, public open space, playground / play spaces, road access, active travel and permeability; 2) an evidence-based assessment to demonstrate that there is adequate capacity in the existing road network to accommodate transport impact from further proposed development OR the phased delivery of required transport infrastructure delivery. Any identified transport upgrade requirements are to be provided as part of the proposed development, in accordance with the phasing plan for the lands. <b>The masterplan must be informed and guided by all relevant environmental considerations, including the need to manage and mitigate (where necessary) the potential effects development in this area may have on the Lower River Suir SAC.</b>
5I	Support access to public open space along the Glen River, at the Duck Pond and along the River Suir.	Support access to public open space along the Glen River, at the Duck Pond and along the River Suir, <b>and promote passive recreational activities (subject to the sensitivity of riverside habitat), whilst protecting and enhancing the natural character and ecological value of the river and stream corridors.</b>
6.4	Support the sequential development of lands zoned for development, and to ensure that provision is made for the orderly expansion into areas that may be zoned in the future. In assessing new planning applications, and on a case-by-case basis, the Council may require the maintenance of a corridor to provide for future connectivity with adjoining un-zoned lands.	Support the sequential development of lands zoned for development, and to ensure that provision is made for the orderly expansion into areas that may be zoned in the future. In assessing new planning applications, and on a case-by-case basis, the Council may require the maintenance of a corridor to provide for future connectivity with adjoining un-zoned lands, <b>having due regard to the need to protect sensitive aspects of the receiving environment, such as water bodies, biodiversity, flora and fauna, European sites and local population, from potential negative effects of development.</b>



Objective / Policy Reference	Objective / Policy	Amendment
6.5	Preserve and safeguard the Route Corridor for the proposed N24 Waterford to Cahir Scheme (Major National Road Project) and support and prioritise the implementation of the scheme.	Preserve and safeguard the Route Corridor for the proposed N24 Waterford to Cahir Scheme (Major National Road Project) and support and prioritise the implementation of the scheme - <b>having due regard to the need to protect sensitive aspects of the receiving environment, such as water bodies, biodiversity, flora and fauna, European sites and local population, from potential negative effects of this strategic infrastructural development.</b>
6.6	Support, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, the development of a third river crossing to the west of town, subject to the identification of a need for such transport-related infrastructure.	Support, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, the development of a third river crossing to the west of town, subject to the identification of a need for such transport-related infrastructure; <b>whilst ensuring 1) environmental considerations are integrated into the design, planning and development of such a crossing (at the earliest stages possible); and 2) Robust environmental assessment processes guide and inform the development.</b>
6B	Work in partnership with TII and regional stakeholders to deliver the proposed N24 Waterford to Cahir Scheme as part of the upgrade of the N24 National Route linking Limerick and Waterford.	Work in partnership with TII and regional stakeholders to deliver the proposed N24 Waterford to Cahir Scheme as part of the upgrade of the N24 National Route linking Limerick and Waterford - <b>having due regard to the need to protect sensitive aspects of the receiving environment, such as water bodies, biodiversity, flora and fauna, European sites and local population, from potential negative effects of this strategic infrastructural development.</b>
7.2	Support the extension of the Suir Blueway Tipperary along the River Suir, subject to planning and environmental and assessment.	Support the extension of the Suir Blueway Tipperary along the River Suir, subject to planning and environmental and assessment - <b>whilst protecting and enhancing the natural character and ecological value of the river and associated important habitat, including riparian zones.</b>
8C	Integrate a Nature Based Approach to SUDS, with a focus on biodiversity as part of new public realm and public sector development in the town.	Integrate a Nature Based Approach to SUDS, with a focus on biodiversity <b>and climate adaptation</b> , as part of new public realm and public sector development in the town.



## 6. CONCLUSION

Stage 1 AA Screening and Stage 2 AA of the Draft Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan has been carried out. Implementation of the Draft LAP has the potential to result in effects to the integrity of the Lower River Suir SAC, if unmitigated.

The risks to the safeguarding and integrity of the qualifying interests and conservation objectives of the European site have been addressed by the inclusion of mitigation measures that will prioritise the avoidance of effects in the first place and mitigate effects where these cannot be avoided. In addition, all lower-level plans and projects arising through the implementation of the Draft LAP will themselves be subject to AA when further details of design and location are known.

In-combination effects from interactions with other plans and projects was considered in the assessment and the mitigation measures incorporated into the plan are seen to be robust to ensure there will be no significant adverse effects as a result of the implementation of the Draft LAP either alone or in-combination with other plans/projects.

Having incorporated mitigation measures, it is concluded that the Draft Carrick-on-Suir LAP is not foreseen to give rise to any significant adverse effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects<sup>8</sup>. This evaluation is made in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species, for which these sites have been designated.

The AA process is ongoing and will inform and will be concluded at adoption of the LAP.

---

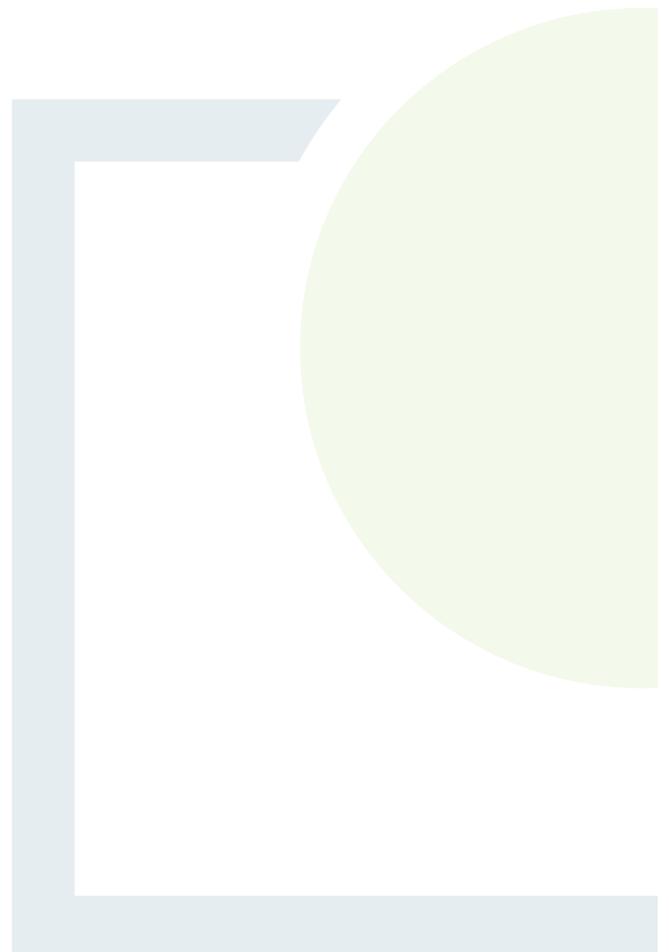
<sup>8</sup> Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.



CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING,  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE  
& PLANNING

## APPENDIX 1

Background Information to  
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
002137	Lower River Suir SAC	This site contains a range of Annex I habitats including floating river vegetation, eutrophic tall herbs alluvial forest old oak woods yew woods and salt meadows. The site is very important for the presence of a number of scarce and specialised Annex II animal species with particularly important populations of the fish species <i>Salmo salar</i> and <i>Alosa fallax fallax</i> . <i>Lutra lutra</i> is widespread on the system as is <i>Austroptamobius pallipes</i> . The site supports two Annex I priority and five non-priority Annex I habitats. There are four Annex I species of birds present within the site. The rare lichen <i>Lobaria pulmonaria</i> an ancient woodland indicator occurs at Portlaw Oak Woods within the site.	The Suir River system flows through the counties of Tipperary Kilkenny and Waterford. The site consists of all of the freshwater stretches of the Suir immediately south of Thurles the tidal stretches as far as the confluence with the Barrow/Nore immediately east of Cheekpoint in Co. Waterford and many of the tributaries including the Clodiagh the Lingaun Anner Nier Tar Aherlow and Multeen. Much of the system flows through Carboniferous limestone though towards Waterford the geology changes to Old Red Sandstone and Ordovician bedrocks. The site supports a diverse range of habitats including marsh reedbeds wet and dry grasslands broad-leaved semi-natural woodlands salt marshes tidal rivers and estuarine channels. Substantial areas of improved grassland and arable lands are included for water quality reasons.
000668	Nier Valley Woodlands SAC	Woodlands show both primary and secondary successions in development towards an oak-dominated climax. Quality of woods diminished by regular grazing and regeneration is poor.	The site comprises a series of non-contiguous deciduous woodlands along the R. Nier and its tributaries. <i>Betula</i> spp. <i>Corylus avellana</i> and <i>Quercus</i> spp. are the main species with <i>Ilex aquifolium</i> and <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i> . Parts of site are of heath and scrub. Dry grassland and wet grassland also occur. Good representation of Irish mammals and birds. Valley has amenity value and is a popular tourist destination.
001952	Comeragh Mountains SAC	This is the most south-easterly upland area in the country and supports a diverse range of upland habitats and species. Habitats of particular note are the oligotrophic lakes dry heaths and alpine heath. Many rare bryophytes are present including <i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i> . Three bird species listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive breed within the site - <i>Falco peregrinus</i> <i>Circus cyaneus</i> and <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> . The Red Data Book fish <i>Salvelinus alpinus</i> occurs in the lakes.	A medium sized upland site with a diversity of habitats including various heath types of oligotrophic lakes in coums backed by extensive cliff faces upland grassland a variety of rocky habitats and rivers with well-developed aquatic flora. The blanket bog at this site is not considered a good example of the habitat. There is a small area of coniferous forestry present within the site. Roads have been developed near Mahon River for tourism purposes.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000404	Hugginstown Fen SAC	<p>The site supports an important example of alkaline fen vegetation and is considered one of best sites in the south-east region. It has a diverse vegetation including some scarce plants such as <i>Oenanthe fistulosa</i>. The site is in a fairly natural state and the quality is generally good. Some rare insects have been recorded, notably <i>Lestes dryas</i> and <i>Parhelophilus consimilis</i>. <i>Rana temporaria</i> is common at the site.</p>	<p>The site occupies a narrow low-lying basin on limestone glacial till overlying acid Old Red Sandstone. It comprises a relatively large wetland dominated by swamp and fen vegetation. The wetland has a small catchment and is partly fed by iron rich springs. The northern part of the site is dominated by <i>Phragmites</i> swamp but much of the remainder consists of species-rich fen partly developed on floating mats of <i>Carex diandra</i> with beds of <i>Typha latifolia</i> or <i>Phragmites</i> scattered throughout and especially adjacent to spring areas. Species-rich Junco-Molinion grassland occurs in drained areas at the southern and northern ends of the site and around the margins at the peat-mineral interface. Surrounding land is mainly improved grassland used for pasture.</p>
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	<p>The site supports many Annexed habitats including the priority habitats of alluvial woodland and petrifying springs. The 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.</p>	<p>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 Inishtioige. 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.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004193	Mid-Waterford Coast SPA	<p>The site supports an internationally important population of breeding Chough, a Red Data Book species that is listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive; 24 breeding pairs were recorded from the site in the 1992 survey and 20 pairs in the 2002/03 survey. In addition, five flocks totalling 59 birds were noted in the 1992 survey and a flock of 24 birds in the 2002/03 survey. Along this coast flocks occur between Annestown and Stradbally. The site supports a nationally important Peregrine population (10 pairs in 2002). The site also holds nationally important populations of Cormorant (79 pairs) and Herring Gull (147 pairs), as well as smaller populations of other breeding seabirds: Fulmar (246 pairs), Shag (14 pairs), Guillemot (27 pairs), Razorbill (4 pairs) and Black Guillemot (15 individuals) – all seabird data from 1999-2000. The Mid-Waterford Coast SPA is an important site for Chough and Peregrine, both species that are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive. It also supports a range of breeding seabirds, including nationally important populations of Cormorant and Herring Gull.</p>	<p>The Mid-Waterford Coast SPA encompasses the areas of high coast and sea cliffs in Co. Waterford between Newtown Cove to the east and Ballyvoyle to the west. The site includes the sea cliffs and the land adjacent to the cliff edge. The high water mark forms the seaward boundary. The site is underlain by Devonian sandstones, siltstones, mudstones and conglomerates as well as a variety of volcanic rocks of Ordovician age. Sea cliffs are the predominant habitat of the site; these occur along its length and are generally well-vegetated by a suite of typical sea cliff species. Above the cliffs areas of heath, improved grassland, unimproved wet and dry grassland, and woodland occur.</p>
004027	Tramore Back Strand SPA	<p>Tramore Back Strand is an important site for wintering waterfowl, providing both feeding and roosting areas. Tramore Back Strand SPA is of high ornithological importance for wintering waterfowl, with one species occurring in internationally important numbers and a further seven species having populations of national importance. The regular occurrence of Little Egret, Golden Plover and Bar-tailed Godwit is of particular note as these three species are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive. Tramore Back Strand is also a Ramsar Convention site.</p>	<p>Tramore Back Strand SPA is located approximately 2 km east of Tramore town in County Waterford. It comprises a medium-sized estuary sheltered from the open sea by a long shingle spit, with high dunes. The area known as the Back Strand empties almost completely at low tide; it is connected to the outer bay and sea by narrows at Rinnashark. The intertidal mud flats and sand flats are an important habitat and the macrofauna is well-developed, with Lugworm (<i>Arenicola marina</i>), Furrow Shell (<i>Scrobicularia plana</i>), Ragworm (<i>Hediste diversicolor</i>) and Common Cockle (<i>Cerastoderma edule</i>) occurring commonly, and with large patches of Common Mussel (<i>Mytilus edulis</i>) and Edible Periwinkle (<i>Littorina littoralis</i>) also present.</p>

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004233	River Nore SPA	The River Nore SPA is of high ornithological importance as it supports a nationally important population of Kingfisher, a species that is listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive.	The River Nore SPA is a long, linear site that includes the following river sections: the River Nore from the bridge at Townparks, (north-west of Borris in Ossory) to Coolnamuck (approximately 3 km south of Inistioge) in Co. Kilkenny; the Delour River from its junction with the River Nore to Derrynaseera bridge (west of Castletown) in Co. Laois; the Erkina River from its junction with the River Nore at Durrow Mills to Boston Bridge in Co. Laois; a 1.5 km stretch of the River Goul upstream of its junction with the Erkina River; the Kings River from its junction with the River Nore to a bridge at Mill Island, Co. Kilkenny. 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
000404	Hugginstown Fen SAC	Alkaline fens [7230]	B02, A04, A08	Forest and Plantation management & use, Grazing, Fertilisation
000668	Nier Valley Woodlands SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	B, I01, A04, X	Sylviculture, forestry, Invasive non-native species, Grazing, No threats or pressures
001952	Comeragh Mountains SAC	Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110], European dry heaths [4030], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Slender green feather-moss (Hamatocaulis vernicosus) [6216], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210]	A04, B, I01, K01.01, E02, G01.02, D01.02, C01.03, J01, E06	Grazing, Sylviculture, forestry, Invasive non-native species, Erosion, Industrial or commercial areas, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Roads, motorways, Peat extraction, Fire and fire suppression, other urbanisation, industrial and similar activities

