

**DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL**

**APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING**

In Accordance With The Requirements Of

Article 6(3) & 6(4)

Of the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats)

Regulations, 2011 to 2021

For the

**PROPOSED VARIATION (NO. 3) OF THE DUBLIN CITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022 – 2028**

**RE: Change Zoning Objective Z1 to Zoning Objective Z4 Botany Weaving Mill, Emerald  
Square, Cork Street, Dublin 8**

## Section 1.0 –Terms of Reference

### 1.1 Introduction

This is an Appropriate Assessment Screening of the proposed variation (No. 3) of the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 to:

**Change Zoning Objective Z1 (Sustainable Residential Neighbourhoods) to Zoning Objective Z4 (Key Urban Villages and Urban Villages) at Botany Weaving Mill, Emerald Square, Cork Street, Dublin 8.**

See Sections 1.2 and 1.3 below for further detail on the subject lands and variation proposal.

Circular Letter SEA 1/08 & NPWS 1/08 issued by the then Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (now under the remit of the Department Housing, Local Government and Heritage [DHLGH]) requires that, as a result of European Court of Justice Case 418/04 EC Commission v Ireland, any draft land use plan (or amendments or variations) proposed under the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) must be screened for any potential impact on areas designated as Natura 2000 sites. The results of the screening should be recorded and made available to the public.

It should be noted that both a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report and a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SRFA) report have been prepared, as part of the documentation accompanying this proposed variation no. 3.

The proposed variation has been assessed to ascertain if it is required to be subject to an 'Appropriate Assessment' (AA) under the EU Habitats Directive. Based on the 'Methodological guidance on the provision of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, a 'Screening Matrix' and a 'Finding of No Significant Effects Matrix' have been completed. The principal triggers for undertaking an 'Appropriate Assessment' would be if the proposed variation, was directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European Site and/or that individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have significant effects on a Natura 2000 site. For the purposes of Article 6 assessments, Natura 2000 sites are those identified as Sites of Community Importance under the Habitats Directive (called Special Areas of Conservation [SAC]) or classified as Special Protection Areas [SPA] under the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC).

