

# Appropriate Assessment Screening for a proposed development at Main Street Upper, Newcastle, Co. Dublin.



19th July 2022

Prepared by: Bryan Deegan (MCIEEM) of Altemar Ltd.

On behalf of: LIDL Ireland GmbH

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Project	Appropriate Assessment Screening for a proposed development at Main Street Upper, Newcastle, Co. Dublin		
Report	Appropriate Assessment Screening		
Date	19 <sup>th</sup> July 2022		
Version	Author	Reviewed	Date
Draft 01	Bryan Deegan	Jack Doyle	09 <sup>th</sup> July 2022
Planning	Bryan Deegan		19 <sup>th</sup> July 2022

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# Introduction

An Appropriate Assessment is an assessment of the potential effects of a proposed project or plan, on its own, or in combination with other plans or projects, on one or more European sites (Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) or Special Protection Areas (SPA)).

The following Appropriate Assessment Screening has been prepared by Altemar Ltd. at the request of LIDL Ireland GmbH. LIDL Ireland GmbH intend to apply for planning permission for a proposed development at Main Street Upper, Newcastle, Co. Dublin.

The AA Screening stage examines the likely significant effects of the proposed development, either on its own, or in combination with other plans and projects, upon a European site and considers whether, on the basis of objective scientific evidence, it can be concluded, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of the relevant European sites, that there are not likely to be significant effects on any European site.

#### Altemar Ltd.

Since its inception in 2001, Alternar has been delivering ecological and environmental services to a broad range of clients. Operational areas include residential, infrastructural, renewable, oil & gas, private industry, local authorities, EC projects and State/semi-State Departments.

## Statement of Authority

Bryan Deegan (MCIEEM) prepared this AA Screening. Bryan is the managing director of Altemar. Bryan is an environmental scientist, aquatic and marine biologist with 27 years' experience working in Irish terrestrial and aquatic environments, providing services to the State, Semi-State and industry. Bryan Deegan (MCIEEM) holds a MSc in Environmental Science, BSc (Hons.) in Applied Marine Biology, NCEA National Diploma in Applied Aquatic Science and a NCEA National Certificate in Science (Aquaculture). Bryan Deegan carried out all elements of this Appropriate Assessment Screening.

# Background to the Appropriate Assessment

The Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (together with the Birds Directive (2009/1477/EC)) forms the cornerstone of Europe's nature conservation policy. The Directive protects over 1000 animals and plant species and over 200 "habitat types" which are of European importance. In the Habitats Directive, Articles 3 to 9 provide the legislative means to protect habitats and species of European Community interest through the establishment and conservation of an EU-wide network of conservation sites (NATURA, 2000). These are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Birds Directive), Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans and projects likely to affect European sites (Annex 1.1). Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for Appropriate Assessment:

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

As outlined in "Managing European sites, The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC" (European Commission, 21 November 2018) "The purpose of the appropriate assessment is to assess the implications of the plan or project in respect of the site's conservation objectives, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects. The conclusions should enable the competent authorities to ascertain whether the plan or project will adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned. The focus of the appropriate assessment is therefore specifically on the species and/or the habitats for which the European site is designated."

As outlined in the EC guidance document on Article 6(4) (January 2007)<sup>1</sup>:

"Appropriate assessments of the implications of the plan or project for the site concerned must precede its approval and take into account the cumulative effects which result from the combination of that plan or project with other plans or projects in view of the site's conservation objectives. This implies that all aspects of the plan or project which can, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, affect those objectives must be identified in the light of the best scientific knowledge in the field.

Assessment procedures of plans or projects likely to affect European sites should guarantee full consideration of all elements contributing to the site integrity and to the overall coherence of the network, both in the definition of the baseline conditions and in the stages leading to identification of potential impacts, mitigation measures and residual impacts. These determine what has to be compensated, both in quality and quantity. Regardless of whether the provisions of Article 6(3) are delivered following existing environmental impact assessment procedures or other specific methods, it must be ensured that:

- Article 6(3) assessment results allow full traceability of the decisions eventually made, including the selection of alternatives and any imperative reasons of overriding public interest.
- The assessment should include all elements contributing to the site's integrity and to the overall coherence of the network as defined in the site's conservation objectives and Standard Data Form, and be based on best available scientific knowledge in the field. The information required should be updated and could include the following issues:
  - Structure and function, and the respective role of the site's ecological assets;
  - Area, representativity and conservation status of the priority and nonpriority habitats in the site;
  - Population size, degree of isolation, ecotype, genetic pool, age class structure, and conservation status of species under Annex II of the Habitats Directive or Annex I of the Birds Directive present in the site;
  - Role of the site within the biographical region and in the coherence of the European network; and,
  - Any other ecological assets and functions identified in the site.
- It should include a comprehensive identification of all the potential impacts of the plan or
  project likely to be significant on the site, taking into account cumulative impacts and
  other impacts likely to arise as a result of the combined action of the plan or project under
  assessment and other plans or projects.
- The assessment under Article 6(3) applies the best available techniques and methods, to
  estimate the extent of the effects of the plan or project on the biological integrity of the
  site(s) likely to be damaged.
- The assessment provides for the incorporation of the most effective mitigation measures into the plan or project concerned, in order to avoid, reduce or even cancel the negative impacts on the site.
- The characterisation of the biological integrity and the impact assessment should be based on the best possible indicators specific to the European assets which must also be useful to monitor the plan or project implementation."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> European Commission. (2007).Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC – Clarification of the concepts of: alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding public interest, compensatory measures, overall coherence, opinion of the commission;

# Stages of the Appropriate Assessment

This Appropriate Assessment screening report was undertaken in accordance with the European Commission Methodological Guidance on the provision of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC (EC, 2001), Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, in addition to the December 2009 publication from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government; 'Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities' and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011. This AA screening report was prepared by to provide the competent authority (Board) with information necessary to meet their obligation of carrying out AA screening, to determine whether AA is required. In order to comply with the above Guidelines and legislation, the Appropriate Assessment process must be structured as follows:

#### 1) Screening stage:

- Description of plan or project
- Identification of relevant European sites, and compilation of information on their qualifying interests and conservation objectives
- Identification and description of individual in combination effects likely to result from the proposed project;
- Assessment of the likely significance of the effects identified above. Exclusion of sites where it
  can be objectively concluded that there will be no likely significant effects; and,

Conclusions

- 2) Appropriate Assessment (Natura Impact Statement):
  - · Description of the European sites that will be considered further;
  - Identification and description of potential adverse impacts on the conservation objectives of these sites likely to occur from the project or plan; and,
  - Mitigation Measures that will be implemented to avoid, reduce or remedy any such potential adverse impacts
  - Assessment as to whether, following the implementation of the proposed mitigation measures, it can be concluded, beyond all reasonable scientific doubt, that there will be no adverse impact on the integrity of the relevant European Site in light of its conservation objectives"
  - Conclusions.

If it can be demonstrated during the AA screening phase (Stage 1), that the proposed project will not have a significant effect, whether alone or in combination with other plans or projects, on the conservation objectives of a Natura 2000 site, then no further AA (Stage 2) will be required. It is important to note that there is a requirement to apply a precautionary approach to AA screening. Therefore, where effects are possible, certain or unknown at the screening stage, AA will be required.

In addition, it should be noted that Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive must be interpreted as meaning that, in order to determine whether it is necessary to carry out, subsequently, an AA of the implications, for a site concerned, of a plan or project, it is not appropriate, at the screening stage, to take account of the measures intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of the plan or project on that site.