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002137	Lower River Suir SAC	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> ) [1410], Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095], Twaite shad ( <i>Alosa fallax</i> ) [1103], <i>Taxus baccata</i> woods of the British Isles [91J0], Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> ) [1096], Freshwater pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> ) [1029], Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i> ) [1330], White-clawed crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> ) [1092], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], 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], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]	A01, X, J02.01, A08, E03, D03.01, H01, E01, B, J02.12.02, J02.01.02, I01	Cultivation, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Fertilisation, Discharges, Port areas, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Urbanised areas, human habitation, Sylviculture, forestry, Dykes and flooding defense in inland water systems, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Invasive non-native species
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	White-clawed crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> ) [1092], Killarney fern ( <i>Trichomanes speciosum</i> ) [1421], European dry heaths [4030], Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> ) [1096], Desmoulin's whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> ) [1016], Freshwater pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> ) [1029], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i> ) [1330], Estuaries [1130], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-	I01, F02.01.02, A02.01, A04.01.01, B05, H01, J02.12.02, D03.01, C01.03, J03.02.01, B07, M01, F02, B02.01.01, J02.06, C01.01.01, A10.01, J02.02.01, J02.05.02, E02,	Invasive non-native species, Netting, Agricultural intensification, Intensive cattle grazing, Use of fertilizers (forestry), Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Dykes and flooding defense in inland water systems, Port areas, Peat extraction, Reduction in migration or migration barriers, Forestry activities not referred to above, Changes in abiotic conditions, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Forest replanting (native trees), Water abstractions from surface waters, Sand and gravel quarries, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Dredging or removal of limnic sediments, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Industrial or

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		Batrachion vegetation [3260], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Twaite shad ( <i>Alosa fallax</i> ) [1103], Nore Pearl Mussel ( <i>Margaritifera durrovensis</i> ) [1990], Reefs [1170], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> ) [1410]	B02, F01.01, J02, F02.03, K01.01	commercial areas, Forest and Plantation management & use, Intensive fish farming, intensification, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Leisure fishing, Erosion
004027	Tramore Back Strand SPA	Bar-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa lapponica</i> ) [A157], Curlew ( <i>Numenius arquata</i> ) [A160], Light-bellied Brent Goose ( <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> ) [A046], Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) [A142], Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140], Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> ) [A156], Dunlin ( <i>Calidris alpina</i> ) [A149], Grey Plover ( <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> ) [A141], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	A04, G01.02, A08, H, I01, E01, E03	Grazing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Fertilisation, Pollution, Invasive non-native species, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Discharges
004193	Mid-Waterford Coast SPA	Peregrine falcon ( <i>Falco peregrinus</i> ) [A103], Chough ( <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> ) [A346], Cormorant ( <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> ) [A017], Herring Gull ( <i>Larus argentatus</i> ) [A184]	A02, E05, E04.01, A04.03, A04	Modification of cultivation practices, Storage of materials, Agricultural structures, buildings in the landscape, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Grazing
004233	River Nore SPA	Kingfisher ( <i>Alcedo atthis</i> ) [A229]	D03.01, J02.01, X	Port areas, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, 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
Desmoulin's Whorl Snail ( <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> )	[1016]	Abandonment of management/use of other agricultural and agroforestry systems (all except grassland), Extensive grazing or undergrazing by livestock, Abiotic natural processes (e.g. erosion, silting up, drying out, submersion, salinization), Natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices)	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Freshwater Pearl Mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> )	[1029]	Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters, Drainage for use as agricultural land, Forestry activities generating pollution to surface or ground waters, Modification of hydrological conditions, or physical alteration of water bodies and drainage for forestry (including dams), Peat extraction, Hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, Discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water, Modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development, Other modification of hydrological conditions for residential or recreational development, Abstraction of ground and surface waters (including marine) for public water supply and recreational use	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
White-clawed Crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> )	[1092]	Invasive alien species of Union concern, Plant and animal diseases, pathogens and pests	Invasive species, disease, surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
Sea Lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> )	[1095]	Application of natural fertilisers on agricultural land, Application of synthetic (mineral) fertilisers on agricultural land, Drainage for use as agricultural land, Hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, Marine fishing and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, Increases or changes in precipitation due to climate change, Threats and pressures from outside the Member State	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Brook Lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> )	[1096]	Application of natural fertilisers on agricultural land, Application of synthetic (mineral) fertilisers on agricultural land, Drainage for use as agricultural land, Clear-cutting, removal of all trees, Hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, Pollution to surface or ground water due to urban runoffs, Discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water, Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
River Lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> )	[1099]	Application of natural fertilisers on agricultural land, Application of synthetic (mineral) fertilisers on agricultural land, Drainage for use as agricultural land, Hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, Shipping lanes, ferry lanes and anchorage infrastructure (e.g. canalisation, dredging), Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, Increases or changes in precipitation due to climate change	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
Twaite Shad ( <i>Alosa fallax fallax</i> )	[1103]	Application of natural fertilisers on agricultural land, Application of synthetic (mineral) fertilisers on agricultural land, Hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, Shipping lanes, ferry lanes and anchorage infrastructure (e.g. canalisation, dredging), Marine fishing and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, Freshwater fish and shellfish harvesting (recreational), Bycatch and incidental killing (due to fishing and hunting activities), Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern), Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, Increases or changes in precipitation due to climate change	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
Salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )	[1106]	Agricultural activities generating point source pollution to surface or ground waters, Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters, Forestry activities generating pollution to surface or ground waters, Hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, Discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water, Modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for	Disease, parasites and barriers to movement.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
		residential or recreational development, Illegal harvesting, collecting and taking, Other impacts from marine aquaculture, including infrastructure, Abstraction of water, flow diversion, dams and other modifications of hydrological conditions for freshwater aquaculture, Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern), Mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial), Physical alteration of water bodies, Interspecific relations (competition, predation, parasitism, pathogens), Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	
Estuaries	[1130]	Agricultural activities generating marine pollution, Residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine pollution (excl. marine macro- and micro- particular pollution, Marine aquaculture generating marine pollution, Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern), Unknown pressure	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	[1140]	Agricultural activities generating marine pollution, Residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine pollution (excl. marine macro- and micro- particular pollution, Marine aquaculture generating marine pollution	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.
Reefs	[1170]	Marine fishing and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, Marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) activities causing physical loss and disturbance of seafloor habitats	Sensitive to disturbance and pollution.
Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	[1310]	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	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]	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Modification of hydrological flow or physical alternation of water bodies for agriculture (excluding development and operation of dams), Agriculture activities not referred to above, Sports, tourism and leisure activities, Modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Overgrazing, erosion and accretion.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
		areas (including sea defence or coast protection works and infrastructures), Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	
Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> )	[1355]	No pressures, No threats	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Sensitivity to pollution.
Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> )	[1410]	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Extensive grazing or undergrazing by livestock, Modification of hydrological flow or physical alteration of water bodies for agriculture (excluding development and operation of dams), Agriculture activities not referred to above	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]	No pressures, No threats	Land use management and direct impacts.
Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains ( <i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i> )	[3110]	Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters, Drainage for use as agricultural land, Forestry activities generating pollution to surface or ground waters, Modification of hydrological conditions, or physical alteration of water bodies and drainage for forestry (including dams), Peat extraction, Discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Water courses of plain to montane levels with vegetation ( <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> )	[3260]	Agricultural activities generating point source pollution to surface or ground waters, Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters, Forestry activities generating pollution to surface or ground waters, Peat extraction, Pollution to surface or ground water due to urban runoffs, Discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water, Plants, contaminated or abandoned industrial sites generating pollution to surface or ground water, Abstraction from groundwater, surface water or mixed water, Modification of hydrological flow, Physical alteration of water bodies	Surface water dependent Highly sensitive to hydrological change and direct physical interactions.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	[4010]	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Burning for agriculture, Agricultural activities generating air pollution, Conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), Wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, Abiotic natural processes (e.g. erosion, silting up, drying out, submersion, salinization), Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
European dry heaths	[4030]	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Burning for agriculture, Conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), Wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
Alpine and Boreal heaths	[4060]	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Agricultural activities generating air pollution, Sports, tourism and leisure activities, Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	[6430]	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Drainage for use as agricultural land, Invasive alien species of Union concern, Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Blanket bogs (* if active bog)	[7130]	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Burning for agriculture, Agricultural activities generating air pollution, Conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage), Peat extraction, Wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure, Drainage, Abiotic natural processes (e.g. erosion, silting up, drying out, submersion, salinization), Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Surface water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	[7220]	Abandonment of grassland management (e.g. cessation of grazing or of mowing), Extensive grazing or undergrazing by livestock, Roads, paths, railroads and related infrastructure (e.g. bridges, viaducts, tunnels), Sports, tourism and leisure activities, Other human intrusions and disturbance not mentioned above (Dumping, accidental and deliberate	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
		disturbance of bat roosts (e.g. caving)), Mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial), Drainage, Modification of hydrological flow, Natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices)	
Alkaline fens	[7230]	Abandonment of grassland management (e.g. cessation of grazing or of mowing), Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters, Mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial), Abstraction from groundwater, surface water or mixed water, Drainage, Modification of hydrological flow, Natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices), Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, Increases or changes in precipitation due to climate change	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]	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Extensive grazing or undergrazing by livestock, Natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices)	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8210]	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Agricultural activities generating air pollution, Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8220]	Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	[91A0]	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Clear-cutting, removal of all trees, Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern), Problematic native species, Storm, cyclone	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.
Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	[91J0]	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern), Plant and animal diseases, pathogens and pests	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 Protection Area 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
A140	European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	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	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</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
A142	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	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
A149	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</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
A157	Bar-Tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</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
A184	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	C03, F02, H03, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications

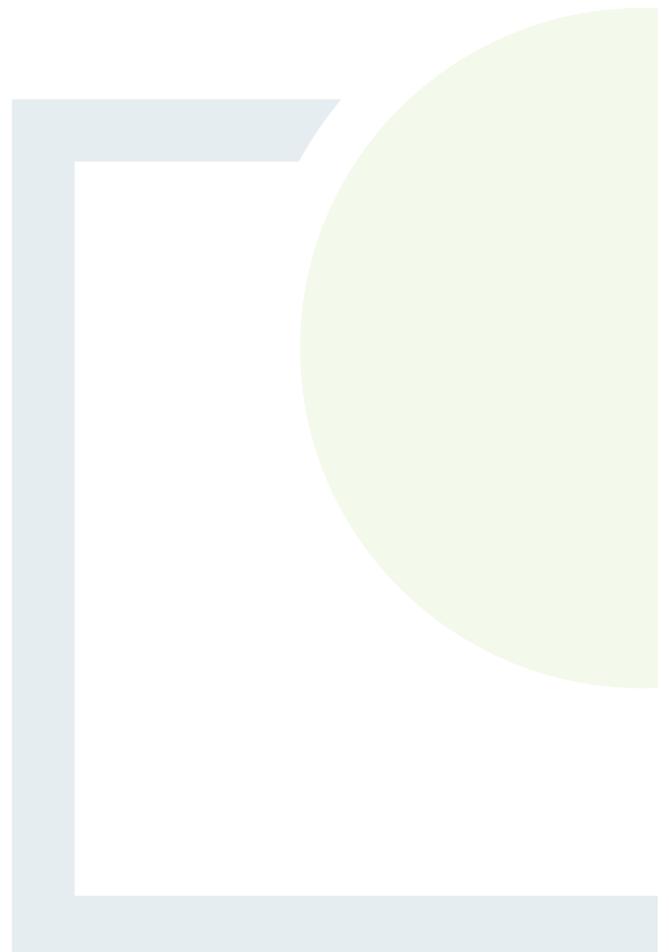
Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A229	Common Kingfisher	Alcedo atthis	A11, D01, G01, H01, I01, J02	Agriculture activities not referred to above, Roads, paths and railroads, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Invasive non-native species, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A346	Red-Billed Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax	A02, A04, E06, G01	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Other urbanisation, industrial and similar activities, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities



CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING,  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE  
& PLANNING