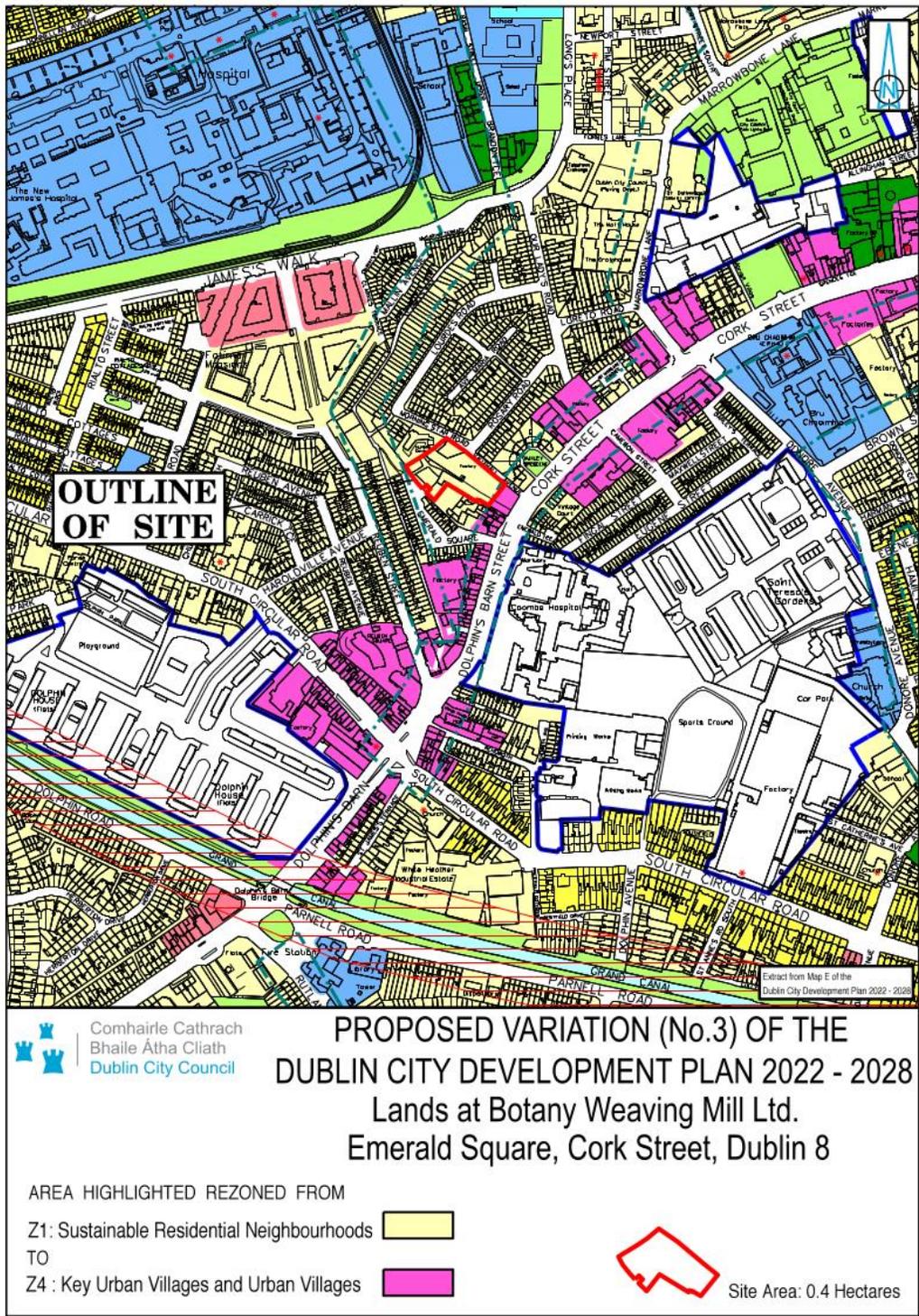
### 1.2 Proposal

It is proposed to vary the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028, by changing the land use zoning of lands at Botany Weaving Mill Ltd, Emerald Square, Cork Street, Dublin 8:

**From:**        **Zoning Objective Z1: Sustainable Residential Neighbourhoods – 'To protect, provide and improve residential amenities.'**

**To:**            **Zoning Objective Z4: Key Urban Villages and Urban Villages–**  
*'To provide for and improve mixed-services facilities'*

The relevant lands are 0.4 ha in area and are delineated on Figure 1 below which is an extract from Map E, Volume 3 of the Dublin City Development Plan 2022 – 2028.



**Figure 1: Location of Proposed Variation (No. 3) to the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 located at, Dublin 8.**

### 1.3 Purpose of the Proposed Draft Variation

The Botany Weaving Mill premises are subject to two zoning objectives under the 2022 – 2028 Dublin City Development Plan. The majority of Botany Weaving Mills lands are zoned Z1 ‘Sustainable Residential Neighbourhoods’ as delineated on the attached Map. The frontage of the premises onto Cork Street is zoned Z4 ‘Key Urban Villages/Urban Villages’, reflecting the urban village / mixed use nature of that road.

The draft variation proposes that the whole Botany Weaving Mill lands will be subject to a Z4 zoning. A Z4 zoning (Key Urban Villages / Urban Villages) pertaining to the whole premises would allow the development of urban village uses / a mixture of uses including residential uses on the lands. The proposed Variation would also support the retention of the existing light industrial use on the lands.

In this regard it is also considered that the urban village zoning, rather than a residential zoning, would more appropriately support the continuation of the existing weaving and textile industry on site which has been in-situ since the 1930’s.

The weaving industry was synonymous with the Liberties area; this is acknowledged at Chapter 12 – Culture - Volume 1, Dublin CDP 2022 – 2028, page 389. Botany Weavers Mill in particular is of local historical interest as the lands are recorded as an ‘industrial heritage site’ (City Woollen Mills) and the existing manufacturing firm is the remaining weaving company in the Liberties.

