Update for the Transportation SPC in relation to the finalised action plan relating to The Assessment and Management of Environmental Noise (Noise Action Plan) December 2018 – July 2023

On foot of the production of Noise Maps in June 2017 by Dublin City Council, the Environmental Noise Directive requires local authorities to draw up actions plans and include measures within the plan that should notably address priorities which may be identified by the exceeding of any relevant limit value or by other criteria chosen by the Member State and apply in particular to the most important areas as established by strategic noise mapping. These plans are required to be revised every 5 years. This most recent action plan in relation to the Assessment and Management of Environmental Noise (called the Noise Action Plan) is the third Action Plan for the Dublin City Council area and was required to be produced under EU Directive 2002/49/EC and Irish Regulation 140 of 2006. A review of actions carried out under previous plans was carried out and is included in Chapter 4 of the current Action Plan.

The previous Dublin Agglomeration Noise Action Plan ran to November 2018. This current, finalised Action Plan leads on from the end date of the previous Plan and will run until July 2023 when it will have to be revised as per the Environmental Noise Regulations. The Dublin City Council Action Plan will form part of and compliment the Dublin Agglomeration Plan which includes the regions covered by Fingal, South Dublin and Dún Laoghaire - Rathdown County Councils and Dublin City Council. All the local authorities in the agglomeration of Dublin have completed a six week public consultation process which commenced on November 7th 2018.

On foot of the public consultation no amendments were made to Volume 1, which is Dublin City Council's portion of the Noise Action Plan. Three submissions were made mainly passing comment on the disturbing nature of noise but did not request any amendments to the plan. These submissions are include in the Noise Action Plan documentation. The current plan recommits to continuing the aims and objectives of previous action plans and sets out in Chapter 7 noise mitigation and protection measures the City Council intends to follow in order to manage, within its area, noise issues and effects, including noise reduction if necessary. The plan will also aim to protect 'Quiet Areas' against an increase in noise. Chapter 7 also sets out in detail the procedures Dublin City Council will adopt when considering mitigation and protection measures. A time frame for implementation over a 5 year period is set out in Chapter 9. Although some issues may not directly relate to the outputs of the noise map assessment, it is proposed that this plan will be a 'one stop shop' in relation to how Dublin City Council will assess and manage 'noise issues' that come within its remit. A copy of the finalised plan will be placed on the Dublin City Council website.

The making and approving of a 'Noise Action Plan is an executive function of Dublin City Council. The draft Noise Action Plan was brought to the attention of this SPC in November 2018. The outcome of the public consultation and notification of the intention to finalise the Noise Action Plan is being brought to this SPC for information and noting. It is hoped to bring the notification of intention to finalise this plan in relation to the Assessment and Management of Environmental Noise (Noise Action Plan) December 2018 – July 2023 to the full Dublin City Council monthly meeting for information and noting.

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