## APPENDIX 2

Relationship with Other Plans  
and Programmes



This appendix is not intended to be a full and comprehensive review of inter-related Plans or Programmes, EU Directives, the transposing regulations or the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. The information is not exhaustive and it is recommended to consult the Plan or Programme, Directive or Regulation to become familiar with the full details of each.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (2014/94/EU)</b>	This Directive establishes a common framework of measures for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure in the Union in order to minimise dependence on oil and to mitigate the environmental impact of transport.	This Directive sets out minimum requirements for the building-up of alternative fuels infrastructure, including recharging points for electric vehicles and refuelling points for natural gas (LNG and CNG) and hydrogen, to be implemented by means of Member States' national policy frameworks, as well as common technical specifications for such recharging and refuelling points, and user information requirements.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Bali Road Map (2007)</b>	The overall goals of the project are twofold: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase national capacity to co-ordinate ministerial views, participate in the UNFCCC process, and negotiate positions within the timeframe of the Bali Action Plan; and</li> <li>• To assess investment and financial flows to address climate change for up to three key sectors and/or economic activities.</li> </ul>	The Bali Action Plan is centred on four main building Blocks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mitigation</li> <li>• adaptation</li> <li>• technology</li> <li>• financing</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats)</b></p>	<p>The convention has three main aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats</li> <li>• to promote cooperation between states</li> <li>• to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species</li> </ul>	<p>The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek to ensure the conservation of nature in their countries, paying particular attention to planning and development policies and pollution control.</li> <li>• Look at implementing the Bern Convention in central Eastern Europe and the Caucus.</li> <li>• Take account of the potential impact on natural heritage by other policies.</li> <li>• Promote education and information of the public, ensuring the need to conserve species is understood and acted upon.</li> <li>• Develop an extensive number of species action plans, codes of conducts, and guidelines, at their own initiative or in co-operation with other organisations.</li> <li>• Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 - Bringing nature back into our lives (European Commission, 2020)</b>	The EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030 is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan to protect nature and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. The strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030, and contains specific actions and commitments.	<p>The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea, building upon existing Natura 2000 areas, with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value.</li> <li>An EU Nature Restoration Plan - a series of concrete commitments and actions to restore degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, and manage them sustainably, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss.</li> <li>A set of measures to enable the necessary transformative change: setting in motion a new, strengthened governance framework to ensure better implementation and track progress, improving knowledge, financing and investments and better respecting nature in public and business decision making.</li> <li>Measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge, demonstrating that the EU is ready to lead by example towards the successful adoption of an ambitious global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Birds Directive (79/409/EEC as amended by 2009/147/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats.</li> <li>Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation.</li> <li>The species included in Annex I shall be the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1.</li> <li>Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas).</li> <li>Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones, re-establish destroyed biotopes and creation of biotopes.</li> <li>Measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I is required as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. The protection of wetlands and particularly wetlands of international importance.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Cancun Agreements (2010)</b>	<p>Set of decisions taken at the COP 16 Conference in Cancun in 2010 which addresses a series of key issues in the fight against climate change. Cancun Agreements' main objectives cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitigation</li> <li>• Transparency of actions</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Finance</li> <li>• Adaptation</li> <li>• Forests</li> <li>• Capacity building</li> </ul>	<p>Among the most prominent agreements is the establishment of a Green Climate Fund to transfer money from the developed to developing world to tackle the impacts of climate change.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)</b>	<p>The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It also affirms the need for European solidarity with regard to heritage conservation and is designed to foster practical co-operation among the Parties. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The reinforcement and promotion of policies for protecting and enhancing the heritage within the territories of the parties.</li> <li>• The affirmation of European solidarity with regard to the protection of the heritage and the fostering of practical co-operation between states and regions.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro 2005)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time.</li> <li>• A heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, to sustain and transmit to future generations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise that rights relating to cultural heritage are inherent in the right to participate in cultural life, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.</li> <li>• Recognise individual and collective responsibility towards cultural heritage.</li> <li>• Emphasise that the conservation of cultural heritage and its sustainable use have human development and quality of life as their goal.</li> <li>• Take the necessary steps to apply the provisions of this Convention concerning the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society.</li> <li>• Greater synergy of competencies among all the public, institutional and private actors concerned.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Council Regulation (EU) 2022/2577 (laying down a framework to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy)</b>	This regulation introduces faster permitting processes for projects that have the highest potential for a quick roll-out of renewable energy and the least impact on the environment.	The regulation introduces urgent and targeted measures that address specific technologies and types of projects, which have the highest potential for quick deployment and the least impact on the environment.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Derelict Sites Act 1990 (as amended, latest Act No. 12 of 2024 and S.I. No. 242 of 2024)</b>	The Act provides a definition of a "derelict site" and imposes a general duty upon the owner or occupier of any land to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the land does not become or continue to be "a derelict site".	<p>The Act provides that all local authorities shall compile and maintain a register of all derelict sites within their area.</p> <p>Local authorities are obliged to levy and collect a charge to be known as a "derelict sites levy" from the owner of all derelict sites within their area. The Act provides that this levy, and interest on it, shall be a charge on the land to which it relates.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Directive 2010/75/EU on Industrial Emissions</b>	The purpose of this Directive is lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection.	<p>The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• energy;</li> <li>• metal production and processing;</li> <li>• minerals;</li> <li>• chemicals;</li> <li>• waste management;</li> <li>• and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs.</li> </ul> <p>All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Doha Climate Gateway (2012)</b>	Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which pave the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015.	<p>The following actions were committed to by governments at this conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015 (to come into effect in 2020);</li> <li>• Complete the work under Bali Action Plan and to focus on new completing new targets;</li> <li>• Strengthen the aim to cut greenhouse gases and help vulnerable countries to adapt;</li> <li>• Amend Kyoto Protocol to include a new commitment period for cutting down the greenhouse gases emissions; and</li> <li>• Provide the financial and technology support and new institutions to allow clean energy investment and sustainable growth in developing countries.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Drinking Water Directive (2020/2184)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The recast Drinking Water Directive is the EU's main law on drinking water. It concerns the access to and the quality of water intended for human consumption to protect human health.</li> <li>• The EU adopted the recast Drinking Water Directive in December 2020 and the Directive entered into force in January 2021. Member States have to transpose the Directive into national law and comply with its provisions by 12 January 2023. The recast Drinking Water Directive will further protect human health thanks to updated water quality standards, tackling pollutants of concern, such as endocrine disruptors and microplastics, and leading to even cleaner water from the tap for all.</li> </ul>	<p>Key features of the revised Directive are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reinforced water quality standards, in line or, in some cases, even more stringent than the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommendations</li> <li>• tackling emerging pollutants, such as endocrine disruptors and PFAs, as well as microplastics</li> <li>• a preventive approach favouring actions to reduce pollution at source by introducing the risk-based approach</li> <li>• measures to ensure better access to water, particularly for vulnerable and marginalised groups</li> <li>• measures to promote tap water, including in public spaces and restaurants, to reduce (plastic) bottle consumption</li> <li>• harmonisation of the quality standards for materials and products in contact with water</li> <li>• measures to reduce water leakages and to increase transparency of the sector</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.</li> <li>Aims to assess and implement avoidance or mitigation measures to eliminate environmental effects, before consent is given of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to a requirement for development consent and an assessment with regard to their effects. Those projects are defined in Article 4.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA.</li> <li>For projects listed in Annex II, a "screening procedure" is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account Annex III.</li> <li>The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor.</li> <li>Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC, Directive 2013/30/EU and Regulation (EU) 2019/1010</b></p>	<p>Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent.</li> <li>• Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures.</li> <li>• Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7.</li> <li>• The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive.</li> <li>• The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator.</li> <li>• The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met.</li> <li>• The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives that are not of significant relevance to the SEA for the</li> <li>• Guidelines. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing knowledge and new needs.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package</b>	Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU.	The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030, and contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Binding legislation which aims to ensure the European Union meets its climate and energy targets for 2020.</li> <li>• Aims to achieve a 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels.</li> <li>• Aims to raise the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20%.</li> <li>• Achieve a 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency.</li> </ul>	<p>Four pieces of complimentary legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reform of the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) to include a cap on emission allowances in addition to existing system of national caps.</li> <li>• Member States have agreed national targets for non-EU ETS emissions from countries outside the EU.</li> <li>• Meet the national renewable energy targets of 16% for Ireland by 2020.</li> <li>• Preparing a legal framework for technologies in carbon capture and storage.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EU 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 2030 Framework for climate and energy, including EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period between 2020 and 2030 that has been agreed by European countries.</li> <li>• Targets include a 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels, at least a 27% share of renewable energy consumption and at least 27% energy savings compared with the business-as-usual scenario.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030:</li> <li>• A reformed EU emissions trading scheme (ETS).</li> <li>• New indicators for the competitiveness and security of the energy system, such as price differences with major trading partners, diversification of supply, and interconnection capacity between EU countries.</li> <li>• First ideas for a new governance system based on national plans for competitive, secure, and sustainable energy. These plans will follow a common EU approach. They will ensure stronger investor certainty, greater transparency, enhanced policy coherence and improved coordination across the EU.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>EU Action Plan: 'Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil' 2050</b></p>	<p>The Action Plan sets the key 2030 targets for reducing pollution at source and outlines a number of flagship initiatives. In addition, as pollution does not stop at borders and as the EU acknowledges that it is both the victim and the source of pollution, the Action Plan foresees reinforced external action. The EU in fact is committed to leading the global fight against pollution</p>	<p>Guided by the 9 Flagship Initiatives, the key actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• align the air quality standards to the latest recommendations of the World Health Organisation,</li> <li>• review the standards for the quality of water, including in EU rivers and seas,</li> <li>• reduce soil pollution and enhance restoration,</li> <li>• review the majority of EU waste laws to adapt them to clean and circular economy principles,</li> <li>• foster zero pollution from production and consumption (through the revision of the Industrial Emissions Directive, EU Ecolabel and other measures),</li> <li>• minimize EU external pollution footprint through export restriction of harmful products and wastes,</li> <li>• present a Scoreboard of EU regions' green performance to promote zero pollution across regions,</li> <li>• showcase zero pollution solutions for buildings,</li> <li>• launch Living Labs for green digital solutions and smart zero pollution, including by targeting the building and farming sectors,</li> <li>• consolidate the EU's Knowledge Centres for Zero Pollution and bringing stakeholders together in the Zero Pollution Stakeholder Platform.</li> <li>• Stronger enforcement of zero pollution together with environmental and other authorities.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EU Bathing Water Directive (revised) 2006 [2006/7/EC]</b>	The purpose of this Directive is to preserve, protect and improve the quality of the environment and to protect human health by complementing Directive 2000/60/EC	This Directive lays down provisions for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the monitoring and classification of bathing water quality;</li> <li>• the management of bathing water quality; and</li> <li>• the provision of information to the public on bathing water quality</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU Climate Adaptation Strategy 2050</b>	The Strategy sets out how the European Union can adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change and become climate resilient by 2050.	The Strategy has four principle objectives: to make adaptation smarter, swifter and more systemic, and to step up international action on adaptation to climate change.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EU Common Agricultural Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve agricultural productivity, so that consumers have a stable supply of affordable food; and</li> <li>• To ensure that EU farmers can make a reasonable living.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring viable food production that will contribute to feeding the world's population, which is expected to rise considerably in the future;</li> <li>• Climate change and sustainable management of natural resources;</li> <li>• Looking after the countryside across the EU and keeping the rural economy alive.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EU Energy Efficiency Directive 2023/1791</b>	The new directive introduces a series of measures to help accelerate energy efficiency, including embracing the “energy efficiency first” principle in the energy and non-energy policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing an EU legally-binding target to reduce the EU’s final energy consumption by 11.7% by 2030 (relative to the 2020 reference scenario). This includes for each Member State the requirement to set its indicative national contribution based on objective criteria reflecting national circumstances. If the national contributions do not add up to the EU target, an ambition gap mechanism is applied by the Commission.</li> <li>• Increasing annual energy savings from 0.8% (at present) to 1.3% (2024-2025), then 1.5% (2026-2027) and 1.9% from 2028 onwards. That’s an average of 1.49% of new annual savings for the period from 2024-2030.</li> <li>• Obliging Member States to prioritise vulnerable customers and social housing within the scope of their energy savings measures.</li> <li>• Introducing an annual energy consumption reduction target of 1.9% for the public sector as a whole.</li> <li>• Extending the annual 3% buildings renovation obligation to all the levels of public administration.</li> <li>• Introducing a different approach, based on energy consumption, for business to have an energy management system or to carry out an energy audit.</li> <li>• Bringing in a new obligation to monitor the energy performance of data centres, with an EU-level database collecting and publishing data.</li> <li>• Promoting local heating &amp; cooling plans in larger municipalities.</li> <li>• Progressively increasing the efficient energy consumption in heat or cold supply, also in district heating.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EU environment action programme to 2030</b>	<p>The long-term priority objective is that, by 2050 at the latest, Europeans should live well, within planetary boundaries, in a healthy economy where nothing is wasted, growth is regenerative, climate neutrality is a reality and inequalities are significantly reduced.</p> <p>Building on the European Green Deal, the environmental action programme aims to speed up the transition to a climate-neutral, resource-efficient economy, recognising that human well-being and prosperity depend on a healthy ecosystem.</p>	<p>Six priority objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attain the 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction target and achieve climate neutrality by 2050.</li> <li>• Enhance the ability to adapt by strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change.</li> <li>• Move towards a regenerative growth model, detaching economic growth from resource use and environmental degradation, while transitioning faster to a circular economy.</li> <li>• Aim for zero pollution of the air, water and soil and protect the health and well-being of Europeans.</li> <li>• Protect, preserve and restore biodiversity by improving the state of ecosystems and of the environment, as well as by combating desertification and soil degradation.</li> <li>• Reduce environmental and climate pressures from production and consumption, in particular energy, industrial development, buildings and infrastructure, mobility and food systems.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>EU Green Infrastructure Strategy</b>	<p>Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas.</li> <li>• Supporting EU-level GI projects.</li> <li>• Improving access to finance for GI projects.</li> <li>• Improving information and promoting innovation.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EU Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive (2008/1/EC)</b>	The purpose of this Directive is to achieve integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from the activities listed in Annex I. It lays down measures designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions in the air, water and land from the abovementioned activities, including measures concerning waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole, without prejudice to Directive 85/337/EEC and other relevant Community provisions.	The IPPC Directive is based on several principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an integrated approach</li> <li>• best available techniques,</li> <li>• flexibility; and</li> <li>• public participation</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)</b>	Reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and - preventing further such pollution.	Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme is designed to prevent pollution of surface waters and ground water from agricultural sources and to protect and improve water quality. Ireland's third NAP came into operation in 2014. Each Member State's NAP must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a limit on the amount of livestock manure applied to the land each year</li> <li>• set periods when land spreading is prohibited due to risk</li> <li>• set capacity levels for the storage of livestock manure</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC</b>	The Directive aims at reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment by introducing different targets, tools and measures such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM) or National Action Plans (NAPs).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Framework Directive applies to pesticides which are plant protection products.</li> <li>• Regarding pesticide application equipment already in professional use, the Framework Directive introduces requirements for the inspection and maintenance to be carried out on such equipment.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006)(as amended)</b>	Aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances.	<p>The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration,</li> <li>• Evaluation,</li> <li>• Authorisation; and</li> <li>• Restriction of chemicals.</li> </ul> <p>REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EU Renewable Energy Directive 2023/2413 (recast)</b>	This Directive sets an overall renewable energy target of at least 42.5% binding at EU level by 2030 - but aiming for 45%.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building on the 2009 and 2018 directives, the revised directive introduces stronger measures to ensure that all possibilities for the further development and uptake of renewables are fully utilised.</li> <li>• Strong policy framework to facilitate electrification in different sectors, with new increased sector-specific targets for renewables in heating and cooling, transport, industry, buildings and district heating/cooling, but also with a framework promoting electric vehicles and smart recharging.</li> <li>• Permitting procedures will also be easier and faster both for renewable energy projects (including through shorter approval periods and the creation of 'Renewables acceleration areas') and for the necessary infrastructure projects.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)</b>	This Directive lays down rules for the prevention of major accidents which involve dangerous substances, and the limitation of their consequences for human health and the environment, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection throughout the Union in a consistent and effective manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Seveso Directive is well integrated with other EU policies, thus avoiding double regulation or other administrative burden. This includes the following related policy areas:</li> <li>• Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals;</li> <li>• The Union's Civil Protection Mechanism;</li> <li>• The Security Union Agenda including CBRN-E and Protection of critical infrastructure;</li> <li>• Policy on environmental liability and on the protection of the environment through criminal law;</li> <li>• Safety of offshore oil and gas operations.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>European 2020 Strategy for Growth</b>	<p>Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe’s social market economy for the 21st century and puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation;</li> <li>• Sustainable growth: promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy;</li> <li>• Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion.</li> </ul>	<p>In order to reach these priorities, the Commission proposes five quantitative targets to fulfil by 2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed;</li> <li>2. 3% of the EU’s GDP should be invested in R&amp;D;</li> <li>3. the “20/20/20” climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right);</li> <li>4. the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree;</li> <li>5. 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty.</li> </ol>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)</b>	<p>The aim of this (revised) Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study.</p>	<p>The Valletta Convention makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies. The Convention sets guidelines for the funding of excavation and research work and publication of research findings. It also deals with public access, in particular to archaeological sites, and educational actions to be undertaken to develop public awareness of the value of the archaeological heritage. It also constitutes an institutional framework for pan-European co-operation on the archaeological heritage, entailing a systematic exchange of experience and experts among the various States.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>European Landscape Convention 2000</b>	The developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, together with the practices followed in town and country planning, transport, networks, tourism and recreation, and at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases accelerated the transformation of landscapes. The Convention expresses a concern to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. It aims to respond to the public's wish to enjoy high quality landscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes.</li> <li>• Organise European co-operation on landscape issues.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks</li> <li>• Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess all water courses and coast lines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment</li> <li>• Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps outlining the extent or potential of flooding and assets and humans at risk in these areas at River Basin District level (Article 3(2) (b)) and areas covered by Article 5(1) and Article 13(1) (b) in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3.</li> <li>• Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above.</li> <li>• Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect, control and conserve groundwater.</li> <li>• Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater.</li> <li>• Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive.</li> <li>• Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.</li> <li>• Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.</li> <li>• Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of community interest.</li> <li>• Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species.</li> <li>• Establish a network of European sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, to enable the natural habitat types and the species' habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range.</li> <li>• Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present.</li> <li>• Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes ('Dublin Principles')</b>	It is aimed to assist in the documentation, protection, conservation and appreciation of industrial heritage as part of the heritage of human societies around the World.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Document and understand industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes and their values;</li> <li>7. Ensure effective protection and conservation of the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes;</li> <li>8. Conserve and maintain the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; and</li> <li>9. Present and communicate the heritage dimensions and values of industrial structures, sites, areas and landscapes to raise public and corporate awareness, and support training and research.</li> </ol>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Nature Restoration Law</b>	The regulation sets binding targets to restore degraded ecosystems, particularly those with the most potential to capture and store carbon and to prevent and reduce the impact of natural disasters. It is also a key instrument to help the EU and its Member States meet international biodiversity commitments under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.	<p>The law aims to restore ecosystems, habitats and species across the EU's land and sea areas in order to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• enable the long-term and sustained recovery of biodiverse and resilient nature</li> <li>• contribute to achieving the EU's climate mitigation and climate adaptation objectives</li> <li>• meet international commitments</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)</b>	The Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source.	<p>The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draw up strategic noise maps for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators and use these maps to assess the number of people which may be impacted upon as a result of excessive noise levels;</li> <li>• Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and</li> <li>• Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise.</li> </ul> <p>The Directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Public Participation Directive (2003/35/EC)</b>	The objective of this Directive is to contribute to the implementation of the obligations arising under the Aarhus Convention, in particular by: <p>(a) providing for public participation in respect of the drawing up of certain plans and programmes relating to the environment;</p> <p>(b) improving the public participation and providing for provisions on access to justice within Council Directives 85/337/EEC and 96/61/EC.</p>	Not applicable.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Ramsar Convention</b>	The Convention’s mission is “the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world”.	Under the “three pillars” of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work towards the wise use of all their wetlands;</li> <li>• Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the “Ramsar List”) and ensure their effective management;</li> <li>• Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development.</li> <li>• Provide for a high level of protection of the environment by carrying out an environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out an environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive.</li> <li>• Prepare an environmental report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives that consider the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme.</li> <li>• Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission.</li> <li>• Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects.</li> <li>• Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme.</li> <li>• Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive.</li> <li>• Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**International/European Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Soil monitoring law: EU on the pathway to healthy soils by 2050</b></p>	<p>According to the EU soil strategy, presented by the Commission in 2021, the lack of a dedicated EU legislation was singled out as a major cause for the alarming state of EU soils. To ensure the same level of protection to soil that exists for water, the marine environment and air in the EU, the Commission put forward the soil monitoring directive on 5 July 2023.