### 1.4 Identification of Relevant NATURA 2000 sites

To identify relevant NATURA 2000 Sites, regard was had to the approach set out under the Natura Impact Report (NIR) of the Appropriate Assessment of the Dublin City Development Plan 2022 – 2028.

That NIR identified 25 no. European sites as falling within the potential Zone of Influence of the DCC administrative boundary. Following further assessment 4 of these 25 no. European sites ( Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC; Ballyman Glen SAC; Glenasmole Valley SAC; and Knocksink Wood SAC) were deemed to have no likely pathways.

Two additional SPA’s - Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA and the Murrough SPA were brought into the NIR for assessment and were deemed to fall within the potential Zone of Influence of the city.

The North-West Irish Sea candidate SPA (cSPA) was announced on the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

The **24 sites** within the Zone of Influence of the city are therefore listed below:

1. Baldoyle Bay SPA (IE004016)
2. Baldoyle Bay SAC (IE000199)

3. Dalkey Islands SPA (IE004172)
4. Howth Head SAC (IE000202)
5. Howth Head Coast SPA (IE004113)
6. Irelands Eye SAC (IE002193)
7. Irelands Eye SPA (IE004117)
8. Lambay Island SAC [000204]
9. Lambay Island SPA [004069]
10. Malahide Estuary SAC (IE000205)
11. Malahide Estuary SPA (IE004025)
12. North Dublin Bay SAC (IE000206)
13. North Bull Island SPA (IE004006)
14. Rockabill to Dalkey Islands SAC (IE003000)
15. Rogerstown Estuary SPA (IE004015)
16. Rogerstown Estuary SAC (IE000208)
17. Skerries Islands SPA [004122]
18. South Dublin Bay & River Tolka Estuary SPA (IE004024)
19. South Dublin Bay SAC (IE000210)
20. Wicklow Mountains SAC (002122)
21. Wicklow Mountains SPA (004040)
22. Poulaphouca reservoir SPA (004063)
23. The Murrough SPA (004186)
24. The North West Irish Sea candidate SPA (cSPA) (004236)

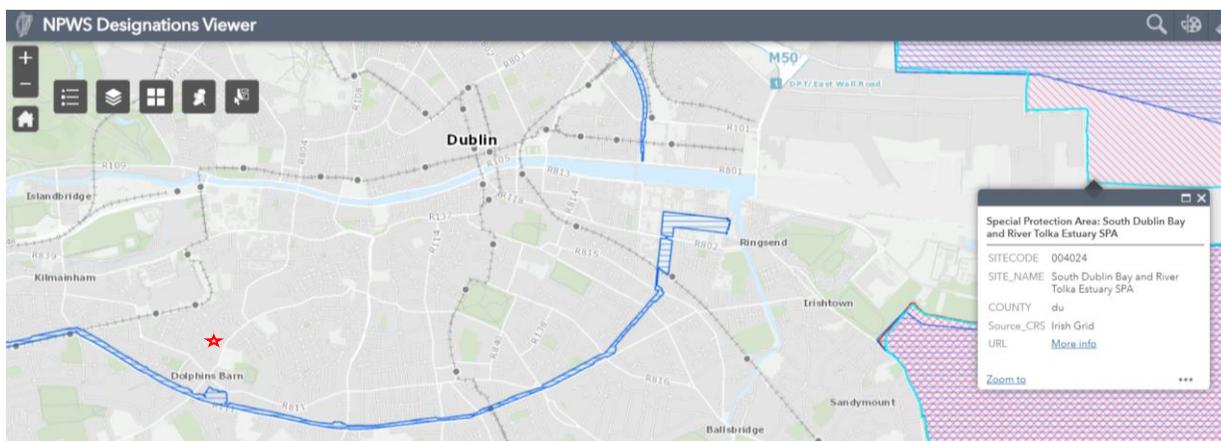
For all above referred sites see **Appendix 1** for each site name, corresponding code and qualifying interest (QI) for SACs and Special Conservation Interests (SCIs) for SPAs and the conservation objectives for each relevant SAC and SPA.