# Stage 1 Screening Assessment

## Description of the Proposed Project

Permission for development at Main Street Upper, Newcastle, Co. Dublin, principally consisting of the construction of a Discount Foodstore Supermarket with ancillary off-licence sales. The proposed development comprises:

- 1) The construction of a single storey Discount Foodstore Supermarket with ancillary off-licence use (with mono-pitch roof and overall building height of c. 6.74 metres) measuring c. 2,207 sqm gross floor space with a net retail sales area of c. 1,410 sqm;
- 2) Construction of a vehicular access point to Main Street Upper and associated works to carriageway and including partial removal of boundary wall / façade, modification of existing footpaths / public realm and associated and ancillary works including proposed entrance plaza area;
- 3) Demolition of part of an existing rear / southern single storey residential extension (and related alterations to remaining structure) of 'Kelly Estates' building. The original 'Kelly Estates' building (a protected structure Eircode: D22 Y9H7) will not be modified;
- 4) Demolition of detached single storey accommodation / residential structure and ancillary wall / fence demolitions to rear of existing 'Kelly Estates' building;
- 5) Demolition of existing single storey (stable) building along Main Street and construction of single storey retail / café unit on an extended footprint measuring c. 118 sqm and associated alterations to existing Main Street boundary façade;
- 6) Renovation and change of use of existing (vacant) two storey vernacular townhouse structure to Main Street, and single storey extension to rear, for retail / commercial use (single level throughout) totalling c. 61 sqm;
- 7) Repair and renewal of existing Western and Eastern 'burgage plot' tree and hedgerow site boundaries; and,
- 8) Provision of associated car parking, cycle parking (and staff cycle parking shelter), pedestrian access routes and (ramp and stair) structures (to / through the southern and western site boundaries to facilitate connections to potential future development), free standing and building mounted signage, free standing trolley bay cover / enclosure, refrigeration and air conditioning plant and equipment, roof mounted solar panels, public lighting, hard and soft landscaping, boundary treatments and divisions, retaining wall structures, drainage infrastructure and connections to services / utilities, electricity Substation and all other associated and ancillary development and works above and below ground level including within the curtilage of a protected structure.

In order to provide sufficient additional detail in relation to the project additional information in relation to the project layout, landscape, and drainage has been provided.

The proposed site outline, location, site plan, and contextual elevations are demonstrated in Figures 1-5.

#### Landscape

The landscape design for the proposed development has been prepared by Austen Associates. The proposed landscape masterplan is demonstrated in Figure 6.



Figure 1. Site outline and location on satellite imagery (ESRI)

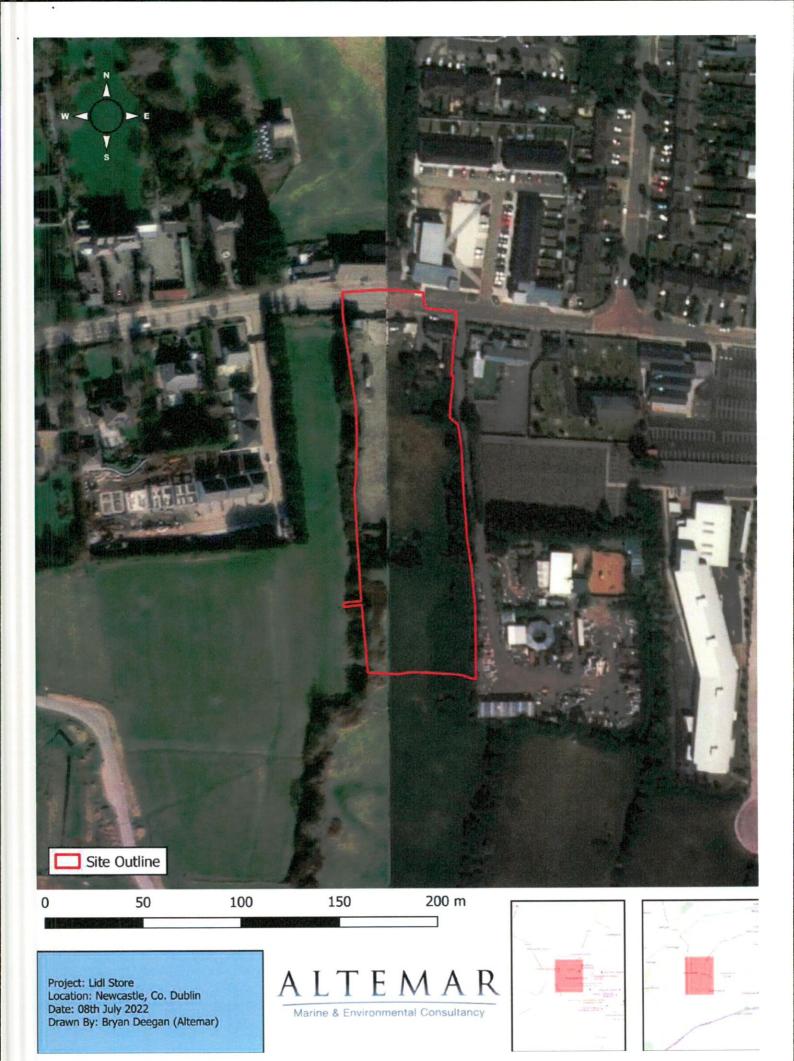


Figure 2. Outline of proposed site.

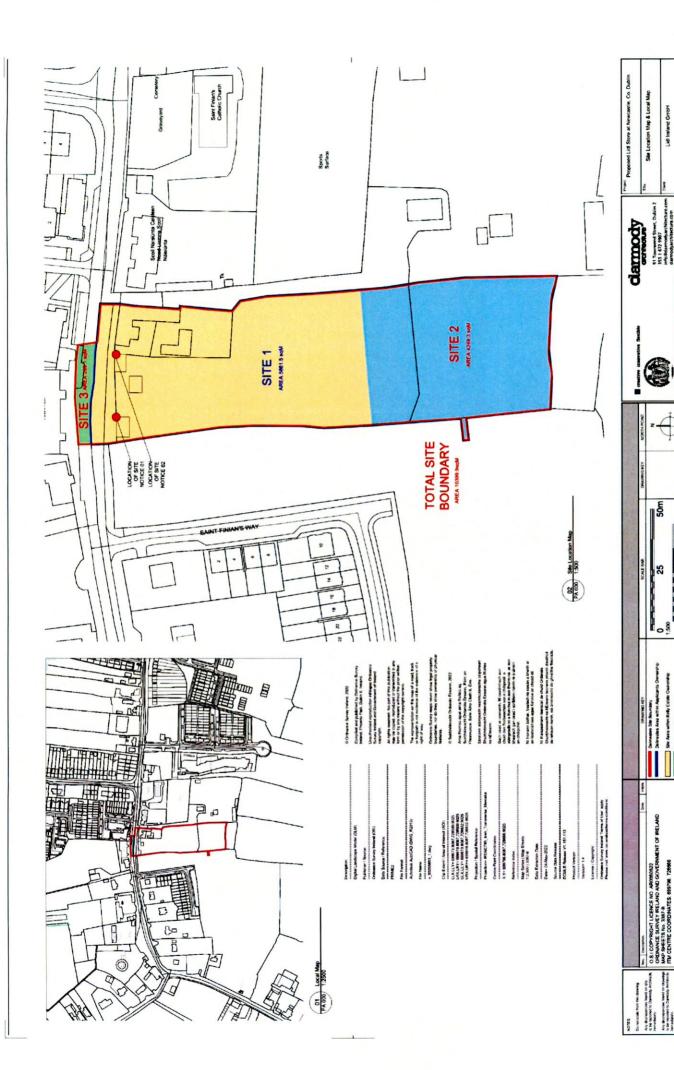


Figure 3. Site location map

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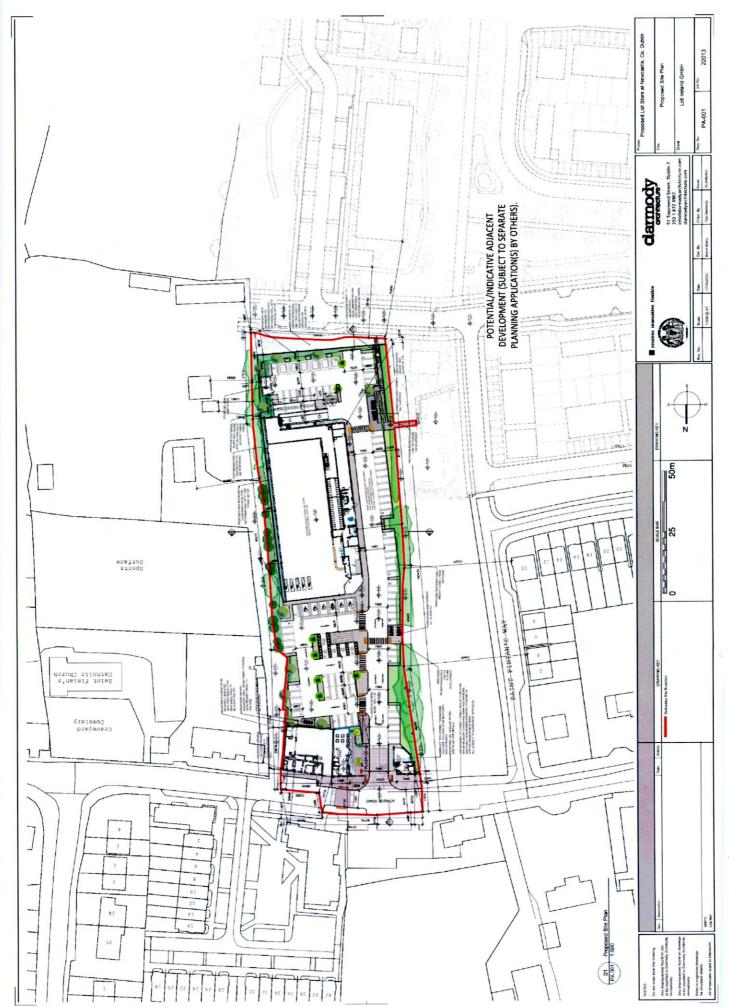