</p>	<p>The general approach reached by the Council today aims to make soil health monitoring obligatory, provides guiding principles for sustainable soil management and addresses situations where soil contamination poses unacceptable health and environment risks.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Stockholm Convention</b></p>	<p>The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibit and/or eliminate the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex A to the Convention</li> <li>• Restrict the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex B to the Convention</li> <li>• Reduce or eliminate releases from unintentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex C to the Convention</li> <li>• Ensure that stockpiles and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs are managed safely and in an environmentally sound manner</li> <li>• To target additional POPs</li> <li>• Other provisions of the Convention relate to the development of implementation plans, information exchange, public information, awareness and education, research, development and monitoring, technical assistance, financial resources and mechanisms, reporting, effectiveness evaluation and non-compliance</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC) (EU Air Framework Directive)</b></p> <p><b>Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive).</li> <li>• Sets new air quality objectives for PM2.5 (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives.</li> <li>• Accounts for the possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values.</li> <li>• Allows the possibility for time extensions of three years (PM10) or up to five years (NO2, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission.</li> <li>• The Fourth Daughter Directive lists pollutants, target values and monitoring requirements for the following: arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sets objectives for ambient air quality designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole.</li> <li>• Aims to assess the ambient air quality in Member States on the basis of common methods and criteria.</li> <li>• Obtains information on ambient air quality in order to help combat air pollution and nuisance and to monitor long-term trends and improvements resulting from national and community measures.</li> <li>• Ensures that such information on ambient air quality is made available to the public.</li> <li>• Aims to maintain air quality where it is good and improving it in other cases.</li> <li>• Aims to promote increased cooperation between the Member States in reducing air pollution.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>The Eighth Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obligation for the Commission to present a monitoring framework, based on a limited number of headline indicators.</li> <li>• These should include, where available, systemic indicators that address interlinkages between environment-social and environmental-economic policy considerations, respectively.</li> </ul>	<p>The 8th EAP aims at accelerating the green transition in a just and inclusive way, with the 2050 long-term objective of 'Living well, within planetary boundaries', already established in the 7th programme (2014-2020).</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>The European Green Deal (EGD) 2019</b>	The deal sets out how to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, boosting the economy, improving people's quality of life, caring for nature and leaving no one behind.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It sets out a roadmap with actions to boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy, restore biodiversity and cut pollution.</li> <li>• It outlines investments required, financing tools available and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition.</li> <li>• In order to meet the goal to become climate neutral by 2050 as part of the European Green Deal, the European Union (EU) Commission proposed on 4th March 2020 to bring about the first European Climate Law and legally bind the target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>UN (1992) Framework Convention on Climate Change</b>	It is aimed at stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.	The Convention acknowledges the vulnerability of all countries to the effects of climate change and calls for special efforts to ease the consequences, especially in developing countries which lack the resources to do so on their own.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**International/European Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>UN (1992) The Convention on Biological Diversity</b></p>	<p>An overall objective is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.</p>	<p>The Convention has three main goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity);</li> <li>• the sustainable use of its components; and</li> <li>• the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>UN Kyoto Protocol (2nd Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement)</b></p>	<p>The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol.</p> <p>At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II).</li> <li>• EU member states implement measures to improve on or compliment the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP.</li> <li>• Under COP21, governments agreed to come together every 5 years to set more ambitious targets as required by science; report to each other and the public on how well they are doing to implement their targets; track progress towards the long-term goal through a robust transparency and accountability system.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>UNESCO (1972) The Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties; and</li> <li>• Recognizes the way in which people interact with nature, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sets out the duties of States Parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them;</li> <li>• Each country pledges to conserve not only the World Heritage sites situated on its territory, but also to protect its national heritage;</li> <li>• Encourages to integrate the protection of the cultural and natural heritage into regional planning programmes, set up staff and services at their sites, undertake scientific and technical conservation research and adopt measures which give this heritage a function in the day-to-day life of the community.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors.</li> <li>• The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban waste water entering collecting systems shall before discharge, be subject to secondary treatment.</li> <li>• Annex II requires the designation of areas sensitive to eutrophication which receive water discharges.</li> <li>• Establishes minimum requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems in specified agglomerations to include special requirements for sensitive areas and certain industrial sectors.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies to include inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater and their dependent wildlife and habitats.</li> <li>Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain “good status” of water bodies.</li> <li>Promote sustainable water usage.</li> <li>The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive</li> <li>Sampling Drinking Water Directive</li> <li>Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive</li> <li>Shellfish Directive</li> <li>Freshwater Fish Directive</li> <li>Groundwater Directive</li> <li>Dangerous Substances Directive</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive.</li> <li>Achieve "good status" for all waters.</li> <li>Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts.</li> <li>Involve the public and streamline legislation.</li> <li>Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas.</li> <li>Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas.</li> <li>Recover costs for water services.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Ag Climatise - A Roadmap towards Climate Neutrality</b>	This roadmap has been developed by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) on foot of extensive engagement with industry, research, policy, farmer and environmental stakeholders. It is a roadmap designed to help all stakeholders to work together to tackle climate change and air pollution	<p>The roadmap proposes 29 actions across two strands of activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Actions that can be implemented now:</b> to ensure farmers act immediately on the changes necessary to address climate change. This is made up of three parts, the mitigation measures in the next section, the removals from the landscape measures, and the sustainable energy measures that follow.</li> <li>• <b>The development of cross cutting enabling actions into the future:</b> This will focus on a number of actions, including further research and innovation. Where appropriate, it will require the establishment of consultative groups to assist with the development and delivery of the actions</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Agrivision 2015 Action Plan</b>	Outlines the vision for agricultural industry to improve competitiveness and response to market demand while respecting and enhancing the environment	Not applicable.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>All Island Grid Study 2008</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The All Island Grid Study is the first comprehensive assessment of the ability of the electrical power system and, as part of that, the transmission network (“the grid”) on the island of Ireland to absorb large amounts of electricity produced from renewable energy sources.</li> <li>The objective of this five-part study is to assess the technical feasibility and the relative costs and benefits associated with various scenarios for increased shares of electricity sourced from renewable energy in the all island power system.</li> </ul>	<p>Key conclusions of the study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The presented results indicate that the differences in cost between the highest cost and the lowest cost portfolios are low (7%), given the assumptions made and costs included in the Study.</li> <li>All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to significant reductions of CO2 emissions compared to portfolio 1</li> <li>All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to reductions on the dependency of the all island system on fuel and electricity imports.</li> <li>The limitations of the study may overstate the technical feasibility of the portfolios analysed and could impact the costs and benefits resulting. Further work is required to understand the extent of such impact.</li> <li>Timely development of the transmission networks, requiring means to address the planning challenge, is a precondition for implementation of the portfolios considered.</li> <li>Market mechanisms must facilitate the installation of complementary, i.e. flexible, dispatchable plant, so as to maintain adequate levels of system security.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>All-Ireland Pollinator Plans: All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 (latest)</b>	<p>The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is a framework bringing together different sectors across the island of Ireland to create a landscape where pollinators can survive and thrive. Implementation is coordinated by the National Biodiversity Data Centre.</p>	<p>The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan for 2021-2025 is a five-year road map that aims to help bees, other pollinating insects and our wider biodiversity. The AIPP 2021-2025 has 186 actions spread across six objectives.</p> <p>Objective 1: Making farmland pollinator friendly            Objective 2: Making public land pollinator friendly            Objective 3: Making private land pollinator friendly            Objective 4: All-Ireland Honeybee Strategy            Objective 5: Conserving rare pollinators            Objective 6: Strategic coordination of the Plan</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>All-Island Strategic Rail Review</b>	The Review aims to inform policy and future strategy for the railways in both jurisdictions on the island of Ireland.	<p>The Review sets out six high-level goals which aim to use rail as effectively as possible to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contribute to decarbonisation;</li> <li>• improve All Island connectivity between major cities;</li> <li>• enhance regional accessibility;</li> <li>• stimulate economic activity;</li> <li>• encourage sustainable mobility; and achieve economic and financial feasibility.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Bioeconomy Action Plan 2023-2025</b>	<p>The first national action plan for an Irish bioeconomy.</p> <p>The purpose of this plan is to further develop Ireland’s bioeconomy in delivering the vision of the 2018 National Policy Statement on the Bioeconomy; for Ireland “to be a global leader for the bioeconomy through a coordinated approach that harnesses Ireland’s natural resources and competitive advantage and that fully exploits the opportunities available while monitoring and avoiding unintended consequences”.</p>	<p>This action plan approaches the bioeconomy using seven pillars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governance &amp; Awareness</li> <li>• Research, Development &amp; Innovation</li> <li>• Nature, Climate, Energy &amp; Circular Economy</li> <li>• Agriculture, Food, Forestry, And The Marine</li> <li>• Communities, Regions &amp; Cities</li> <li>• Industry &amp; Enterprise</li> <li>• Knowledge &amp; Skills</li> </ul> <p>The Action Plan is aligned with the implementation of the National Policy Statement on the Bioeconomy.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Building Regulations</b>	The aim of the building regulations is to provide for the safety and welfare of people in and about buildings.	The building regulations apply to the design and construction of a new building (including a dwelling) or an extension to an existing building.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Clean Air Strategy for Ireland (2023)</b>	The Clean Air Strategy provides the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through this document Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation.</li> <li>• The Strategy should also help tackle climate change.</li> <li>• The Strategy considers a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture.</li> <li>• In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people’s health is paramount, this is a strong theme of the Strategy.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015</b></p> <p><b>Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021</b></p>	<p>An Act to provide for the approval of plans by the Government in relation to climate change for the purpose of pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy.</p>	<p>When considering a plan or framework, for approval, the Government shall endeavour to achieve the national transition objective within the period to which the objective relates and shall, in endeavouring to achieve that objective, ensure that such objective is achieved by the implementation of measures that are cost effective and shall, for that purpose, have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ultimate objective specified in Article 2 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change done at New York on 9 May 1992 and any mitigation commitment entered into by the European Union in response or otherwise in relation to that objective,</li> <li>• The policy of the Government on climate change,</li> <li>• Climate justice,</li> <li>• Any existing obligation of the State under the law of the European Union or any international agreement referred to in section 2; and</li> <li>• The most recent national greenhouse gas emissions inventory and projection of future greenhouse gas emissions, prepared by the Agency.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Climate Action Plan 2024</b></p>	<p>The Climate Action Plan 2024 (CAP24) is the third annual update to Ireland’s Climate Action Plan.</p> <p>The purpose of the Climate Action Plan is to lay out a roadmap of actions which will ultimately lead us to meeting our national climate objective of pursuing and achieving, by no later than the end of the year 2050, the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy. It aligns with the legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings that were agreed by Government in July 2022.</p>	<p>Climate Action Plan 2024 builds upon CAP23 by refining and updating the measures and actions required to deliver the carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings. The Plan provides a roadmap for taking decisive action to halve Ireland’s emissions by 2030 and reach net zero by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage (2019)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heritage in Ireland ranges from private homes, commercial and public buildings, national monuments, underwater and buried archaeology and the physical and cultural settings of all of these.</li> <li>• This plan considers not only those structures and sites that have been statutorily listed, but all man-made assets that have historical, aesthetic and cultural value, but does not consider natural heritage.</li> </ul> <p>Aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build adaptive capacity within the sector</li> <li>• Reduce the vulnerability of built and archaeological heritage to climate change</li> <li>• Identify and capitalise on the various potential opportunities for the sector.</li> </ul>	<p>The five adaptation goals for built and archaeological heritage in Ireland are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To improve understanding of each heritage resource and its vulnerability to climate change</li> <li>2. To develop and mainstream sustainable policies and plans for climate-change adaptation of built and archaeological heritage</li> <li>3. To conserve Ireland’s heritage for future generations</li> <li>4. To communicate and transfer knowledge</li> <li>5. To exploit the opportunities for built and archaeological heritage to demonstrate value and secure resources</li> </ol>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan (2022-2025)</b></p>	<p>The Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan is a major public transport initiative developed by the National Transport Authority (NTA) with the aim of increasing connectivity, particularly for people living outside our major towns and cities. The plan aims to improve mobility in rural areas by providing frequent and affordable transport services that offer freedom to travel and sustainable transport connections.</p>	<p>The Plan focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adding new high-frequency services;</li> <li>• Enhancing existing services; and</li> <li>• Providing improved connectivity to the wider transport network</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry.</li> <li>The Strategy aims both to increase the capacity of the sector to create and maintain jobs, and to deliver a sustainable sector, operating at an appropriate level. It seeks to learn the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated.</li> </ul>	<p>This Strategy therefore addresses issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A strategic approach to the provision of housing, based on real and measured needs, with mechanisms in place to detect and act when things are going wrong;</li> <li>Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements;</li> <li>The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects;</li> <li>Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms;</li> <li>Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety;</li> <li>Ensuring a fit for purpose sector supported by a highly skilled workforce achieving high quality and standards; and</li> <li>Ensuring opportunities are provided to unemployed former construction workers to contribute to the recovery of the sector.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 - 2020</b>	<p>The Draft Bioenergy Plan sets out a vision as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bioenergy resources contributing to economic development and sustainable growth, generating jobs for citizens, supported by coherent policy, planning and regulation, and managed in an integrated manner.</li> </ul>	<p>Three high level goals of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To harness the market opportunities presented by bioenergy in order to achieve economic development, growth and jobs.</li> <li>To increase awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits of developing bioenergy.</li> <li>To ensure that bioenergy developments do not adversely impact the environment and its living and non-living resources.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE) 2016</b>	Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2018/2001: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.	Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2019</b>	These Guidelines offer advice to planning authorities on planning for wind energy through the development plan process and in determining applications for planning permission.	The guidelines are intended to ensure a consistency of approach throughout the country in the identification of suitable locations for wind energy development and the treatment of planning applications for wind energy developments.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Energy Security in Ireland to 2030</b>	Energy Security in Ireland to 2030 outlines a new strategy to ensure energy security in Ireland for this decade, while ensuring a sustainable transition to a carbon neutral energy system by 2050. This report is being published as part of an Energy Security Package, containing a range of supplementary analyses, consultations, and reviews, which have informed the recommendations and actions related to energy security.	<p>The Energy Security Package states that we must ensure energy security is prioritised, monitored, and reviewed regularly, and includes a range of measures to implement this approach in the short and medium term by prioritising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced and Responsive Demand</li> <li>• A Renewables-Led System</li> <li>• More Resilient Systems</li> <li>• Robust Risk Governance</li> </ul> <p>Under each of these four areas of actions, the report sets out a range of mitigation measures, including the need for additional capacity of indigenous renewable energy, but also energy imports, energy storage, fuel diversification, demand side response, and renewable gases. The governance structures supporting the energy system, including oversight and accountability reforms, were also examined.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011, as amended)</b>	These Regulations provide a new for the implementation in Ireland of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on habitats and protection of wild fauna and flora (as amended) and for the implementation of Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of wild birds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They provide, among other things, for: the appointment and functions of authorized officers; identification, classification and other procedures relative to the designation of Community sites.</li> <li>• The Regulations have been prepared to address several judgments of the CJEU against Ireland, notably cases C-418/04 and C-183/05, in respect of failure to transpose elements of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive into Irish law.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011</b></p>	<p>The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning.</li> <li>• These Regulations also amend certain provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to provide the statutory basis for the transposition of the Directive in respect of land-use planning.</li> <li>• Transposition in respect of the land-use planning sector is contained in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004).</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of 2003)</b></p> <p><b>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014)</b></p> <p><b>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009) (as amended)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation.</li> <li>• Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water.</li> <li>• Identifies the competent authorities in charge of water policy (amended to Uisce Eireann in 2013) and gives EPA and the CER the authority to regulate and supervise their actions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implements River basin districts and characterisation of RBDs and River Basin Management Plans.</li> <li>• Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on RBDs.</li> <li>• Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies.</li> <li>• Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body.</li> <li>• Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances.</li> <li>• Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater.</li> <li>• Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies.</li> <li>• Outlines surface water quality standards.</li> <li>• Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme</b>	The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive.	CFRAM Studies have been undertaken for all River Basin Districts. The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. Flood Risk and Hazard mapping, including Flood Extent Mapping, was finalised in 2017. The final outputs from the studies are the CFRAM Plans, finalised in 2018. The Plans define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Food Harvest 2020</b>	Food Harvest 2020 is a roadmap for the Irish food industry, as it seeks to innovate and expand in response to increased global demand for quality foods. It sets out a vision for the potential growth in agricultural output after the removal of milk quotas.	Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Food Vision 2030</b>	The Food Vision 2030 Strategy is a new ten year Strategy for the Irish agri-food sector (taken to include primary agriculture, food and drink processing and manufacturing, fisheries, aquaculture and fish processing, forestry and forestry processing and the equine sector).	<p>The Strategy consists of 22 Goals, grouped into four high-level Missions for the sector to work toward:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector</li> <li>2. Viable and Resilient Primary Producers with Enhanced Well-Being</li> <li>3. Food Which is Safe, Nutritious And Appealing, Trusted And Valued at Home and Abroad</li> <li>4. An Innovative, Competitive and Resilient Agri-Food Sector, Driven by Technology And Talent</li> </ol>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Food Wise 2025 (DAFM)</b>	Food Wise 2025 sets out a ten year plan for the agri-food sector. It underlines the sector’s unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further.	<p>Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 85% increase in exports to €19 billion.</li> <li>• 70% increase in value added to €13 billion.</li> <li>• 60% increase in primary production to €10 billion.</li> <li>• The creation of 23,000 additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high end value added product development.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Governments White Paper 'Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future' (2015 – 2030)</b></p>	<p>The White Paper sets out a vision and a framework to guide Irish energy policy between now and 2030. A complete energy policy update informed by the vision to transform Ireland into a low carbon society and economy by 2050.</p>	<p>2030 will represent a significant milestone, meaning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced GHG emissions from the energy sector by between 80% and 95%</li> <li>• Ensuring that secure supplies of competitive and affordable energy remain available to citizens and businesses.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>GRID25 Implementation Programme and associated Grid Implementation Plan 2023-2028 for the Electricity Transmission System in Ireland</b></p>	<p>Grid25 is a high-level strategy outlining how EirGrid intends to undertake the development of the electricity transmission grid in the short-, medium- and longer-terms, to support a long-term sustainable and reliable electricity supply. This Grid25 Implementation Programme (IP) is a practical strategic overview of how the early stages of Grid25 are intended to be implemented. The IP identifies the best current understanding of those parts of the transmission system that are envisaged as likely to be developed over the next five years. The IP identifies the issues, objectives and associated processes that will need to be adopted when making decisions about how and where developments will occur. This Grid Implementation Plan 2023-2028 supersedes the Grid Implementation Plan 2017-2022. It is focused on the Transmission Development Plan (TDP) 2023-2032.</p>	<p>Grid25, EirGrid's roadmap to upgrade the electricity transmission grid by 2025, continues to be implemented so as to increase the capacity of the grid, to satisfy future demand, and to help Ireland meet its target of 40 per cent of electricity from renewable energy by 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The EirGrid Shaping Our Electricity Future Version 1.1 (SOEF - published in June 2023) is a core context for grid development as part of this Plan. The SOEF addresses matters such as why EirGrid develops the electricity transmission network, Government policy context that underpins this, and the importance of an efficient and economical grid network.</li> <li>• The Transmission Development Plan (TDP) 2023 also forms a core context for this Plan. The TDP lists the committed projects and projects under development for the enhancement of the Irish transmission network over the coming ten years.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Heritage related legislation and guidelines:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Monuments Act 1930 as amended;</li> <li>• Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999; and</li> <li>• The Heritage Act 2018.</li> <li>• Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities</li> </ul>	<p>Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the CDP. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage.</p>	<p>Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the CDP. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Housing for All (2021)</b></p>	<p>Housing for All (2021) is the Government’s housing plan to 2030. The overall aim of the housing plan for Ireland is that everyone in the State should have access to a home to purchase or rent at an affordable price, built to a high standard and in the right place, offering a high quality of life. The plan’s vision is to have a steady supply of housing in the correct locations with economic, social, and environmental sustainability built into the system.</p>	<p>Housing for All provides four pathways to achieving its overarching objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting Homeownership and Increasing Affordability.</li> <li>• Eradicating Homelessness, Increasing Social Housing Delivery and Supporting Social Inclusion.</li> <li>• Increasing New Housing Supply.</li> <li>• Addressing Vacancy and Efficient Use of Existing Stock.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025</b></p>	<p>The vision is: <i>“A Healthy Ireland, where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone’s responsibility.”</i></p>	<p>These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life</li> <li>• Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities</li> <li>• Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing</li> <li>• Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, the National Planning Framework, and the National Development Plan (2021 - 2030)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The National Planning Framework is the Government’s high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of to the year 2040. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for people, and to protect and enhance the environment - from villages to cities, and everything around and in between.</li> <li>• The National Development Plan sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the successful implementation of the new National Planning Framework. This will guide national, regional and local planning and investment decisions in Ireland over the next two decades, to cater for an expected population increase of over 1 million people.</li> </ul>	<p>The National Planning Framework published alongside the National Development Plan yields ten National Strategic Outcomes as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Compact Growth</li> <li>2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility</li> <li>3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities</li> <li>4. Sustainable Mobility</li> <li>5. A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills</li> <li>6. High-Quality International Connectivity</li> <li>7. Enhanced Amenity and Heritage</li> <li>8. Transition to a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Society</li> <li>9. Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources</li> <li>10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services</li> </ol>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023 - 2030</b>	Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) sets the national biodiversity agenda for the period 2023-2030 and aims to deliver the transformative changes required to the ways in which we value and protect nature.	<p>It will continue to implement actions within the framework of five strategic objectives, while addressing new and emerging issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objective 1 - Adopt a Whole of Government, Whole of Society Approach to Biodiversity.</li> <li>• Objective 2 - Meet Urgent Conservation and Restoration Needs.</li> <li>• Objective 3 - Secure Nature's Contribution to People.</li> <li>• Objective 4 - Enhance the Evidence Base for Action on Biodiversity.</li> <li>• Objective 5 - Strengthen Ireland's Contribution to International Biodiversity Initiatives.