The location of all relevant SAC's are shown on a map in **Appendix 2** and all relevant SPAs are shown on a map in **Appendix 3**, except for the North West Irish Sea candidate SPA (cSPA) which is shown in **Appendix 4**.

The subject lands are not located on or located adjacent to any of the above referred 24 sites.

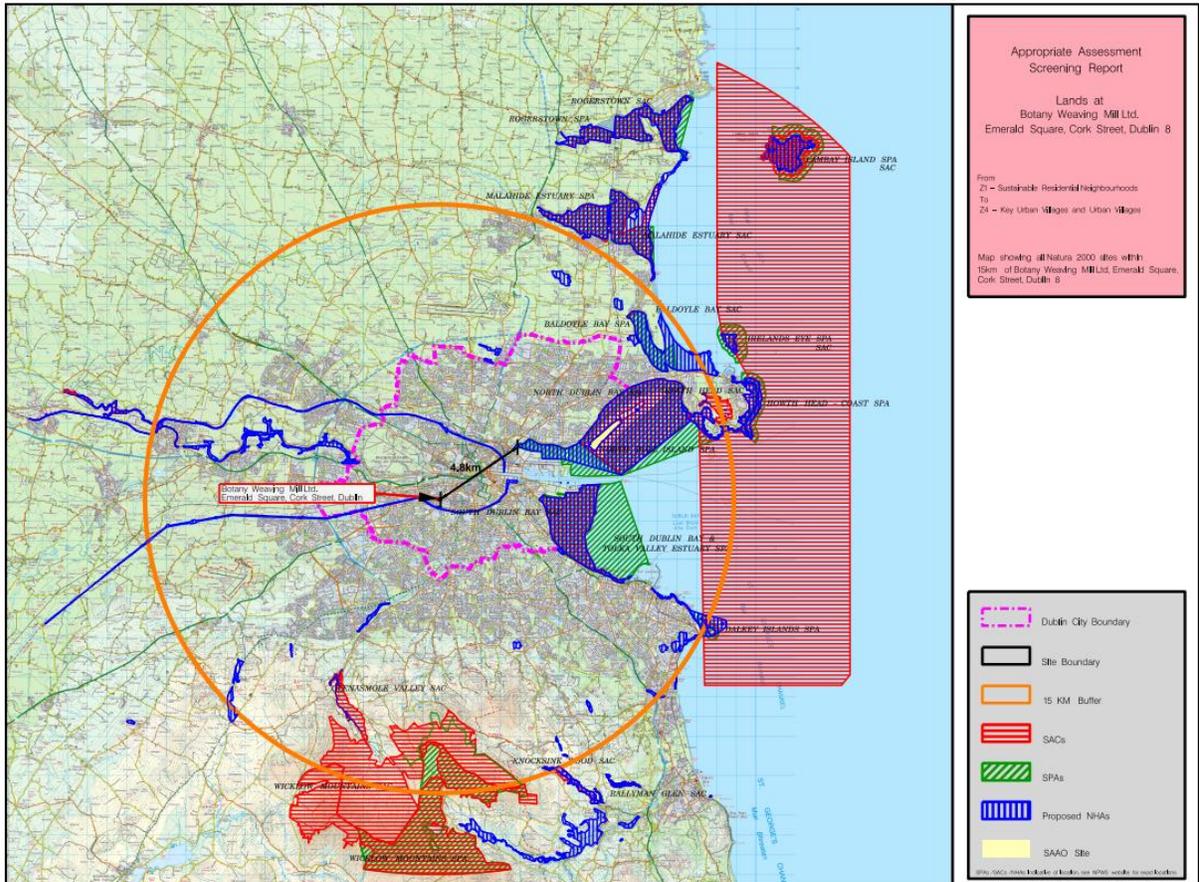
The nearest Natura 2000 site, (*Special Protection Area [SPA]: South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA, site code 004024*) is **4.8 km** to the north east/ east of the subject site, within Dublin Bay. See Figure A (close-up view) and Figure 2 (city wide context) below.

As noted in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) report, accompanying this proposed variation, the variation site is classified as largely Flood Zone C (with a low probability of flooding) and a portion of the western part of the site is Flood Zone B, (with a moderate probabaility of flooding).