Figure 4. Proposed site plan

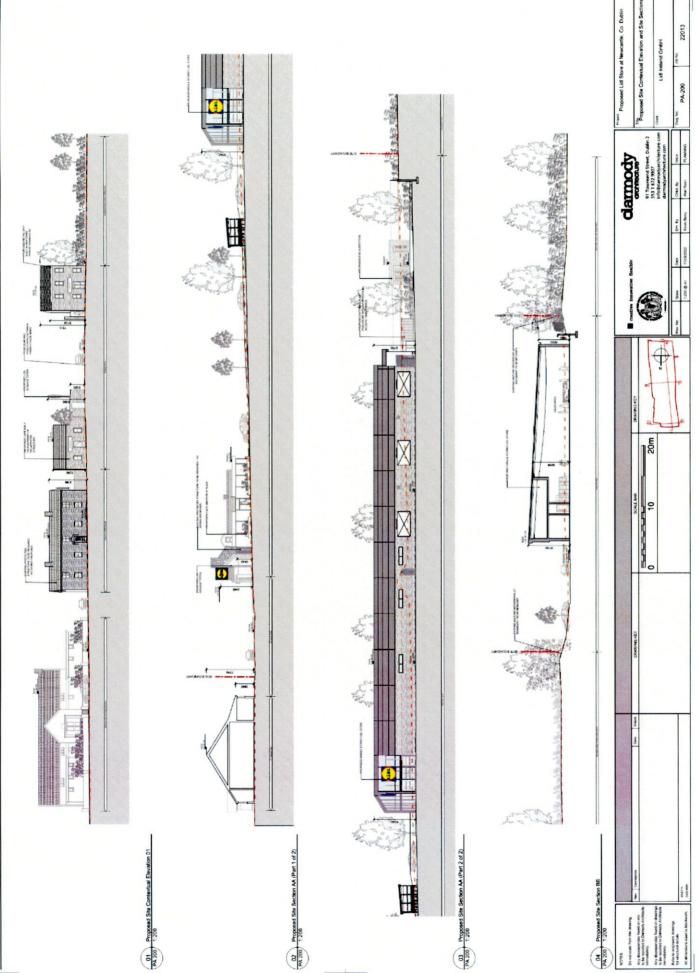


Figure 5. Proposed site contextual elevations and site sections

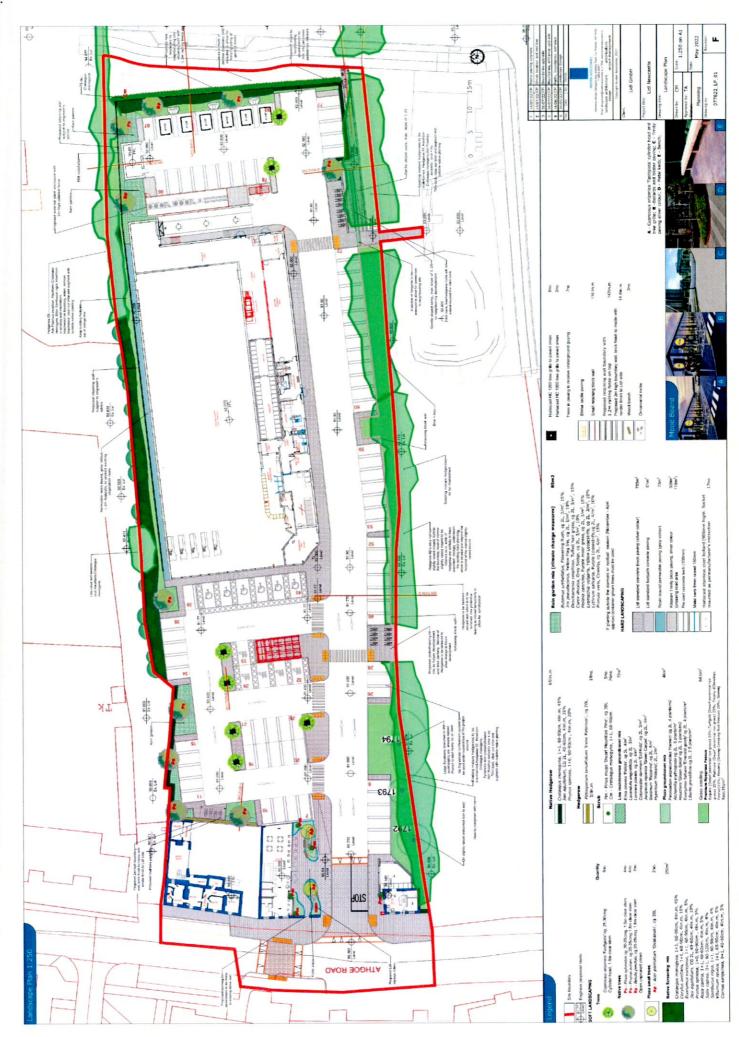


Figure 6. Proposed landscape plan

#### Drainage

A Services Design Information report has been prepared by SDS Design Engineers to accompany this planning application. This report outlines the following foul and surface water drainage strategy for the proposed development site:

#### **Foul Water**

In relation to existing foul drainage, this report outlines the following:

'The existing foul sewer service is to be removed and a new foul sewer pipeline is proposed to be provided to service the facilities in the proposed new store. There is an existing public foul sewer located in the access road to the store that the new foul sewer will connect to again.'

In relation to the proposed foul wastewater design strategy, this report outlines the following:

'The proposed foul sewer system will be connected to an existing foul sewer network within the site. A new connection will be made to the existing public foul sewer along the adjacent public road along the northern boundary of the application site.'

#### **Surface Water**

In relation to existing surface water drainage, this report outlines the following:

'There is no existing surface water system serving the proposed Lidl site. The only hydrological feature in the area is existing drainage ditch running from south to north along the western boundary. This ditch is culverted by an existing 300mm diameter pipe that is collecting runoff from the existing spring along the western boundary and the ditch to the south, discharging to the drain to the north west of the site along Main Street Upper. The spring and culvert will be retained and it proposed to divert the existing drainage ditch to south west boundary to enable the construction of the new pedestrian access. The existing 300mm culvert will be re-routed thorough the site and a headwall will be installed to minimise flood risk. The existing spring and its connection to the culvert will be maintained within the proposed development.'

In relation to the proposed surface water drainage strategy for the proposed development site, this report outlines the following:

'Our proposal for this development is to provide a new surface water collection network, collecting surface water run-off through roof gutters/downpipes and a network of permeable tarmac, rainwater gardens and gullies located around the site to the design levels proposed for the finished car park layout. The surface water is proposed to be collected in a new surface water pipework network - see drawing no. 22058-1025 (in Appendix B) for details of the proposed collection network). All surface water collected from areas accessible to vehicle traffic will be cleansed by an inline Bypass Fuel/Oil Separator. All surface water will enter either the attenuation tank or clean stone subbase voids all to be located within the site. The outflow from the site will be limited by a Hydrobrake. See below for a more detailed description of the attenuation systems and outflow control from this site. The surface water collection network will be constructed in accordance with the following:

- BS EN 752:2008 Drain & Sewer Systems OutsideBuildings
- Building Regulations TGD Part H Drainage and Waste Water Disposal

#### Outflow from Site.

In the Flood Risk Assessment carried out by JBA Consulting the associated groundwater vulnerability is classified as 'Extreme' for the proposed site which indicates that an extreme risk to the groundwater under the site and a bedrock depth of between 0-3 m. The groundwater vulnerability for the additional land to the south is classified as 'High' which indicates that a high risk to the groundwater under the site and a bedrock depth of between 3-5m These classifications are based on relevant hydrogeological characteristics of the underlying geological materials. This make infiltration unviable for the surface water treatment of the proposed development and therefore controlled discharge and storage is proposed.