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Ireland's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Projections 2023-2050</b>	This EPA report provides an assessment of Ireland's total projected greenhouse gas emissions out to 2050 which includes an assessment of progress towards achieving its National ambitions under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 and EU emission reduction targets for 2030 as set under the EU Effort Sharing Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2018/842).	The focus of the assessment is out to 2030 given current national and EU 2030 climate targets. Extended projections out to 2050 are provided in the Appendix and as a separate download accompanying this report.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Ireland’s Second National Implementation Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals (2022 - 2024)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Implementation Plan 2022 - 2024 is in direct response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a whole-of-government approach to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</li> <li>• The first version of the Plan (2018 – 2020) provided a 'SDG Matrix' which identifies the responsible Government Departments for each of the</li> <li>• 169 targets. It also included a 'SDG Policy Map' indicating the relevant national policies for each of the targets.</li> </ul>	<p>The Plan identifies five strategic objectives to guide implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To embed the SDG framework into the work of Government Departments to achieve greater Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development;</li> <li>• To integrate the SDGs into Local Authority work to better support the localisation of the SDGs;</li> <li>• Greater partnerships for the Goals;</li> <li>• To further incorporate the principle of Leave No One Behind into Ireland’s Agenda 2030 implementation and reporting mechanisms; and</li> <li>• Strong reporting mechanisms</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines</b></p>	<p>The Department produces a range of guidelines designed to help planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála, developers and the general public and cover a wide range of issues amongst others, architectural heritage, childcare facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density.</p>	<p>The Minister issues statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act which planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to in the performance of their planning functions.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2018 and associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans (including transport)</b></p>	<p>NAF specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities in their administrative areas in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adaptation under this Framework should seek to minimise costs and maximise the opportunities arising from climate change.</li> <li>• Adaptation actions range from building adaptive capacity (e.g. increasing awareness, sharing information and targeted training) through to policy and finance based actions.</li> <li>• Adaptation actions must be risk based, informed by existing vulnerabilities of our society and systems and an understanding of projected climate change.</li> <li>• Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland 2024</b></p>	<p>This framework specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities to reduce the vulnerability of Ireland to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur. It sets out an extended suite of guiding principles that underscore the need for smarter, faster and transformative adaptation actions, which demand a pathway planning approach to account for a range of future warming and impact scenarios. It acts as a roadmap for governments, organisations, and communities to plan and implement adaptation strategies. The Framework helps coordinate efforts, allocate resources, and prioritise actions that reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience. A robust framework not only enables more effective responses to immediate climate related challenges but also fosters long-term sustainability by ensuring that adaptation measures are integrated into policymaking, infrastructure development, and local planning.</p>	<p>Key actions under the framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Putting in place revised governance and reporting arrangements</li> <li>• Formalising the status of existing guidelines</li> <li>• Formalising long term operational support for key sectors</li> <li>• Facilitating the establishment of regional local authority climate action offices</li> <li>• Increasing awareness around climate adaptation and resilience</li> <li>• Integrating climate adaptation into key national plans and policies</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP)</b>	<p>The National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP) is a technical document which outlines the pathway Ireland will follow to achieve compliance with its commitments under the National Emission Ceilings Directive (NEC Directive).</p> <p>The National Emissions Ceilings Directive (NEC Directive) establishes emission ceilings for 2020 and 2030 for five specified pollutants: nitrogen oxides (NOx), non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs), sulphur dioxide (SO2), ammonia (NH3) and fine particulate matter (PM2.5).</p> <p>It also mandates the development of a National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP) for each Member State.</p>	<p>The programme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An overview of sectors and national policy frameworks in Ireland that impact on emissions of the five NEC pollutants</li> <li>• An overview of the current outlook for compliance with NEC targets for each pollutant</li> <li>• Projections of relevant pollutant emissions to 2030</li> <li>• Policy options, measures and actions across sectors but in particular in the residential, transport agricultural and energy sectors aimed at reducing emissions of the five specified air pollutants</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>National Aviation Policy 2015</b>	<p>Specifically, the principal goals of this National Aviation Policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To enhance Ireland’s connectivity by ensuring safe, secure and competitive access responsive to the needs of business, tourism and consumers;</li> <li>• To foster the growth of aviation enterprise in Ireland to support job creation and position Ireland as a recognised global leader in aviation; and</li> <li>• To maximise the contribution of the aviation sector to</li> <li>• Ireland’s economic growth and development.</li> </ul>	<p>The National Aviation Policy commits to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining safety as the number one priority in Irish aviation and ensuring that safety regulation is robust, effective and efficient;</li> <li>• Creating conditions to encourage the development of new routes and services, particularly to new and emerging markets;</li> <li>• Ensuring a high level of competition among airlines operating in the Irish market;</li> <li>• Optimising the operation of the Irish airport network to ensure maximum connectivity to the rest of the world;</li> <li>• Ensuring that the regulatory framework for aviation reflects best international practice and that economic regulation facilitates continued investment in aviation infrastructure at Irish airports to support traffic growth;</li> <li>• Supporting the aircraft leasing and aviation finance sectors to maintain Ireland’s leading global position in these spheres; and</li> <li>• Maintaining a safe and innovative general aviation sector to support Ireland’s broader aviation industry</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>National Broadband Plan (2019)</b>	The National Broadband Plan (NBP) is the government’s initiative to deliver high speed broadband services to all premises in Ireland. This will be delivered through investment by commercial enterprises coupled with intervention by the State in those parts of the country where private companies have no plans to invest.	<p>The Plan sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High Speed Broadband.</li> <li>• Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered.</li> <li>• The strategy and interventions that will underpin the successful implementation of these targets.</li> <li>• A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Demand Management Strategy - Moving Together: A Strategic Approach to Improving the Efficiency of Ireland’s Transport System</b>	The Strategy encourages an urban first approach to rolling out measures, where other travel options exist, and aims to improve journey times for car drivers, public transport users, business and freight, leading to improvements in local air quality and reduced stress with associated health benefits for drivers and non-drivers alike.	<p>The Strategy does not contain a prescriptive series of actions. Instead, it provides a firm policy direction and suite of options - such as road space reallocation, progressive taxation, freight efficiency, or behavioural incentives - that can be taken at national, regional and local levels to bring about the systems changed needed.</p> <p>It is also intended that the Strategy will provide guidance needed for local authorities and local council representatives to develop plans for their own areas that suit their own communities’ needs best.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030</b>	The NECP outlines Ireland’s energy and climate policies in detail for the period from 2021 to 2030 and looks onwards to 2050. The NECP is a consolidated plan which brings together energy and climate planning into a single process for the first time.	The NECP facilitates the ongoing analysis at EU level. It will be revised to bring it in line with the 7% trajectory and to include policies and measures currently being developed to achieve the 7% trajectory.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Energy Security Framework</b>	<p>The Framework outlines the structures which are in place within Government to monitor and manage our energy supplies. It sets out the plans which are in place to deal with energy security emergencies should they arise, and outlines out how these plans will be tested in light of the war in Ukraine.</p> <p>The Framework also sets out how Government can support households and businesses, with a particular focus on protecting those most at risk of fuel poverty, how it is already ensuring Ireland’s energy security, how it will speed up the country’s shift to increased energy efficiency and indigenous renewable energy systems. It also sets out how consumers and businesses can be supported to save energy and save money.</p>	<p>The Framework sets out the government’s action in response to these issues across three key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• managing the impact on consumers and businesses, with a specific focus on financially vulnerable residential consumers in the short-term</li> <li>• ensuring security of energy supply in the near term, with a focus on the period up to and including winter 2022/23</li> <li>• reducing our dependency on imported fossil fuels, in the context of the phasing out of Russian energy imports across the EU</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>National Forestry Programme 2023 – 2027</b>	The national Forestry Programme 2023-2027 came into force in 2023, as soon as State Aid approval by the European Commission has been received. The new Programme sets out increased support for a number of schemes.	<p>The Forestry Programme 2023-2027 contains a series of eight different interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forest creation;</li> <li>• Agroforestry;</li> <li>• Infrastructure and technology investments;</li> <li>• Sustainable forest management;</li> <li>• Developing skills and empowering the forest sector for sustainable forest management;</li> <li>• Open forests - social, cultural and heritage forests;</li> <li>• Climate resilient reforestation;</li> <li>• Reconstruction.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2021 - 2027</b></p>	<p>This Plan sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous plan and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous plan was published.</p> <p>Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended, sets out the overarching objectives for the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan. In this context, the following objectives are included as priorities for the revised Plan period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To prevent and reduce the generation of hazardous waste by industry and society generally;</li> <li>• To maximise the collection of hazardous waste with a</li> <li>• view to reducing the environmental and health impacts of any unregulated waste;</li> <li>• To strive for increased self-sufficiency in the management of hazardous waste and to minimise hazardous waste export;</li> <li>• To minimise the environmental, health, social and economic impacts of hazardous waste generation and management.</li> </ul>	<p>The revised Plan makes 20 recommendations under the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy and Regulation</li> <li>• Prevention</li> <li>• Collection and Treatment</li> <li>• Implementation</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>National Inspection Plan - Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems 2022 - 2026</b></p>	<p>The Water Services Act 2007 (as amended) requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to produce a national inspection plan for domestic waste water treatment systems (DWWTSs).</p> <p>The purpose of the plan is to protect human health and water quality from the risks posed by DWWTSs.</p> <p>This document is the fourth plan and covers the period 2022 to 2026.</p>	<p>The plan sets out the background, minimum inspection numbers, risk based allocation of inspections, requirements for enforcement of advisory notices and for engagement to promote broader compliance.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) 2021</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NIFTI is the Department of Transport’s framework for prioritising future investment in the land transport network to support the delivery of the National Strategic Outcomes.</li> <li>• The NIFTI will guide transport investment in the years ahead to enable the National Planning Framework, support the Climate Action Plan, and promote social, environmental and economic outcomes throughout Ireland.</li> </ul>	<p>The four investment priorities stated in NIFTI are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobility of people and goods in urban areas.</li> <li>• Protection and renewal.</li> <li>• Enhanced regional and rural connectivity.</li> <li>• Decarbonisation.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The National Landscape Strategy will be used to ensure compliance with the European Landscape Convention and to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change. It will provide a high level policy framework to achieve balance between the protection, management and planning of the landscape by way of supporting actions.</li> <li>• Landscape Strategy Vision: “Our landscape reflects and embodies our cultural values and our shared natural heritage and contributes to the well-being of our society, environment and economy. We have an obligation to ourselves and to future generations to promote its sustainable protection, management and planning.”</li> </ul>	<p>The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement the European Landscape Convention by integrating landscape into the approach to sustainable development;</li> <li>• Establish and embed a public process of gathering, sharing and interpreting scientific, technical and cultural information in order to carry out evidence-based identification and description of the character, resources and processes of the landscape;</li> <li>• Provide a policy framework, which will put in place measures at national, sectoral - including agriculture, tourism, energy, transport and marine - and local level, together with civil society, to protect, manage and properly plan through high quality design for the sustainable stewardship of the landscape;</li> <li>• Ensure that we take advantage of opportunities to implement policies relating to landscape use that are complementary and mutually reinforcing and that conflicting policy objectives are avoided in as far as possible.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>National legislation transposing the Industrial Emissions Directive:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992, amended by the Protection of the Environment Act 2003; and</li> <li>• Environmental Protection Agency (Integrated Pollution Control) (Licensing) Regulations 2013.</li> <li>• European Union (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992)(Amendment) Regulations 2020</li> <li>• Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 2020.</li> <li>• European Union (Industrial Emissions) Regulations 2013</li> <li>• Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing)Regulations 2013.</li> </ul> <p>Environmental Protection Agency (Licensing Fees) Regulations 2013</p>	<p>The purpose of this Directive is to lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection. This legislation transposes the provisions of the Directive.</p>	<p>The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• energy;</li> <li>• metal production and processing;</li> <li>• minerals;</li> <li>• chemicals;</li> <li>• waste management;</li> <li>• and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs.</li> </ul> <p>All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>National Mitigation Plan 2017</b>	The National Mitigation Plan represents an initial step in transitioning Ireland to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050. This whole-of-government Plan draws on the perspectives and responsibilities of a range of government departments, and reflects the central roles of key ministers responsible for electricity generation, the built environment, transport and agriculture.	<p>The Plan includes over 100 individual actions for ministers and public bodies to implement and began the process of developing medium to long term mitigation choices for the next and future decades.</p> <p>The Plan is structured across several key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Action Policy Framework</li> <li>• Decarbonising Electricity Generation</li> <li>• Decarbonising the Built Environment</li> <li>• Decarbonising Transport</li> </ul> <p>An Approach to Carbon Neutrality for Agriculture, Forest and Land Use Sectors</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)</b>	This Strategy aims to provide a long-term framework within which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and economic contribution to the well-being of this and future generations.	<p>Objectives of the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To give direction to Ireland’s approach to peatland management.</li> <li>• To apply to all peatlands, including peat soils.</li> <li>• To ensure that the relevant State authorities and state owned companies that influence such decisions contribute to meeting cross-cutting objectives and obligations in their policies and actions.</li> <li>• To ensure that Ireland’s peatlands are sustainably managed so that their benefits can be enjoyed responsibly.</li> <li>• To inform appropriate regulatory systems to facilitate good decision making in support of responsible use.</li> <li>• To inform the provision of appropriate incentives, financial supports and disincentives where required.</li> <li>• To provide a framework for determining and ensuring the most appropriate future use of cutover and cutaway bogs.</li> </ul> <p>To ensure that specific actions necessary for the achievement of its objectives are clearly identified and delivered by those involved in or responsible for peatlands management or for decisions affecting their management.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport represents the first step in communicating our longer term national vision for decarbonising transport by 2050, the cornerstone of which is our ambition that by 2030 all new cars and vans sold in Ireland will be zero-emissions capable.</li> <li>• By 2030 it is envisaged that the movement in Ireland to electrically-fuelled cars and commuter rail will be well underway, with natural gas and biofuels developing as major alternatives in the freight and bus sectors.</li> <li>• This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non- infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.</li> </ul>	<p>This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce overall travel demand</li> <li>• Maximise the efficiency of the transport network</li> <li>• Reduce reliance on fossil fuels</li> <li>• Reduce transport emissions</li> <li>• Improve accessibility to transport</li> </ul> <p>These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework.</p> <p>Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AFV forecasts</li> <li>• Electricity targets</li> <li>• Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets</li> <li>• Hydrogen targets</li> <li>• Biofuels targets</li> <li>• LPG targets</li> <li>• Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>National Ports Policy 2013</b></p>	<p>The core objective of National Ports Policy is to facilitate a competitive and effective market for maritime transport services.</p>	<p>National Ports Policy introduces clear categorisation of the ports sector into Ports of National Significance (Tier 1), Ports of National Significance (Tier 2) and Ports of Regional Significance.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>National Retrofit Plan</b>	The National Retrofit Plan sets out how the Government will deliver on the Climate Action Plan targets of retrofitting the equivalent of 500,000 homes to a BER of B2/cost-optimal and installing 400,000 heat pumps in existing homes to replace older, less efficient heating systems by the end of 2030.	The Plan is designed to address barriers to retrofit across four key pillars: driving demand and activity; financing and funding; supply chain, skills and standards; and governance. For each pillar, barriers were identified and time-bound policies, measures and actions were put in place to address them. The initiatives in the Plan were guided by a number of key principles.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Roads 2040</b>	NR2040 sets out TII’s long-term strategy for the maintenance, development, and management of Ireland’s National Roads network. NR2040 is fully aligned with NIFTI and Project Ireland 2040 and focuses on strategic issues for National Roads identified by TII.	The following objectives have been defined. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe and efficient transport network for people and goods</li> <li>• Environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable</li> <li>• Tailored for different customers in different places</li> <li>• Managed and improved as a key public asset</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>National Rural Development Programme</b>	The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas	<p>At a more detailed level, the programme also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation;</li> <li>• Aims to improve the environment, biodiversity and the amenity value of the countryside by support for land management through funds such as Natura 2000 payments etc.; and</li> <li>• Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as non-agricultural activities</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development 2030</b>	Article 34 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Common Fisheries Policy ('the CFP'), on the promotion of sustainable aquaculture, calls for the establishment of multiannual national strategic aquaculture plans. The NSPSA 2030 is the second such plan under the current CFP.	<p>This Plan proposes 58 actions to be implemented over the period up to 2030. The purpose is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To align and mainstream the recently updated but non-binding guidance for the sustainable development of EU aquaculture (2021 – 2030) with national aquaculture sector planning.</li> <li>• To help inform the investment priorities for aquaculture in Ireland's new Seafood Development Programme 2021-2027 (EMFAF).</li> <li>• To provide a framework so that strategic planning for the aquaculture sector in Ireland responds to the latest thinking in terms of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for Irish aquaculture in order to promote the development of a sustainable and forward-looking sector.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>National Sustainable Mobility Policy and the Sustainable Mobility Policy Action Plan 2022 - 2025</b></p>	<p>The National Sustainable Mobility Policy sets out a strategic framework to 2030 for active travel (walking and cycling) and public transport journeys to help Ireland meet its climate obligations. It is accompanied by an action plan to 2025 which contains actions to improve and expand sustainable mobility options across the country by providing safe, green, accessible and efficient alternatives to car journeys. It also includes demand management and behavioural change measures to manage daily travel demand more efficiently and to reduce the journeys taken by private car.</p>	<p>The policy aims to deliver at least 500,000 additional daily active travel and public transport journeys by 2030 and a 10% reduction in the number of kilometres driven by fossil fuelled cars. It will make it easier for people to choose walking, cycling and use public transport daily instead of having to use a petrol or diesel car.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>National Transport Authority's Integrated Implementation Plan 2019-2024</b></p>	<p>Section 13(1) of the Dublin Transport Authority Act 2008 (the DTA Act) requires the NTA to prepare an integrated implementation plan covering a six year period.</p>	<p>In accordance with the DTA Act, the Plan comprises the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An infrastructure investment programme, identifying the key objectives and outputs to be pursued by the Authority over the period of the Plan;</li> <li>• The actions to be taken by the Authority to ensure the effective integration of public transport infrastructure over the period of the Plan;</li> <li>• An integrated service plan, identifying the key objectives and outputs to be pursued by the Authority in relation to the procurement of public passenger transport services over the period of the Plan;</li> <li>• The actions to be taken by the Authority in relation to small public service vehicles;</li> <li>• The actions to be taken by the Authority to ensure the effective integration of public passenger transport services over the period of the Plan; and</li> <li>• Such other matters as the Authority considers appropriate or as may be prescribed by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030</b></p>	<p>The National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030 has been published and replaces the Regional Waste Management Plans.</p> <p>The Plan sets out a framework for the prevention and management of waste in Ireland for the period 2024 to 2030.</p>	<p>The ambition of this Plan is 0% total waste growth per person over the life of the Plan with an emphasis on non-household wastes including waste from commercial activities and the construction and demolition sector. This ambition is underpinned with a comprehensive series of targets, policies, actions and a suite of key deliverables.</p> <p>The Plan is presented in 5 Volumes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VOLUME I Sets out the current situation including policy, the existing waste landscape and financial, human and market resources deployed. It also identifies the key waste management challenges facing the State.</li> <li>• VOLUME II Sets out the responses to the waste management challenges identified including the Plan ambition, targets, policies and priority actions. Targeted policies and priority actions are identified for a range of focus areas chosen to align with the challenges.</li> <li>• VOLUME III Sets out the delivery roadmap for the responses contained in Volume II and contains key deliverables required to enable the ambition, targets, policies, and actions identified.</li> <li>• VOLUME IV Provides the supporting information for the Plan in a series of technical appendices.</li> <li>• VOLUME V Contains the Strategic Environmental Assessment Statement and Natura Impact Statement.</li> </ul> <p>Key challenges identified in the Plan include resources, organisational capability, policy requirements, specific material stream targets, the provision of infrastructure and waste generation.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>National Water Resources Plan (2021)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The NWRP is a plan on how to provide a safe, secure and reliable water supply to customers for the next 25 years, without causing adverse impact on the environment.</li> <li>The objective of the NWRP is to set out how we intend to maintain the supply and demand for drinking water over the short, medium and long term whilst minimising the impact on the environment.</li> </ul>	<p>The key objectives of the plan are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account normal and extreme weather conditions</li> <li>Assess the current and future water demand from homes, businesses, farms, and industry</li> <li>Consider the impacts of climate change on Ireland’s water resources</li> <li>Develop a drought plan advising measures to be taken before and during drought events</li> <li>Develop a plan detailing how we deal with the material that is produced as a result of treating drinking water</li> <li>Identify, develop and assess options to help meet potential shortfalls in water supplies</li> <li>Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Our Rural Future: Rural Development Policy 2021-2025</b>	<p>The policy provides a framework for the development of rural Ireland over the next five years.</p>	<p>The policy focuses on the following thematic objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optimising the opportunities for rural communities from high speed broadband.</li> <li>Supporting improved quality employment and career opportunities in rural areas.</li> <li>Assisting the regeneration, repopulation and development of rural towns and villages.</li> <li>Enhancing the participation, leadership and resilience of rural communities.</li> <li>Enhancing public services in rural areas</li> <li>Supporting a Just Transition to a climate neutral economy.</li> <li>Supporting the sustainability of Agriculture, the Marine and Forestry.</li> <li>Supporting the sustainability of our island and coastal communities.</li> <li>Nurturing our culture and heritage</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012</b>	A medium to long term framework for advancing sustainable development and the green economy in Ireland. It identifies spatial planning as a key challenge for sustainable development and sets a series of measures to address these challenges.	Sets out the challenges facing us and how we might address them in making sure that quality of life and general wellbeing can be improved and sustained in the decades to come.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)</b>	The core principal objectives of this Act are to amend the Planning Acts of 2000 – 2022 with specific regard given to supporting economic renewal and sustainable development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development, with certain exceptions, is subject to development control under the Planning Acts and the local authorities grant or refuse planning permission for development, including ones within protected areas.</li> <li>• There are, however, a range of exemptions from the planning system. Use of land for agriculture, peat extraction and afforestation, subject to certain thresholds, is generally exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission.</li> <li>• Additionally, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for a range of classes and large scale projects.</li> <li>• Under planning legislation, Development Plans must include mandatory objectives for the conservation of the natural heritage and for the conservation of European sites and any other sites which may be prescribed. There are also discretionary powers to set objectives for the conservation of a variety of other elements of the natural heritage.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040 (PLUTO)</b>	PLUTO's objective is to develop a transport investment framework which delivers a land transport network that meets the travel needs of the population in the coming decades and which supports the National Strategic Outcomes of Project Ireland 2040.	<p>The PLUTO will take account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies and will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term;</li> <li>• Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and,</li> <li>• Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Areas 2017 - 2022</b>	Aims to meet nature conservation obligations while having regard to national and local economic, social and cultural needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the implications of management choices for water levels, quantity and quality are fully explored, understood and factored into policy making and land use planning.</li> <li>• Review the current raised bog NHA network in terms of its contribution to the national conservation objective for raised bog habitats and determine the most suitable sites to replace the losses of active raised bog habitat and high bog areas within the SAC network and to enhance the national network of NHAs.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Renewable Electricity Spatial Policy Framework (RESPF)</b>	<p>Under Action EL/23/2 of CAP23, the Renewable Electricity Spatial Policy Framework (RESPF) is currently being prepared. In effect, this will be the national policy for onshore renewable electricity and will inform and reshape the development and distribution of onshore renewables in order to enable the delivery of Ireland’s renewable electricity targets, as set out in CAP23.