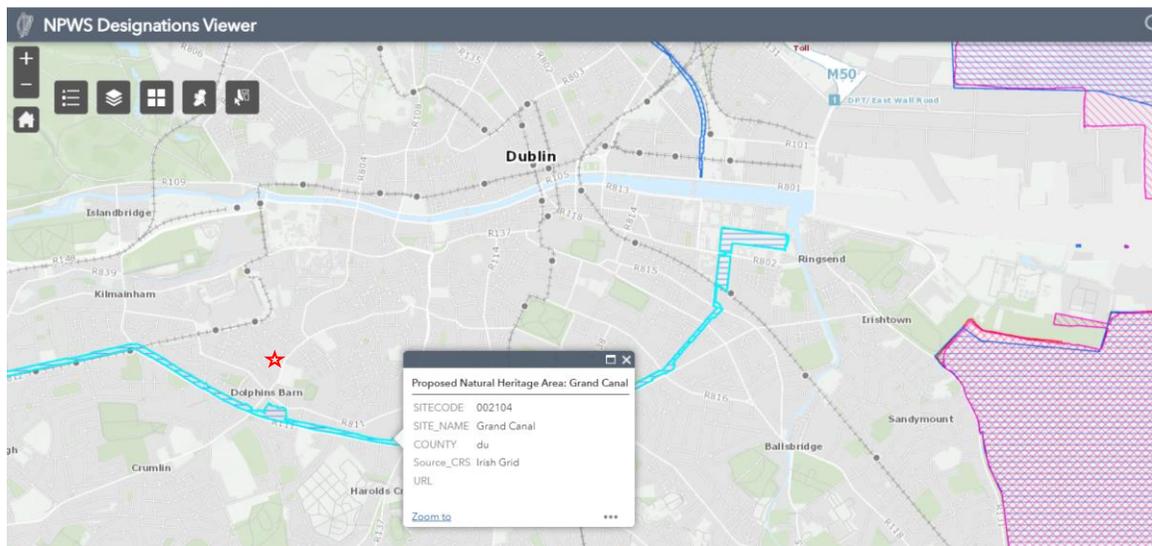


**Figure A** – screen shot demonstrating relationship of variation site, approximate location identified with a red star, to nearest **Natura Site, SPA (004024)**  
**Source:** NPWS Designation Viewer, retrieved 25 July 2023

Figure 2 below illustrates designated sites in the wider vicinity of the subject site with the distance from the subject site to the closest Natura 2000 site identified at **4.8 km**.



**Figure 2** designated sites in the wider vicinity of the subject site at, Botany Weaving Mill, Emerald Square, Cork Street, Dublin 8.



**Figure B** – screen shot demonstrating relationship of variation site, approximate location identified with a red star, to proposed NHA site (002104)

**Source:** NPWS Designation Viewer, retrieved 25 July 2023

The site is located north of the proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA), an Irish Designation, attaching to the Grand Canal (002104), due south of the subject lands. See Figure B above.

The culverted Poddle River (Abbey Stream) traverses part of the lands, entering the River Liffey along the Quays, some distance north the subject lands (see Figure C).