The outflow from the site will be limited to the pre-development greenfield runoff rate of 2.00 l/s/ha. This practice is in accordance GDSDS requirements and SDCC-suds-explanatory-design-and-evaluation-guide. As the site area is 1.04 ha the outflow from the site will be restricted to 2.08 l/s. A Hydrobrake

Optimum by Hydro International (or similar equivalent) will be provided within the last manhole within the site to limit the outflow as above.

The discharge from this proposed development is proposed via the existing drainage ditch currently servicing the existing 0.6m diameter culvert to the north west corner of the site. A new headwall will be constructed at the proposed outlet to the existing drainage ditch.

#### **Attenuation Tank**

The attenuation tank and permeable surfacing subbase have been designed to provide storage for the surface water generated during a 1 in 100 year rainfall. The rainfall generated by a 1 in 100 year rainfall will be increased by 20% for the predicted climate changes due to global warming. The required storage volume of the attenuation has been calculated as 618m3. This will be divided between the permeable surface subbase 159m3 and geocellular storge 459m3.'

The proposed drainage layout is seen in Figure 7.

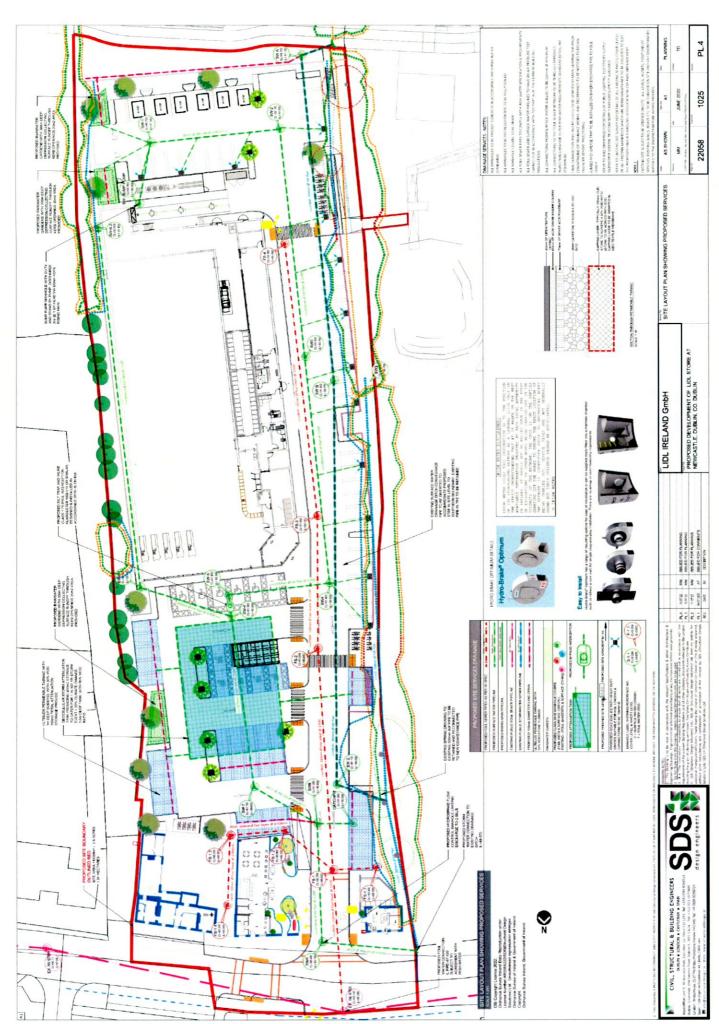


Figure 7. Proposed drainage layout

#### Identification of Relevant Natura 2000 Sites

The following identifies the relevant European sites, and compiles information on their qualifying interests and conservation objectives in addition to outlining the potential for significant effects on each site. The proposed development site is not located within a European site. As outlined in Office of the Planning Regulator (2021) "The zone of influence of a proposed development is the geographical area over which it could affect the receiving environment in a way that could have significant effects on the Qualifying Interests of a European site. This should be established on a case-by-case basis using the Source- Pathway-Receptor framework and not by arbitrary distances (such as 15 km)."

A key factor in the consideration as to whether or not a particular European site is likely to be affected by the proposed works is its distance from the location of the works. It is generally, but not necessarily, the case that the greater the distance from the plan or project the smaller the likelihood of impacts. In this case, the nearest European site to the proposed development is 7 km away (Rye Water valley/Carton SAC). Best practice guidance suggests that an initial zone of influence be set at a radius of 2km for non-linear projects (IEA, 1995). The potential zone of influence (ZOI) was set at a radius of 2km from the proposed Project. It should be noted that where there was a potential for the ZOI to be influenced by drainage connections, natural biodiversity corridors e.g. rivers or woodland these were also take into account and the assessment was extended. After consultation with SDS Design Engineers, it was outlined that after attenuation on-site, surface water drainage will be directed to an existing drainage ditch located on-site. Out of an abundance of caution, it is considered that this drainage network ultimately outfalls to a watercourse network that feeds into the River Liffey, located to the north of the site. In this case, the potential ZOI extends beyond the site, with the potential for downstream impacts to extend beyond the proposed development area via the surface water networks.

In the interest of carrying out a thorough assessment in line with both the Habitats Directive, and the precautionary principle, the area of assessment was expanded beyond the ZOI to include designated sites within 15km of the proposed development site and sites beyond 15km with the potential for a hydrological connection. This was done in the interest of ensuring that any pathways, however indirect or remote, were taken into account. The Natura 2000 sites within 15km are seen in Figures 8 & 9. Watercourses, SACs and SPAs proximate to the proposed development are demonstrated in Figures 10 - 12. All Natura 2000 sites within 15km are listed in Table 1. The conservation objectives, qualifying interests, and the potential impact of the development on each European site and qualifying interest, are outlined in Table 2. There is no direct or indirect pathway to Natura 2000 sites beyond 15km.

Table 1. Proximity to designated sites of conservation importance

NATURA 2000 Site	Distance
Special Areas of Conservation	
Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC	7 km
Glenasmole Valley SAC	9.6 km
Wicklow Mountains SAC	10.6 km
Red Bog, Kildare SAC	11.3 km
South Dublin Bay SAC	19.6 km
North Dublin Bay SAC	22.3 km
Special Protection Areas	
Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA	12.8 km
Wicklow Mountains SPA	14.1 km
South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	19.3 km
North Bull Island SPA	22.3 km

Table 2. Initial screening of NATURA 2000 sites within 15km and NATURA 2000 sites beyond 15km with potential of hydrological connection to the proposed development

Natura Code	Name	Screened In/Out	Details/Reason
1 - 90 - 100 - 100	as of Conservatio	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	
IE001398	Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC	OUT	Conservation Objectives 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.  Qualifying Interests Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220] Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail (Vertigo angustior) [1014] Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016] Potential Impact The proposed development site is located within a suburban/agricultural area, 7 km from this SAC. There is no 'direct' or 'indirect' Source-Pathway-Receptor linkage between the proposed development site and the SAC. No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct or indirect pathway from this site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.  No significant effects are likely.
IE001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC	OUT	Conservation Objectives 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.  Qualifying Interests Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210] Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410] Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220] Potential Impact The proposed development site is located within a suburban/agricultural area, 9.6 km from this SAC. There is no 'direct' or 'indirect' Source-Pathway-Receptor linkage between the proposed development site and the SAC. No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct or indirect pathway from this site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site. No significant effects are likely.
IE002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC	OUT	Conservation Objectives  The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.  Qualifying Interests Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110] Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160] Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010] European dry heaths [4030]