</p> <p>The RESPF will promote a plan-led and evidence-based approach to the allocation of renewable electricity spatial and generation targets across the three Regional Assemblies, to facilitate the achievement of the national target of 80% RES-E by 2030.</p>	<p>The objective of this spatial policy framework is to effectively translate renewable electricity objectives, as those outlined in Climate Action Plan 2023, to the regional level and allocate regional spatial and renewable generation capacity targets.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Water Action Plan 2024 - A River Basin Management Plan for Ireland</b>	<p>The Water Action Plan 2024 is Ireland’s third River Basin Management Plan and it outlines the measures the Government and other sectors are taking to improve water quality in Ireland’s groundwater, rivers, lakes, estuarine and coastal waters, and provide sustainable management of our water resources (as specified under SDG 6).</p> <p>This Water Action Plan enhances and builds upon the work of the first and second cycle plans. Where necessary, this plan addresses the shortcomings experienced during the implementation of previous plans.</p>	<p>The objectives of the Water Framework Directive are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) to prevent the deterioration of water bodies and to protect, enhance and restore them with the aim of achieving at least good status and</li> <li>(ii) (ii) to achieve compliance with the water standards and objectives for designated protected areas.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS)</b></p> <p><b>Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS)</b></p> <p><b>Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection.</li> <li>• GLAS is the new replacement for REPS and AEOS which are both expiring.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation.</li> <li>• Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats.</li> <li>• Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment.</li> <li>• Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans.</li> <li>• Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>S.I. 79 of 2008 - Bathing Water Quality Regulations 2008, as amended (latest S.I. No. 163/2016)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These Regulations provide for transposition of the EU Bathing Water Directive 2006 (Directive 2006/7/EC of 15 February 2006) which aims:</li> <li>• To improve health protection for bathers</li> <li>• To establish a more pro-active approach to management of bathing waters, and</li> <li>• To promote increased public involvement and dissemination of information to the public.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Regulations establish a new classification system for bathing water quality based on four classifications “poor”, “sufficient”, “good” and “excellent” and generally require that a classification of at least “sufficient” be achieved by 2015 for all bathing waters.</li> <li>• Local authorities must take appropriate measures with a view to improving waters which are classified as “poor” and increasing the number of bathing waters classified as “good” or “excellent”.</li> <li>• A permanent advice against bathing must be issued in a case where a bathing water is classified as “poor” for five consecutive years.</li> <li>• Local authorities are required annually to identify bathing waters, establish a monitoring calendar, carry out the specified monitoring, report the results to the EPA, carry out appropriate management measures where necessary and provide information to the public.</li> <li>• There must be public participation in the identification of waters and the general implementation of the Regulations.</li> <li>• The EPA is required by the Regulations to classify bathing waters, generally on the basis of the monitoring results for the four preceding bathing seasons, and to publish an annual report in relation to bathing water quality.</li> <li>• Monitoring by local authorities is to commence not later than 2011 with a view to ensuring that a classification is assigned to bathing waters not later than 2015.</li> </ul> <p>Private controllers of access lands may be required to contribute towards the costs incurred by a local authority or the EPA.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>S.I. No. 113/2022 - European Union (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2022, as amended</b>	The purpose of the Regulations is to provide a basic set of measures to ensure the protection of waters, including drinking water sources, against pollution caused by nitrogen and phosphorus from agricultural sources, with the primary emphasis on the management of livestock manures and other fertilisers. The set of measures also provide some basic safeguards against possible harmful impacts on water quality arising from agricultural expansion. This basic set of measures has been strengthened over the last two reviews and this new programme provides a further strengthened set of measures to help reduce nitrogen and phosphorus losses from agriculture and contribute to improvements in water quality.	The Regulations include measures such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Periods when land application of fertilisers is prohibited</li> <li>• Limits on the land application of fertilisers</li> <li>• Storage requirements for livestock manure; and</li> <li>• Monitoring of the effectiveness of the measures in terms of agricultural practice and impact on water quality.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>S.I. No. 254/2001 - Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations, 2001, as amended (latest S.I. No. 48/2010)</b>	These regulations concern the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors.	The objective of these regulations is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of the abovementioned waste water discharges.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>S.I. No. 296/2009 - European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009, as amended (latest S.I 355/2018)</b>	The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set environmental quality objectives for the habitats of the freshwater pearl mussel populations named in the First Schedule to these Regulations that are within the boundaries of a site notified in a candidate list of European sites, or designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 94/1997).</li> <li>• Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of measures to achieve these objectives.</li> <li>• Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>S.I. No. 9/2010 - European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010, as amended (latest S.I. No. 287/2022)</b></p>	<p>These Regulations are made to give effect to the measures needed to achieve the environmental objectives established for groundwater by Article 4(1)(b) of the Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC) and to give effect to the requirements of the Groundwater Directive (Directive 2006/118/EC) on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration.</p>	<p>The Regulations establish clear environmental objectives to be achieved in groundwater bodies within specified timeframes and introduce the legal basis for a more flexible, proportionate and risk-based approach to implementing the legal obligation to prevent or limit inputs of pollutants into groundwater, which already exists under Directive 80/68/EEC. Measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• measures to prevent or limit the input of pollutants into groundwater and to prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater</li> <li>• measures to protect, enhance and restore all bodies of groundwater and to ensure a balance between abstraction and recharge of groundwater, with the aim of achieving good groundwater within a particular timeframe</li> <li>• measures requiring the reversal of any significant and sustained upward trend in the concentration of any pollutant resulting from the impact of human activity in order to progressively reduce pollution of groundwater</li> <li>• measures for determining groundwater quantitative and chemical status</li> <li>• measures establishing procedures for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and the definition of the starting point for trend reversal</li> <li>• the laying down of rules for the presentation and reporting of groundwater monitoring results, trend assessments and the classification of quantitative status and chemical status of groundwater bodies</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>State of the Environment Report – Ireland’s Environment 2024</b></p>	<p>The EPA produces state of the environment reports on a four-yearly cycle. These reports provide timely information and knowledge to the public, policymakers and key economic sectors in support of action to protect and manage the environment.</p> <p>The EPA will be publishing the next iteration of our State of the Environment Report later in 2024.</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The objective of this Strategy is to assist in the strategic development of nationally and regionally significant Greenways in appropriate locations constructed to an appropriate standard in order to deliver a quality experience for all Greenways users.</li> <li>• It also aims to increase the number and geographical spread of Greenways of scale and quality around the country over the next 10 years with a consequent significant increase in the number of people using Greenways as a visitor experience and as a recreational amenity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Strategic Greenway network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and/or link with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure;</li> <li>• Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in activity tourism to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors, domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity;</li> <li>• Greenways that provide a substantially segregated offroad experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do;</li> <li>• Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and</li> <li>• Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>The Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (CAFE) Directive (2008/50/EC) as transposed into Irish legislation by the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 180 of 2011 as amended)</b></p>	<p>The Directive sets air quality standards for European Union member states.</p>	<p>Limit values for air quality parameters are set in this Directive.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>The CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027</b></p>	<p>Ireland’s CAP Strategic Plan provides a framework for the application of the Common Agricultural Policy in Ireland. It aims to promote the agricultural sector and the provision of safe and sustainable food in the county.</p> <p>Ireland as an EU member state is responsible for the running of our own CAP Strategic Plan, in close co-operation with the European Commission, and the EU Court of Auditors as the guardian of EU finances.</p> <p>he CAP is divided into two pillars. Pillar 1 covers direct support and market supports, and rural development is in Pillar 2.</p>	<p>The Irish CAP Strategic Plan aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Protect farm family incomes</li> <li>2. Recognise the hard work of our farm families as food producers regardless of where they are in the country</li> <li>3. Play a meaningful role in supporting our climate ambitions.</li> </ol> <p>It provides for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pillar 1 agri-environment schemes, including direct support consisting of payments granted directly to farmers and provides baseline income support and operates as a safety net in cases of market disturbances, and market measures to manage and control the agricultural economy.</li> <li>• Pillar 2 direct payments supporting rural development.</li> </ul> <p>Ireland’s CAP Strategic Plan has a strong emphasis on achievement of a higher level of climate and environment ambition that will be achieved through the CAP’s new green architecture.</p> <p>It contains measures that will help to achieve significant improvements in the areas of biodiversity and water quality, as well as contributing to national and EU climate and environmental targets, including through increased sequestration and carbon removal.</p> <p>There are three key areas in the new green architecture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conditionality</li> <li>2. Pillar 1 Eco-schemes</li> <li>3. Pillar 2 climate and environment-related interventions</li> </ol>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>The Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sets out comprehensive mechanisms for the incorporation of flood risk identification, assessment and management into the planning process.</li> <li>• Ensures flood risk is a key consideration in preparing land use plans and in the assessment of planning applications.</li> <li>• Implementation of the Guidelines is through actions at national, regional, local authority and site-specific levels.</li> <li>• Planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are required to have regard to the Guidelines in carrying out their functions under the Planning Acts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding.</li> <li>• Avoid new developments increasing flood risk elsewhere, including that which may arise from surface water run-off.</li> <li>• Ensure effective management of residual risks for development permitted in floodplains.</li> <li>• Avoid unnecessary restriction of national, regional or local economic and social growth.</li> <li>• Improve the understanding of flood risk among relevant stakeholders.</li> <li>• Ensure that the requirements of EU and national law in relation to the natural environment and nature conservation are complied with at all stages of flood risk management.</li> </ul> <p>The 2009 Flood Risk Management Guidelines were amended by Circular PL 2/2014 (Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government) that provides advice on the use of OPW flood mapping in assessing planning applications and clarifies some advice from the 2009 Guidelines.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025</b></p>	<p>The main goal of this policy statement is to have a vibrant, attractive tourism sector that makes a significant contribution to employment across the country; is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable; helps promote a positive image of Ireland overseas, and is a sector in which people want to work.</p>	<p>The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overseas tourism revenue of €5 billion per year net of inflation excluding carrier receipts;</li> <li>• 250,000 people employed in tourism; and</li> <li>• 10 million overseas visitors to Ireland per year.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Uisce Éireann Water Services Strategic Plan 2015, Water Services Strategic Plan 2050, and associated Proposed Capital Investment Plan (2020 - 2024)</b>	The Water Services Strategic Plan (WSSP) presents Uisce Éireann’s objectives for the next 25 years and the means by which we will achieve them. It aligns to requirements set out in the Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013. The first Water Services Strategic Plan was published in 2015 and are the draft Water Services Strategic Plan 2050 (WSSP 2050) is in the process of consultation which will replace the current plan.	The new Water Services Strategic Plan 2050 will be an important strategic document that will focus on the provision of safe drinking water and ensure that the environment is protected from the impacts of wastewater discharges.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Waste Management Act 1996, as amended</b>	To make provision in relation to the prevention, management and control of waste; to give effect to provisions of certain acts adopted by institutions of the European communities in respect of those matters; to amend the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992, and to repeal certain enactments and to provide for related matters.	The Waste Management Act contains a number of key legal obligations, including requirements for waste management planning, waste collection and movement, the authorisation of waste facilities, measures to reduce the production of waste and/or promote its recovery.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Water Pollution Acts 1977 to 1990</b>	The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division.	<p>The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosecute for water pollution offences.</li> <li>• Attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters.</li> <li>• Issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution.</li> <li>• Issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remedying of any effects of the pollution in the manner and within the period specified in such notices;</li> <li>• Seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects.</li> <li>• Prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**National Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Water Services Act 2007, and amendments in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2022</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides the water services infrastructure.</li> <li>• Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services.</li> <li>• Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and wastewater supply.</li> <li>• Uisce Eireann was given the responsibility of the provision of water and wastewater services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland.</li> </ul>	<p>Key strategic objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring Uisce Eireann delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector.</li> <li>• Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services.</li> <li>• Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards</li> <li>• Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary wastewater treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive.</li> <li>• Promoting water conservation through Uisce Eireann’s Capital Investment Plan, the Rural Water Programme and other measures.</li> <li>• Monitoring the on-going implementation of septic tanks inspection regime and the National Inspection Plan for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems.</li> <li>• Ensuring a fair funding model to deliver water services.</li> <li>• Overseeing the establishment of an economic regulation function under the CER.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Wildlife Act of 1976</b></p> <p><b>Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000</b></p> <p><b>Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2023</b></p>	<p>The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems</li> <li>• Give statutory protection to NHAs</li> <li>• Enhances wildlife species and their habitats</li> <li>• Includes more species for protection</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Carrick on Suir Town Centre First Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides a new vision for the town centre.</li> <li>Scopes out a number of key projects for investment and delivery, in order to capitalise on the significant investment that has been secured for the town under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF).</li> </ul>	Not applicable.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Carrick-on-Suir Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-28</b>	<p>This is a shared plan of action for Carrick-on-Suir community to build on recent progress and help increase biodiversity in the area.</p> <p>It aims to guide the local community and stakeholders in their efforts to protect and restore some of this natural heritage and maximise the benefits that nature can provide for the people of Carrick-on-Suir.</p>	The plan has five Objectives each with specific targets and a list of actions. These targets and actions are considered guides for the community to achieve these Objectives. Their implementation is dependent on the resources available to the community of Carrick-on-Suir including volunteer time, funding, and external support.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Carrick-on-Suir Vision 2030</b>	“Carrick-on-Suir Vision 2030” is a strategic plan for the town centre which comprises of some 15 projects is designed to ensure that Carrick-on-Suir is the best place for living, shopping, business and visiting.	Not applicable.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>County Tipperary Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2024-2029</b>	The Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) is a tool for delivering actions from national and regional strategies at a local level. It is designed to integrate actions and initiatives related to economic and community development in Tipperary into a single unified strategy.	This LECP framework is built upon an evidence base that is translated into high-level goals and objectives that will guide the LECP for the duration of the plan (2024-2029). Ultimately, an initial two-year Implementation Plan will detail the actions to be implemented to achieve the objectives and High-Level Goals outlined in this Framework LECP.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Development Plans, Local Area Plans and other land use plans in adjacent areas and counties in Ireland</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline planning objectives for land use development (including transport objectives).</li> <li>Strategic frameworks for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies.</li> <li>Sets out the policies and proposals to guide development in the bordering and connected Local Authority areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify future infrastructure, development and zoning required.</li> <li>Protect and enhance amenities and environment.</li> <li>Guides neighbouring planning authority in assessing proposals.</li> <li>Aim to guide development in neighbouring areas</li> <li>Aim to promote sustainable development in neighbouring and connected areas.</li> <li>Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub- Basin Management Plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifies the current status of the species and the reason for loss or decline.</li> <li>Identifies measure required to improve or restore current status.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifies pressures on Freshwater Pearl Mussels for each of the designated populations in Ireland.</li> <li>Outlines restoration measures required to ensure favourable conservation status.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Groundwater Protection Schemes</b>	A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.	A Groundwater Protection Scheme aims to maintain the quantity and quality of groundwater, and in some cases improve it, by applying a risk assessment-based approach to groundwater protection and sustainable development.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Ireland's Ancient East Regional Tourism Development Strategy 2023–2027</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A roadmap for the tourism industry and all stakeholders involved in the region to navigate the current challenges and steer a course towards recovery and future success.</li> <li>• The ambition for this strategy is to drive recovery and growth of the visitor economy in Ireland's Ancient East to create sustainable, high-quality jobs in the sector to support and strengthen local communities while protecting our natural environment.</li> </ul>	<p>The Ireland's Ancient East Regional Tourism Development Strategy will achieve a new vision for tourism in the region through the following strategic objectives:</p> <p><b>Strategic Objective 1:</b> Motivate the domestic and international consumer to visit Ireland's Ancient East.</p> <p><b>Strategic Objective 2:</b> Provide the visitor with more reasons to stay, increasing the economic impact of tourism.</p> <p><b>Strategic Objective 3:</b> Ensure the region is easy to access, navigate and consume for the visitor.</p> <p><b>Strategic Objective 4:</b> Enable and assist the industry to grow its capacity and capability to ensure it can thrive over the period of this strategy and create sustainable jobs in local communities.</p> <p><b>Strategic Objective 5:</b> Build committed stakeholder and industry partnerships to guide sustainable destination development across the region</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**Regional / County / Local Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Ireland's Hidden Heartlands Regional Tourism Development Strategy 2023–2027</b></p>	<p>This is a five- year strategic framework for the sustainable development of tourism in the Hidden Heartlands region.</p> <p>Its aim is to build greater capacity and capability into the industry and provide a clear strategy for attracting visitors that will stay longer and spend more in the region.</p>	<p>The Ireland’s Hidden Heartlands Regional Tourism Development Strategy will achieve a new vision for tourism in the region by focusing on the following strategic objectives:</p> <p><b>Strategic Objective 1:</b> Raise awareness and recognition of the region and brand among domestic and international visitors and increase the duration of visitor stays, particularly within the domestic market.</p> <p><b>Strategic Objective 2:</b> Enhance the range and quality of our visitor experiences to underpin the Hidden Heartlands brand proposition, leveraging the natural and cultural assets of the region in a sustainable way with a focus on eco–tourism.</p> <p><b>Strategic Objective 3:</b> Grow the economic impact of tourism and create jobs in local tourism by supporting the tourism industry (private, public and community sectors) to develop its capacity and capability while reducing its carbon footprint.</p> <p><b>Strategic Objective 4:</b> Establish the region as one of the leading regenerative tourism destinations in Europe in which tourism results in net positive outcomes for communities and nature.</p> <p><b>Strategic Objective 5:</b> Build a committed industry and stakeholder coalition to guide and co–ordinate the sustainable development of destinations across the region.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Local Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Produced by Local Authorities.</li> <li>• Outlines areas local flood risk.</li> <li>• Sets out measures to manage and prevent flood risk at a local level.</li> </ul>	<p>Not applicable.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**Regional / County / Local Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Local Transport Plans and Strategies</b>	Local Transport Plans and Strategies relevant to a particular local authority functional area provide a more granular framework for the delivery of sustainable transport systems in accordance with higher-level plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote sustainable transport.</li> <li>• To promote integrated and proper transport planning.</li> <li>• To promote safe travel.</li> <li>• To promote active travel infrastructural development.</li> <li>• To encourage modal shift.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs</b>	<p>Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site</li> <li>• To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest</li> <li>• To describe the site and its management</li> <li>• To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site</li> <li>• To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation objectives for SACs and SPAs (i.e. sites within the Natura 2000 network) have to be set for the habitats and species for which the sites are selected.</li> <li>• These objectives are used when carrying out appropriate assessments for plans and projects that might impact on these sites.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies</b>	The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies provide a long-term regional level strategic planning and economic framework in support of the implementation of the National Planning Framework.	<p>The Eastern and Midland Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its 12 constituent local authorities: Fingal County Council; Dublin City Council; South Dublin County Council; Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council; Louth County Council; Kildare County Council; Meath County Council; Wicklow County Council; Longford County Council; Laois County Council; Offaly County Council; and Westmeath County Council.</p> <p>The <b>Southern Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy</b> includes provisions for its nine constituent local authorities: Waterford City and County Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, <b>Tipperary County Council</b>, Wexford County Council, Kerry County Council, Clare County Council, Limerick City and County Council, Kilkenny County Council and Carlow County Council.</p> <p>The Northern and Western Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy includes provisions for its eight constituent local authorities: Donegal County Council, Leitrim County Council, Sligo County Council, Cavan County Council, Monaghan County Council, Mayo County Council, Roscommon County Council, and Galway County Council.</p>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Shellfish Pollution Reduction Programmes</b>	Aims to improve water quality and ensure the protection or improvement of designated shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth and contribute to the high quality of shellfish products directly edible by man.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies key and secondary pressures on water quality in designated shellfish areas.</li> <li>• Outlines specific measures to address identified key and secondary pressures on water quality.</li> <li>• Addresses the specific pressures acting on water quality in each area.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**Regional / County / Local Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Tipperary County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029</b></p>	<p>Ireland’s Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act (2021) required each local authority to prepare a Local Authority Climate Action Plan to meet national climate targets and develop resilience to the impacts of climate change. The plans are consistent with the most recently approved National Climate Action Plan and National Adaptation Framework.</p> <p>Tipperary County Council has prepared their Climate Action Plan for the period 2024 to 2029 to create a low carbon and climate resilient county, by delivering and promoting best practice in climate action in Co. Tipperary.</p>	<p>The plan demonstrates the ambition, focus and commitment of each local authority to reduce carbon emissions and improve the quality of life for people living, working and studying in each county.</p> <p>The plan is built on a strong evidence base. To help inform the plans, Tipperary County Council developed a Climate Change Risk Assessment which sets out the likely risks in terms of climate change, such as increased rainfall or flooding. They also did a Baseline Emissions Inventory which calculates the emissions within the local authority area and sets out emission by sector such as transport, the built environment and agriculture.</p> <p>As part of its local authority climate action plan, Tipperary County Council is responsible for establishing a decarbonising zone within their local authority area. Decarbonising zones (DZs) are intended to be the focus for a range of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity measures and will help local authorities to identify projects which will contribute to the delivery of the national climate objective. The National Bio-Economy Campus has been designated as the decarbonizing zone.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Tipperary County Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024</b></p>	<p>This Corporate Plan has been prepared in compliance with the Local Government Act 2014 and also recognises and takes into account a range of existing National and European policies, strategies and plans in relation to programmes and activities which are central to the goals and objectives in this Corporate Plan.</p> <p>The purpose of the Corporate Plan is to outline our vision for County Tipperary, describe the main priorities for the Council during the next five years, and the benefits we will deliver for our communities.</p>	<p>The key priority themes of our Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growing our economy, facilitating development and attracting entrepreneurs;</li> <li>• Developing resilience to climate change and embracing biodiversity;</li> <li>• Creating functional living town centres;</li> <li>• Citizen safety;</li> <li>• Ensuring a fit for purpose organisation and identifying new ways of working;</li> <li>• Leading multi agency approaches and maximising the potential of shared services.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**Regional / County / Local Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Tipperary County Council Noise Action Plan 2018-2023</b></p>	<p>This third round Noise Action Plan has been prepared by Tipperary County Council to address environmental noise from major roads in the county carrying more than three million vehicles per annum.</p>	<p>The action planning area covers the following roads or qualifying sections of roads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• M8 Motorway as it passes through Tipperary (64.8kms);</li> <li>• M7 Motorway as it passes through Tipperary (57kms);</li> <li>• N24 National Primary Road as it passes through Tipperary (69.8kms);</li> <li>• N52 National Secondary Road , from M7 Interchange, (Junction26) to Ardcroney (13Kms);</li> <li>• N62 National Secondary Road, from M8 Interchange, (Junction 6) to Thurles (8Kms);</li> <li>• R688 (Cashel to Clonmel Road) for a distance of 1.3kms north from its junction with the N24 National Primary Road at the Cashel Road Roundabout, Clonmel;</li> <li>• R689 (Urlingford to Clonmel Road) for a distance of 1km north from its junction with the N24 National Primary Road at the Fethard Road Roundabout, Clonmel.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