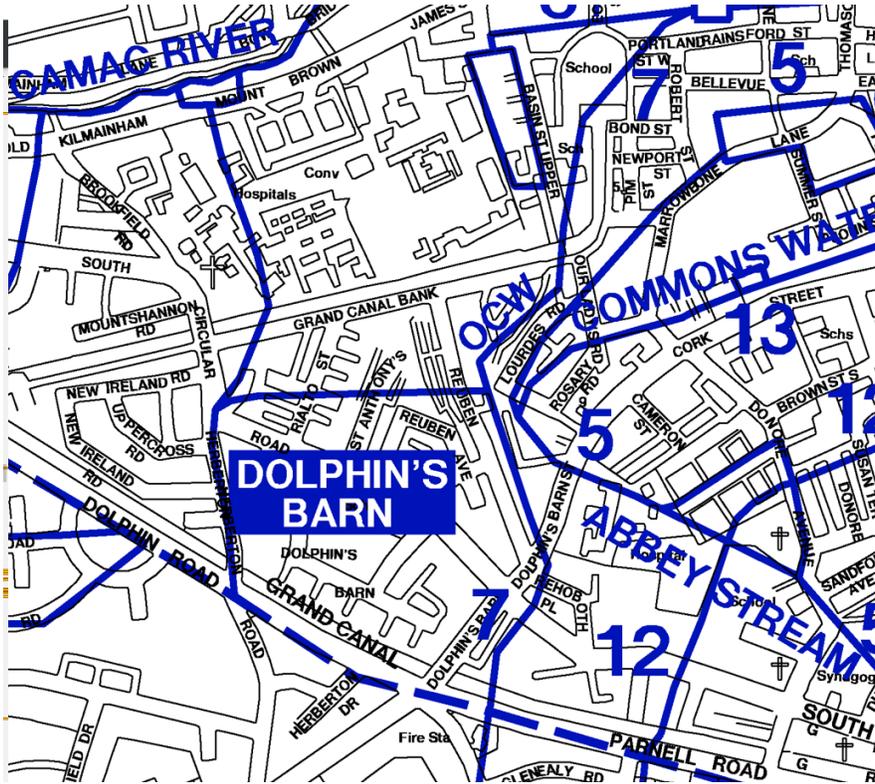


Figure C: Extract from The Rivers of Dublin, 2017

### 1.5 Ex-Situ Sites

Ex-situ sites in the city are those sites which have been previously identified as highly important inland feeding lands in the city for those wintering birds which are a qualifying interest for the following Natura 2000 sites (see page 713 of the NIR for the Dublin City Development Plan 2022):

1. Baldoyle Bay SPA (IE004016)
2. Malahide Estuary SPA (IE004025)
3. North Bull Island SPA (IE004006)
4. Rogerstown Estuary SPA (IE004015)
5. South Dublin Bay & River Tolka Estuary SPA (IE004024)
6. Poulaphouca reservoir SPA
7. The Murrough SPA

The subject lands is not a known ex-situ Wintering Bird Inland Feeding site and is not located within a zone of influence of potential disturbance effects.

## Section 2.0 – Screening Matrix

### Brief Description of Project or Plan

The proposed variation of the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 involves the proposed rezoning of the subject lands (0.4ha) from Z1 (Sustainable Residential Neighbourhoods) to Z4 (Key Urban Villages and Urban Villages).

The subject lands have been in continual use as employment lands for the same manufacturing process – weaving – for a significant length of time. The current Z1 zoning of these lands for residential purposes is provided in the Core Strategy with regard to the availability of land to deliver residential development. A change of zoning on the subject site to Z4, an urban village zoning, rather than a residential zoning, would more appropriately support the continuation of the existing weaving and textile industry on site which has been in-situ since the 1930's.

The variation site is a brownfield site currently in use as an employment location despite a change to the zoning in 2011 from Z6 to Z1. The draft variation proposes that the whole Botany Weaving Mill lands will be subject to a Z4 zoning. A Z4 zoning (Key Urban Villages / Urban Villages) pertaining to the whole premises would allow the development of urban village uses / a mixture of uses including residential uses on the lands. The proposed Variation would also support the retention of the existing light industrial use on the lands.

The subject lands, as part of SDRA 15, are classified as a mixed use, inner city, city core area, in accordance with the MASP, a 12 – 20 year regional framework for future development that incorporates the key national planning policies of the National Planning Framework, including compact growth, consolidation and intensification of the use of brownfield lands. All lands within the city core are zoned and provide the opportunity to intensify on redevelopment. Any future redevelopment of the lands can still accommodate the potential connections across the site as provided for in the SDRA -15 Guiding Principles of design.

From the above it is considered that the proposed rezoning from Z1 to Z4 is considered to be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

### Brief description of the Natura 2000 sites

The site of the proposed variation does not lie within or adjacent to any Natura 2000 site.