Natura Code	Name	Screened In/Out	Details/Reason
			Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060] Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130] Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe) [6230] Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130] Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110] Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210] Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220] Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0] Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]  Potential Impact The proposed development site is located within a suburban/agricultural area, 10.6 km from this SAC. There is no 'direct' or 'indirect' Source-Pathway-Receptor linkage between the proposed
			development site and the SAC.  No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct or indirect pathway from this site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.
			No significant effects are likely.
IE000397	Red Bog, Kildare SAC	OUT	Conservation Objectives  The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.  Qualifying Interests  Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]  Potential Impact  The proposed development site is located within a suburban/agricultural area, 11.3 km from this SAC. There is no 'direct' or 'indirect' Source-Pathway-Receptor linkage between the proposed development site and the SAC.  No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct or indirect pathway from this site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.
			of the site.  No significant effects are likely.
IE000210	South Dublin Bay SAC	OUT	Conservation Objectives  The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.  Qualifying Interests  Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]  Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]  Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]  Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]  Potential Impact

Natura	Name	Screened	Details/Reason
Code		In/Out	
			The proposed development site is located within a suburban/agricultural area, 19.6 km from this SAC. There is no 'direct' or Source-Pathway-Receptor linkage between the proposed development site and the SAC.  Out of an abundance of caution, it is considered that there is an indirect hydrological pathway to this SAC via the proposed foul and surface water drainage strategy. Foul wastewater will discharge to Newcastle Pumping Station, which in turn discharges to the Rathcoole Interchange, and ultimately discharges to Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Plant (WwTP) which is operating within capacity <sup>2</sup> . The nearest surface water receptor is the Cornerpark Stream (WFD code: IE_EA_09L012100; EPA code: 09_1529), which is located c. 600m to the east of the Proposed Development site. Out of an abundance of caution, it is considered that surface water drainage from the subject site will ultimately outfall to the Cornerpark Stream and then the Griffeen River via the drainage ditch network that exists on-site, which in turn outfalls to the River Liffey. In this case, in the absence of mitigation measures, given the extensive distance (19.6km) to this SAC, settlement within drainage ditches, missing and dilution, any silt or pollutants will settle, be dispersed or diluted and will not impact on the qualifying interests of this SAC.  No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct pathway from this site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.  No significant effects are likely.
IE000206	North Dublin Bay SAC	OUT	Conservation Objectives  The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.  Qualifying Interests
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210] Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330] Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410] Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120] Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130] Humid dune slacks [2190] Petalwort (Petalophyllum ralfsii) [1395]
			Potential Impact
			The proposed development site is located within a suburban/agricultural area, 22.3 km from this SAC. There is no 'direct' or Source-Pathway-Receptor linkage between the proposed development site and the SAC.
			Out of an abundance of caution, it is considered that there is an indirect hydrological pathway to this SAC via the proposed foul and surface water drainage strategy. Foul wastewater will discharge to Newcastle

Natura Code	Name	Screened In/Out	Details/Reason
Code		III/Out	Pumping Station, which in turn discharges to the Rathcoole Interchange, and ultimately discharges to Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Plant (WwTP) which is operating within capacity <sup>2</sup>
			The nearest surface water receptor is the Cornerpark Stream (WFD code: IE_EA_09L012100; EPA code: 09_1529), which is located c. 600m to the east of the Proposed Development site. Out of an abundance of caution, it is considered that surface water drainage from the subject site will ultimately outfall to the Cornerpark Stream and then the Griffeen River via the drainage ditch network that exists on-site, which in turn outfalls to the River Liffey. In this case, in the absence of mitigation measures, given the extensive distance (22.3km) to this SAC, settlement within drainage ditches, missing and dilution, any silt or pollutants will settle, be dispersed or diluted and will not impact on the qualifying interests of this SAC.
,			There is no direct pathway from this site to the SAC. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.
			No significant effects are likely.
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 $<sup>^{2} \</sup>underline{\text{https://www.water.ie/}} \underline{\text{uuid/eed266bd-5646-4b6a-bf9d-6ddb57049930/2020-IW-WWCR-Web-Version}} \underline{\text{Dublins.pdf}}$ 

Natura Code	Name	Screened	Details/Reason
	ection Areas	In/Out	
IE004063	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA	OUT	Conservation Objectives  To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.  Qualifying Interests  Greylag Goose (Anser anser) [A043]  Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus) [A183]  Potential Impact  The proposed development site is located within a suburban/agricultural area, 12.8 km from this SPA. There is no 'direct' or 'indirect' Source-Pathway-Receptor linkage between the proposed development site and the SPA.  No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct or indirect pathway
			from this site to the SPA. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.  No significant effects are likely.
IE004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA	OUT	Conservation Objectives To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.  Qualifying Interests Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098] Peregrine (Falco peregrinus) [A103] Potential Impact The proposed development site is located within a suburban/agricultural area, 14.1 km from this SPA. There is no 'direct' or 'indirect' Source-Pathway-Receptor linkage between the proposed development site and the SPA.  No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct or indirect pathway from this site to the SPA. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.  No significant effects are likely.
IE0004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA	OUT	Conservation Objectives The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.  Qualifying Interests Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046] Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130] Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137] Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141] Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143] Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144] Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149] Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157] Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162] Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179] Roseate Tern (Sterna dougallii) [A192] Common Tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193] Arctic Tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A194] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]

Natura Code	Name	Screened In/Out	Details/Reason
IE004006	North Bull	In/Out OUT	Potential Impact  The proposed development site is located within a suburban/agricultural area, 19.3 km from this SPA. There is no 'direct' or Source-Pathway-Receptor linkage between the proposed development site and the SPA.  Out of an abundance of caution, it is considered that there is an indirect hydrological pathway to this SPA via the proposed foul and surface water drainage strategy. Foul wastewater will discharge to Newcastle Pumping Station, which in turn discharges to the Rathcoole Interchange, and ultimately discharges to Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Plant (WwTP) <sup>2</sup> .  The nearest surface water receptor is the Cornerpark Stream (WFD code: IE_EA_09L012100; EPA code: 09_1529), which is located c. 600m to the east of the Proposed Development site. Out of an abundance of caution, it is considered that surface water drainage from the subject site will ultimately outfall to the Cornerpark Stream and then the Griffeen River via the drainage ditch network that exists on-site, which in turn outfalls to the River Liffey. In this case, in the absence of mitigation measures, given the extensive distance (19.3km) to this SPA, settlement within drainage ditches, missing and dilution, any silt or pollutants will settle, be dispersed or diluted and will not impact on the qualifying interests of this SPA.  In addition, given that the majority of the site has previously been cleared, is proximate to an active construction site. Further, given the distance between the subject site and this SPA (19.3 km), in the absence of mitigation, no significant impacts on the qualifying interests of this SPA are predicted via noise and vibration during the construction phase of development.  No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct pathway from this site to the SPA. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.  No significant effects likely
1E004006	North Bull Island SPA	001	The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.
			Qualifying Interests  Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046]  Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]  Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]  Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054]  Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056]  Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130]  Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]  Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]  Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143]  Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144]  Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]  Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]  Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]  Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]

Natura	Name	Screened	Details/Reason
Code		In/Out	
			Redshank ( <i>Tringa totanus</i> ) [A162] Turnstone ( <i>Arenaria interpres</i> ) [A169] Black-headed Gull ( <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> ) [A179] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]
			Potential Impact
			The proposed development site is located within a suburban/agricultural area, 22.3 km from this SPA. There is no 'direct' or Source-Pathway-Receptor linkage between the proposed development site and the SPA.
			Out of an abundance of caution, it is considered that there is an indirect hydrological pathway to this SPA via the proposed foul and surface water drainage strategy. Foul wastewater will discharge to Newcastle Pumping Station, which in turn discharges to the Rathcoole Interchange, and ultimately discharges to Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Plant (WwTP)which is operating within capacity <sup>2</sup> .
			The nearest surface water receptor is the Cornerpark Stream (WFD code: IE_EA_09L012100; EPA code: 09_1529), which is located c. 600m to the east of the Proposed Development site. Out of an abundance of caution, it is considered that surface water drainage from the subject site will ultimately outfall to the Cornerpark Stream and then the Griffeen River via the drainage ditch network that exists on-site, which in turn outfalls to the River Liffey. In this case, in the absence of mitigation measures, given the extensive distance (22.3km) to this SPA, settlement within drainage ditches, missing and dilution, any silt or pollutants will settle, be dispersed or diluted and will not impact on the qualifying interests of this SPA.
			In addition, given that the majority of the site has previously been cleared and the subject site is proximate to an active construction site is not considered to be an important foraging or roosting ground for the bird species protected within this SPA. Further, given the distance between the subject site and this SPA (22.3 km), in the absence of mitigation, no significant impacts on the qualifying interests of this SPA are predicted via noise and vibration during the construction phase of development.
			No potential impact is foreseen. There is no direct pathway from this site to the SPA. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation interests of the site.
			No significant effects likely