**Regional / County / Local Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028</b></p>	<p>The Plan is a framework for how the local authority will deliver for all communities, through protecting the environment, reducing energy demands, maintaining the viability of towns, villages and rural communities and supporting job creation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guides sustainable physical, economic, and social development across Tipperary, whilst protecting the environment and guiding and supporting our move to a low-carbon society.</li> <li>• Identifies the social, economic and environmental character of Tipperary, provides guidance on the growth of towns, villages and rural areas, informs the nature of future investment, and protects our environment.</li> <li>• Informs decisions on public services, infrastructure and amenities, and will influence many facets of daily economic and social life, in terms of where we live, availability of services and our job opportunities.</li> </ul>	<p>The plan is informed by a set of ‘Core Ambitions’ integrating the principles of economic, social and environmental sustainability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy Natural Environment, Working Landscapes, Supporting Infrastructure</li> <li>• Vibrant, Living Towns driving the Regional and Local Economy</li> <li>• Valued Built and Cultural Heritage</li> <li>• Strong Rural Economy with Diverse Connected Communities</li> <li>• Climate Resilient, Sustainable &amp; Low-Carbon County</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Tipperary Heritage Plan 2017-2021</b></p>	<p>The aim of this plan is to connect the citizens of Tipperary to their heritage, raise awareness and appreciation of this rich asset and ensure its protection for future generations. We aim to make it an integral part of everyday life at the core of our communities.</p>	<p>The plan is a five year plan with 35 actions and will form the basis of the work programme of the Heritage Office and the Heritage Forum.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Tipperary Landscape Character Assessment</b>	Characterises the geographical dimension of the landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area.</li> <li>Guides strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape.</li> </ul>	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Tipperary Local Development Strategy Action Plan 2023-2027</b>	<p>Tipperary Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) is the Local Action Group (LAG) responsible for delivering the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 in County Tipperary.</p> <p>The LEADER Programme envisions improved quality of living and working in Co. Tipperary underpinned by sustainable environmental, social, economic, cultural and climate action development.</p>	This Strategy has been developed in response and concentrates on the identified high-level priorities to ensure the optimum distribution of limited resources across the County.	The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