The site therefore does not directly affect any Natura 2000 sites. The closest Natura 2000 site (*South Dublin Bay & River Tolka Estuary SPA (IE004024)*) is located approximately **4.8 km** to the north - east of the subject site and is located within Dublin Bay.

### Assessment Criteria

There is no Natura 2000 site located within or adjacent to the proposed variation area.

For an impact to occur there must be a risk enabled by having a 'source' (e.g. construction works at a proposed development site), a 'receptor' (e.g. a Natura 2000 site), and a pathway between the source and the receptor (i.e. a watercourse which connects the proposed variation area to the Natura 2000 site). The culverted River Poddle (Abbey Stream) lies in this general area, exiting into the River Liffey along the Quays, some distance north of the subject site.

The following Natura 2000 sites by virtue of their connectivity (hydrological pathways etc) have been identified as coming within the Zone of Influence of the proposed Variation:

1. North Dublin Bay SAC (7.6 km from subject lands)
2. South Dublin Bay SAC (**5km from subject lands**)
3. Rockabill to Dalkey SAC (13 km from subject lands)
4. North Bull Island SPA (8km from subject lands)
5. South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (**4.8km from subject lands**)
6. North West Irish Sea cSPA (9.4 km from subject lands)

An Appropriate Assessment was carried out at all stages of the Development Plan 2022-2028 in order to ensure that its policies and objectives do not result in significant adverse impacts on the integrity of any of the identified Natura 2000 sites. This subject lands were zoned Z1 at the start of the recent development plan process and therefore had the benefit of this screening.

The proposed Variation will not have the potential to result in effects from land uses or activities over and above those previously assessed, identified (and mitigated against), as part of the Screening for Appropriate Assessment / Appropriate Assessment of the CDP. On this basis, there will be no potential for this Variation to result in likely significant effects to European Sites.

Any future proposed planning application that may seek permission on these lands will be accompanied with an Appropriate Assessment Screening at project stage to comply with the requirements of the Habitats Directive, the conclusion of which will inform the direction of the planning application, all of which is set out in the Development Plan 2022 – 2028. Section 1.5.2, Appropriate Assessment (AA) of Chapter 1 Strategic Context and Vision states:

*The following will apply to all development proposals:*

*To ensure that planning permission will only be granted for a development proposal that, either individually or in combination with existing and/or proposed plans or projects, will not have a significant effect on a European site(s), or where such a development proposal is likely or might have such a significant effect (either alone or in combination), the planning authority will, as required by law, carry out an appropriate assessment as per requirements of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC of the 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, as transposed into Irish legislation.*

*Only after having ascertained that the development proposal will not*

*adversely affect the integrity of any European site, will the planning authority agree to the development and impose appropriate mitigation measures in the form of planning conditions. A development proposal which could adversely affect the integrity of a European site may only be permitted in exceptional circumstances, as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive as transposed into Irish legislation.*

*Development proposals will also be subject to screening for the requirement for environmental impact assessment, and to environmental impact assessment if required, in accordance with the provisions of Directive 2011/52/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU (the EIA Directive) as transposed into national legislation.  
(Page 24, Chapter 2, Volume 1, DP 2022 – 2028)*

**Describe any likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts of the project (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) on the Natura 2000 site by virtue of:**

**Size and scale;**

The variation covers an area of land, circa 0.4ha. This change in zoning objective will neither increase nor decrease the overall area of zoned lands within Dublin City Council. The nature of the zoning change, from Z1 to Z4, is not deemed significant in terms of the nature of development that could be permitted on this site under either zoning objective. The proposed zoning objective change provides for a development in principle approach to any future use of the land. The size and scale of the subject site is therefore not predicted to have any likely significant impact on the conservation function of any Natura 2000 site in respect to size or scale.

**Land-take:**

Minor – the area of land proposed to be rezoned to Z4 will reduce the Z1 zoning objective across the city by 0.4ha but, equally will increase the area of land under a Z4 zoning objective by the same amount, both being zoning objectives with development potential. As both zoning objectives allow for development and redevelopment, it is considered that the change in zoning will not either increase or decrease development output by a significant volume.