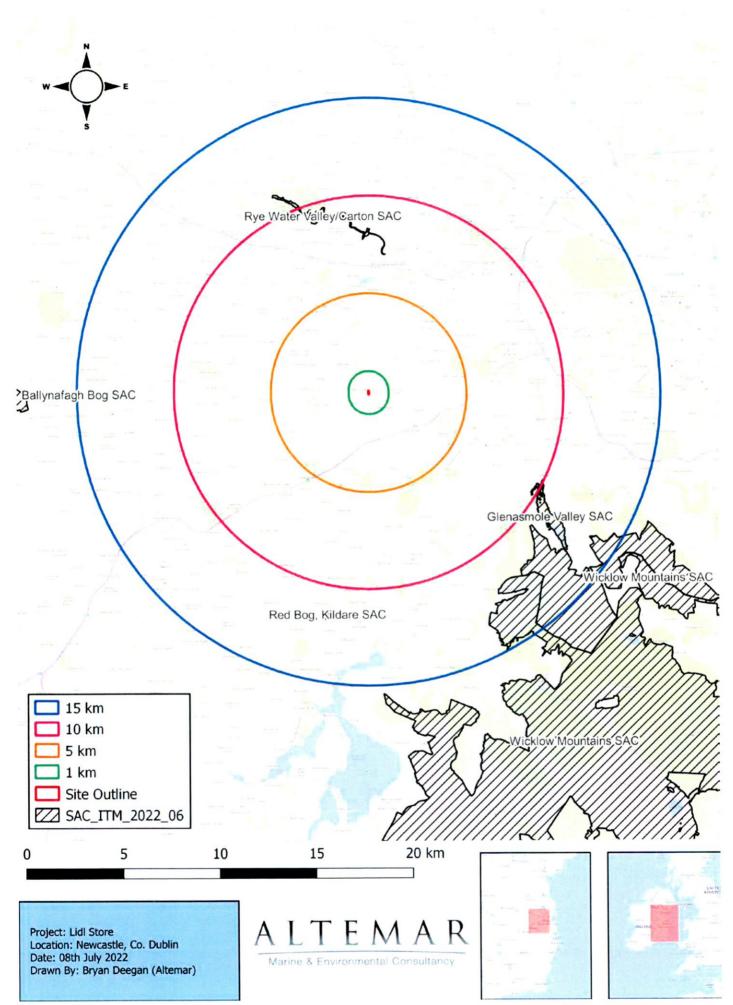


Figure 8. Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) located within 15km of the proposed development