**Regional / County / Local Level**

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<p><b>Tipperary Road Safety Strategy 2022-2030</b></p>	<p>The objective of the Tipperary Road Safety Strategy is to create a greater awareness of road safety through our stakeholders to reduce the number, severity and life-changing impact of road collisions in Tipperary by advancing Vision Zero in adherence with the Government Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030.</p>	<p>The aims of the Tipperary Road Safety Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create a safer road environment in Tipperary for all road users.</li> <li>• To improve co-operation between the agencies and groups represented on the Road Safety Working Together Group.</li> <li>• To improve road user behaviour by co-ordinating public education and awareness and to ensure compliance by the public with all relevant legislation.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p><b>Tipperary Transforming, Tourism Product Development Plan 2020-2030</b></p>	<p>The purpose of this Plan is to guide and assist the council and Tipperary Tourism in delivering its plan to significantly improve the visitor product experience in the county, increase capacity, dwell time, bed nights and the overall county tourism economy.</p>	<p>The Plan suggests ideas for creating exciting new tourism experiences and significantly enhancing existing ones. These will lead to building greater capacity among tourism providers and extending visitor length of stay in the county, whilst also building synergies and collaborations between tourism product offerings in order to deliver top-quality visitor experiences.</p> <p>There is a suite of innovative and creative potential projects included, along with a range of key targets, followed by an action plan plotting out the roadmap to be focused on for the decade.</p>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Regional / County / Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim / purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Water Quality Management Plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the quality of waters covered by the plan is maintained.</li> <li>• Maintain and improve the quantity and quality of water included in the Plan scope.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring of water bodies against quality standards.</li> <li>• Outlines management programmes for water catchments.</li> <li>• Purpose is to maintain and improve the quantity and quality of groundwater.</li> </ul>	<p>The LAP shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other users and bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>



**CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING,  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE  
& PLANNING**

**[www.fehilytimoney.ie](http://www.fehilytimoney.ie)**

---

 **Cork**

 **Dublin**

 **Carlow**





Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann  
Tipperary County Council

Comhairle Contae  
Thiobraid Árann,  
Oifigi Cathartha,  
Cluain Meala,  
Co. Thiobraid Árann  
Tipperary County Council,  
Civic Offices, Clonmel,  
Co. Tipperary  
E91 N512

Comhairle Contae  
Thiobraid Árann,  
Oifigi Cathartha,  
An tAonach,  
Co. Thiobraid Árann  
Tipperary County Council,  
Civic Offices, Nenagh,  
Co. Tipperary  
E45 A099

t 0818 06 5000  
e customerservice  
@tipperarycoco.ie  
tipperarycoco.ie

---

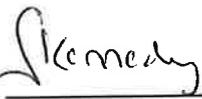
**Screening Determination under Section 177V of the Planning and Development Act 2000,  
as amended  
for the  
Tipperary County Council Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan 2025-2031**

Tipperary County Council is preparing a new Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan (LAP) under Sections 19 and 20 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). The prospective Carrick-on-Suir LAP will provide a land use framework that will guide the future sustainable development of Carrick-on-Suir. This Plan, in conjunction with the Tipperary County Development Plan (CDP) 2022 - 2028, will inform and manage the future development of the area.

A Screening Determination for the need for Appropriate Assessment (AA) has been made by Tipperary County Council with respect to the prospective LAP in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of the Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive) and Section 177V of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

An AA Screening exercise has been undertaken identifying any likely environmental effects of the LAP on European Sites, in accordance with the Habitats Directive.

Following the assessment of and having regard to the nature of the emerging LAP, development aspirations for the plan area and the baseline environment, Tipperary County Council has concluded, in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of conservation objectives, that the Plan, individually or in-combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have a significant effect on European sites, in view of the conservation objectives of these sites (in the absence of mitigation). A Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is, therefore, required.

Signed: 

**Sharon Kennedy**

**Director of Services**

Planning and Development, Emergency Services and Emergency Planning,  
Tipperary/Cahir/Cashel Municipal District

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024.