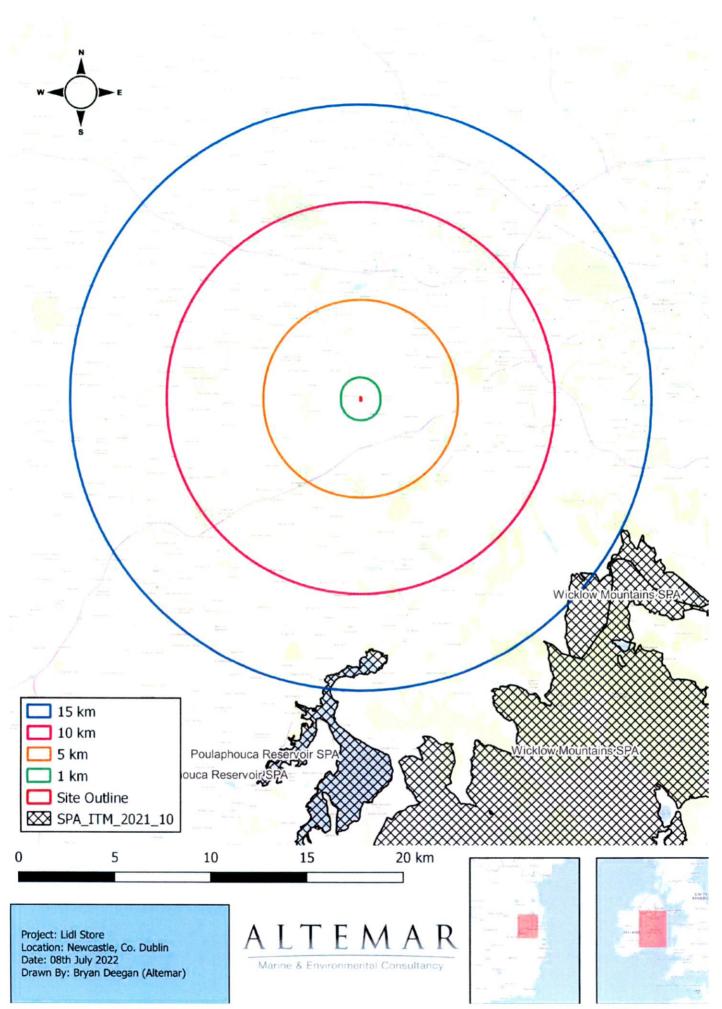


Figure 9. Special Protection Areas (SPA) within 15km of the proposed development

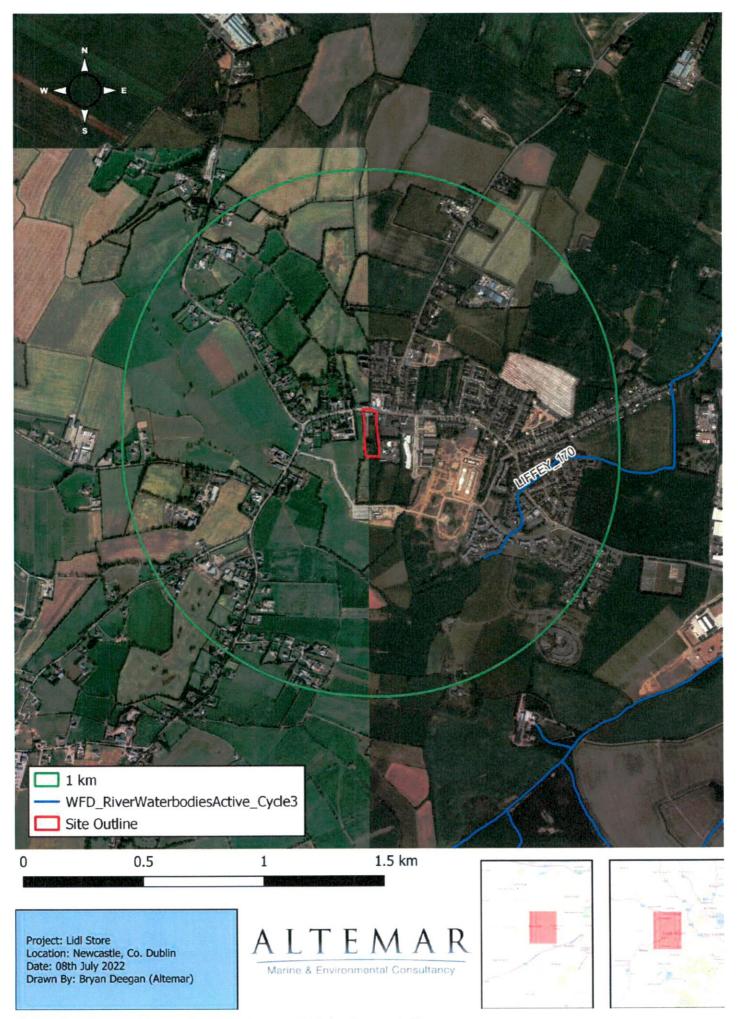


Figure 10. Watercourses proximate to the proposed development site

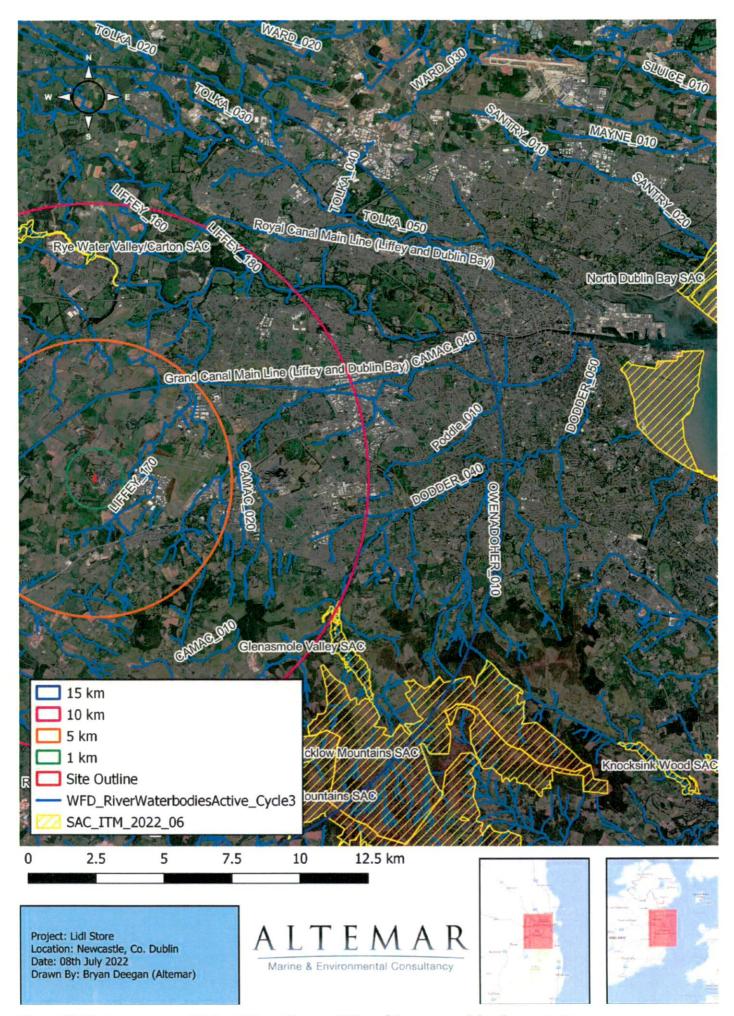


Figure 11. Watercourses and SACs within and beyond 15km of the proposed development site

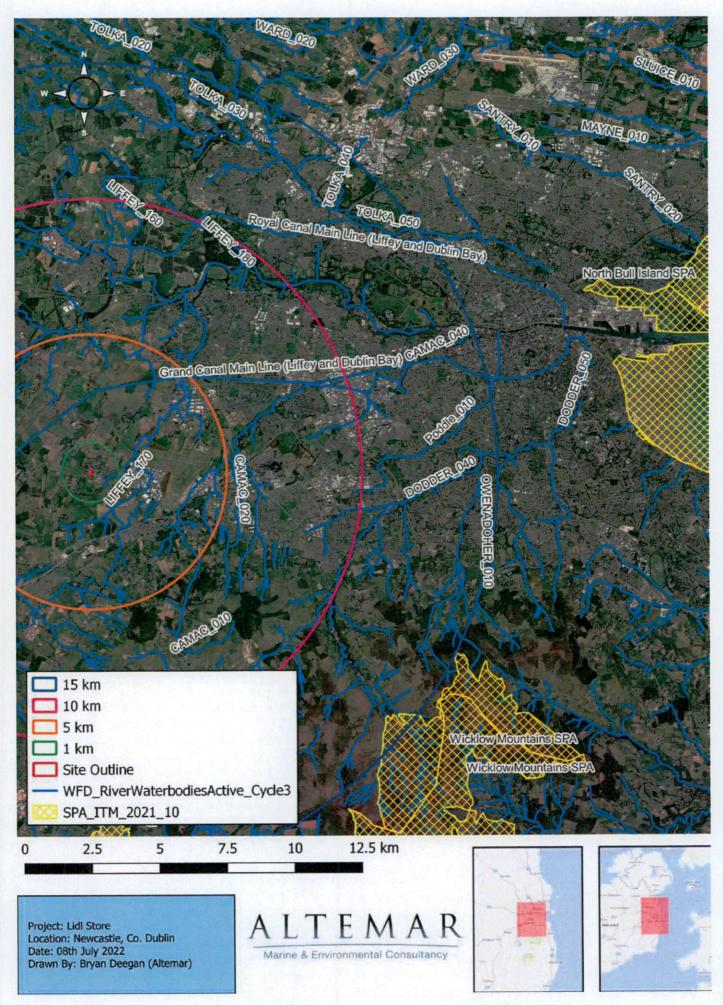


Figure 12. Watercourses and SPAs within and beyond 15km of the proposed development site

#### **In-Combination Effects**

There are several proposed developments located in the area immediately surrounding the subject site that have been assessed for potential in-combination effects through the examination of planning documentation. The following is a list of planning applications as in the vicinity of the proposed development on the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage's 'National Planning Application Map' portal:

Table 3. In combination effects evaluated (developments surrounding the subject site)

Ref. No.	Address	Proposal
SD22A/ 0286	Main Street, Newcastle, Dublin	Demolition of 2 sheds and the construction of 30 dwellings; 1 vehicular and pedestrian link with Main Street, Newcastle; vehicle and pedestrian linkk with Glebe Square, Newcastle and all associated and ancillary site development works.
SD19A/ 0040	Cornerpark, Peamount Road, Newcastle, Co. Dublin.	Demolition of existing stables/sheds; construction of 28 dwellings comprised of 8 three bedroom, two storey semi-detached houses (Type A); 7 three bedroom, 2 storey terraced houses (Type B); 6 three bedroom, 2 storey terraced houses (Type C); 3 three bedroom, 2 storey terraced houses (Type D); 4 three bedroom, 2 storey semi-detached houses (Type E); all associated site development works, car parking, landscaping, open spaces, public lighting, connections to foul and surface water drainage/attenuation and water supply.
SHD ABP- 313814	Within townland of Newcastle South, Newcastle, Co. Dublin	Strategic Housing Development - Application (Case is due to be decided by 05/10/2022) 280 no. residential units (128 no. houses, 152 no. apartments), creche and associated site works.( <a href="www.newcastlesouthplanning.com">www.newcastlesouthplanning.com</a> ) This application borders the site and ecological assessments were carried out by Altemar Limited.
SHD3AB P- 305343- 19	Newcastle South & Ballynakelly, Newcastle, Co. Dublin	(1) The demolition of 5 structures on site, total area measuring 359sq.m, comprising 2 habitable dwellings and 3 associated outbuildings/sheds located to the northwest of the site; (2) development of 406 residential homes; (3) a childcare facility (518sq.m GFA); (4) 1 commercial unit (67.7sq.m GFA); (5) reservation of a school site (1.5ha); (6) new vehicular, cycle and pedestrain access from Main Street; (7) continuation of Newcastle Boulevard forming part of a new east-west link street; (8) a new Public Park (2ha); (9) pocket parks and greenway together with associated internal access roads, pedestrain and cycle paths and linkages; (10) 1 single storey marketing suite (81sqm) and signage (including hoarding) during the construction phase of development only and (11) all associated site and development works. The overall site comprises lands to the south of Main Street (c.15ha) together with 3 additional infill sites at the corner of Burgage Street and Newcastle Boulevard (c. 0.8ha); No. 32 Ballynakelly Edge (c.0.05ha); and Ballynakelly Rise (c.0.18ha)
SD18A/ 0363	Main Street, Newcastle, Co. Dublin	(1) Construction of 22 three bedroom dwelling houses; (2) construction of access road and footpaths; (3) provision of car parking facilities to serve the development; (4) construction of a foul sewer network to serve the development which shall connect into adjoining foul sewer network; (5) construction of a surface water sewer network to serve the development including the provision of the necessary attenuation elements and the connection of the surface water network to the adjoining surface water network; (6) provision of a waterman to serve the development and connection to adjoining water main; (7) demolition of the garden sheds; (8) provision of all necessary utility services; (9) all ancillary site works.
SD17A/ 0378	Newcastle, Co. Dublin	Residential development consisting of 46 units
SD17A/ 0010	Drumlonagher , Main Street, Newcastle, Co. Dublin.	(1) Construction of 21 no. 3 bedroom, two storey dwelling houses. (2) Construction of 2 no. 2 bedroom, two storey dwelling houses. (3) Construction of a two storey building with retail unit (convenience) at ground floor level and 2 no. 2 bedroom apartments and 2 no. 1 bedroom apartments at first floor level with a total ground and first floor area of 771sq.m. (4) Construction of a 2 storey corner building with 2 retail units (cafe and convenience) at ground floor level with 1 no. 2 bedroom apartment and 1 no. 1 bedroom apartment at first floor level with a total ground and first floor area of 303sq.m. (5) Construction of a 2m high boundary wall to East

Ref. No.	Address	Proposal
CD00A/		and west boundaries and 1.8m high concrete post and timber panel fences between the dwellings. (6) Construction of a Market Square to serve the proposed development and local area. (7) Construction of proposed access road and footpaths. (8) Provision of car parking facilities to serve the proposed development. (9) Construction of a foul sewer network to serve the proposed development which shall connect into the existing adjoining foul sewer network. (10) Construction of a surface water sewer network to serve the proposed development including for the provision of the necessary attenuation elements and for the connection of the surface water network to the existing adjoining surface water network. (11) Provision of a watermain to serve the proposed development and connection to existing adjoining watermain. (12) Provision of necessary utility services. (13) All signage provisions for the proposed commercial buildings and place name for the proposed development and (14) all ancillary site works.
SD09A/ 0489/EP	Oakville House, Main Street, Newcastle, Co. Dublin	(1) A Nursing Home comprising 64 bedrooms in a 2-storey block forming an enclosed courtyard together with anciillary accommodation including reception area and toilets, 4 staff bedrooms, 2 offices, a kitchen and 2 dining rooms, 4 sitting rooms, 4 assisted bathrooms, 4 treatment rooms, 2 nurses stations, prayer room, 2 activity rooms, bin store, laundry, plant rooms, cleaner stores, staff room/dining room, staff changing room and stores; (2) surface car parking for 24 cars; (3) demolition of Oakville House - a 2 storey house of approx. 295sq.m and adjoining garage of 50sq.m; (4) a new access road, 240 metres in length approximately, together with footpaths, drains, landscaped areas; (5) a new vehicular and pedestrian entrance from Main Street, Newcastle; (6) surface water attenuation area together with all ancillary site works.
SD05A/ 0344/EP	Ballynakelly and Newcastle South, Newcastle- Lyons, County Dublin.	A residential development of 743 no. dwellings including a neighbourhood centre

An assessment of the projects outlined was carried out and included an inspection of supporting documentation. It is considered that in combination effects with other existing and proposed developments in proximity to the application area would be unlikely, neutral, not significant and localised. It is concluded that no significant effects on European sites will be seen as a result of the proposed development alone or combination with other projects.

No cumulative or in combination effects on Natura 2000 sites are foreseen.

## Conclusions

Altemar have carried out an appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the proposed project and conclude that no Natura 2000 sites are within the zone of influence of this development. Having taken into consideration the proposed project, the effluent discharge from the proposed development works, the distance between the proposed development site to designated conservation sites, lack of direct hydrological pathway or biodiversity corridor link to conservation sites and the settlement of silt over the intervening distance and dilution effect with other effluent and surface runoff, it is concluded that this development would not give rise to any significant effects to designated sites. The construction and operation of the proposed development will not impact on the conservation objectives of features of interest of Natura 2000 sites.

This report presents a Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening for the Proposed Development, outlining the information required for the competent authority to screen for appropriate assessment and to determine whether or not the Proposed Development, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects, in view of best scientific knowledge, is likely to have a significant effect on any European or Natura 2000 site.

On the basis of the content of this report, the competent authority is enabled to conduct a Stage 1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment and consider whether, in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of the conservation objectives of the relevant European sites, the Proposed Development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on any European site. There is no possibility of significant impacts on Natura 2000 sites, features of interest or site specific conservation objectives.

Accordingly, having carried out the Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening, the competent authority may determine that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment of the Proposed Development is not required as it can be excluded, on the basis of objective scientific information following screening under the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (as amended, that the Proposed Development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European site.

# Findings of No Significant Effects Report

Details of Project	Appropriate Assessment Screening for a proposed development at
	Main Street Upper, Newcastle, Co. Dublin.
Name and Location of NATURA	Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC
2000 Sites Within 15km / outside	Glenasmole Valley SAC
15km with a potential pathway	Wicklow Mountains SAC
	Red Bog, Kildare SAC
	South Dublin Bay SAC
	North Dublin Bay SAC
	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA
	Wicklow Mountains SPA
	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA
	North Bull Island SPA
Project Description	Proposed development at Main Street Upper, Newcastle, Co. Dublin.
Is the Project directly connected	No
with the management of the	
NATURA 2000 site?	21 mg 1 mg
Details of any other projects or	None
plans that together with this	None
project could affect the NATURA	
2000 site	
The assessment of significant effects	
Describe how the project is likely	No Impact Predicted
to affect the NATURA 2000 site	
Response to consultation	N/A
Data collected to carry out the	Site Visit and Supporting NPWS data.
assessment	
Who carried out the assessment	Altemar Ltd.
Sources of data	NPWS website, standard data form, conservation objectives data of
	the site and references outlined in the AA Screening Report.
Explain why the effects are not	Having taken into consideration the effluent discharge from the
considered significant	proposed development works, lack of direct hydrological pathway or
	biodiversity corridor link to conservation sites and the dilution effect
	with other effluent and surface runoff, it is concluded that this
	development that would not give rise to any significant effects to
	designated sites.
Level of assessment completed	Stage 1 Screening
Overall conclusions	On the basis of the content of this report, the competent authority is
<b>从1999年的</b> 中国的国际中国的国际	enabled to conduct a Stage 1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment
。 第一章	and consider whether, in view of best scientific knowledge and in view
Company of the Company	of the conservation objectives of the relevant European sites, the
	Proposed Development, individually or in combination with other
Market Commencer	plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on any European
2017年12月1日 2月1日 1月1日 1日日 1日日 1日日 1日日 1日日 1日日 1日日 1日日	site.

# References

The following references were used in the preparation of this AA screening report.

- 1. Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government Circular NPW 1/10 and PSSP 2/10 on Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive Guidance for Planning Authorities March 2010.
- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government 2009; http://www.npws.ie/publications/archive/NPWS 2009 AA Guidance.pdf
- 3. Managing NATURA 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, European Commission 2000; http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/Natura2000/management/docs/art6/provision\_of\_art6\_en.pdf
- 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;
  <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/Natura2000management/docs/art6/Natura\_2000\_assess\_en.pdf">http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/Natura2000management/docs/art6/Natura\_2000\_assess\_en.pdf</a>
- Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC Clarification of the concepts of: alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding public interest, compensatory measures, overall coherence, opinion of the commission; http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/Natura2000/management/docs/art6/guidance\_art6\_4\_en.pdf
- Guidance document on the implementation of the birds and habitats directive in estuaries and coastal zones with particular attention to port development and dredging; http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/Natura2000/management/docs/guidance\_doc.pdf
- 7. The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland.
  http://www.npws.ie/publications/euconservationstatus/NPWS\_2007\_Conservation\_Status\_Report.pdf
- 8. NPWS (2021) Conservation objectives for Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC [001398]. Generic Version 8.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- 9. NPWS (2021) Conservation objectives for Glenasmole Valley SAC [001209]. Generic Version 8.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- 10. NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives: Wicklow Mountains SAC 002122. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.
- 11. NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives: Red Bog, Kildare SAC 000397. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 12. NPWS (2022) Conservation objectives for Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA [004063]. Generic Version 9.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- 13. NPWS (2022) Conservation objectives for Wicklow Mountains SPA [004040]. Generic Version 9.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- 14. NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: South Dublin Bay SAC 000210. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 15. NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives: South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA 004024. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 16. NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: North Dublin Bay SAC 000206. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- 17. NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives: North Bull Island SPA 004006. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.