The minor land-take of the subject site is therefore not predicted to have any likely significant impact on the conservation function of any Natura 2000 site in respect to size or scale.

**Distance from Natura 2000 site or key features of the site:**

The site of the proposed variation is approximately **4.8 km** from the nearest Natura 2000 site, the *Special Protection Area [SPA]: South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA, site code 004024*. It is also **5km** from South Dublin Bay SAC.

The proposed variation is not predicted to have any likely significant impact on the key

features or the conservation function of any Natura 2000 sites.

**Resource requirements (water abstraction etc):**

Not applicable.

**Emission (disposal to land, water or air):**

Not applicable.

No predicted likely direct impact on the conservation function of any Natura 2000 site is predicted as a result of the implementation of the proposed variation. The most likely potential indirect or secondary impact on a Natura 2000 site is by way of effluent discharge from the Ringsend waste water treatment plant which serves the entire Dublin region to Dublin Bay. Any future planning permission will be subject to conditions to ensure disposal to land, water and air has no impact on any Natura 2000 site.

In addition, there is a commitment under the Dublin City Development Plan 2022–2028 to *‘To support and facilitate Irish Water in the provision of high quality drinking water, water conservation and drainage infrastructure, and to promote the ongoing upgrade and expansion of water supply and wastewater services to meet the future needs of the City and the Region’*. (Objective SI1, page 270 of Chapter 9 Strategic Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk, Volume 1, CDP 2022 - 2028).

More broadly, the Council has a role to play in co-ordinating and tracking the implementation of current, Draft and future 3rd cycle RBMP measures at regional and local level, and in making sure they are fully considered throughout the physical planning process to ensure alignment between the development plan, WFD and RBMP. It is anticipated that forthcoming Section 28 Guidance on WFD Assessment and Sustainable Urban Drainage will assist planning authorities in addressing these water quality considerations as part of the planning and development decision-making process.

In the interim, regard will be had to the government’s best practice guidance document, Nature-based Solutions to the Management of Rainwater and Surface Water Runoff in Urban Areas (December 2021). (Section 9.5.2 Urban Watercourses and Water Quality, page 270 of Chapter 9 Strategic Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk, Volume 1, CDP 2022 - 2028). See Appendix 12: *Technical Summary of Dublin City Council Sustainable Drainage Design & Evaluation Guide (2021)* of the CDP 2022 – 2028.

Note: The 3rd cycle of River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) for the period of 2022-2027 is currently being prepared by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) in line with the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) (2000/60/EC).

**Excavation requirements:**

Not applicable.

**Transportation requirements:**

Not applicable.

**Duration of construction, operation, decommissioning, etc:**

Not applicable.

**Other:**

None.

Consideration has been given to the proposed Variation's potential to combine with a number of other plans relevant to the wider surrounding area.

These plans include:

- Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES)
- The National Planning Framework (NPF)
- Climate Change Action Plan for Dublin City 2019-2024 (CCAP)
- The Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area, 2016-2034
- Water Services Strategic Plan
- Neighbouring County Development Plans
- River Basin District Management Plans
- CFRAMS Study
- Greater Dublin Drainage

Given that the proposed Variation, will not result in significant land use effects or activities that have the potential to result in likely significant effects on European Sites, there will be no potential for the adoption of the proposed Variation to combine with the above listed plans and projects, or any other plans or projects to result in likely significant effects to European Sites.

**Describe any likely changes to the site arising as a result of:**

**Reduction of habitat area:**

Not applicable.

**Disturbance to key species:**

Not applicable.

**Habitat or species fragmentation:**

Not applicable.

**Reduction in species density:**

Not applicable.

**Changes in key indicators of conservation value:**

Not applicable.

<p><b>Climate change:</b> Not applicable.</p>
<p><b>Describe any likely impacts on the Natura 2000 site as a whole in terms of:</b></p> <p><b>Interference with the key relationships that define the structure of the site:</b> No predicted likely impact on the structure of any Natura 2000 sites.</p> <p><b>Interference with key relationships that define the function of the site:</b> No predicted likely impact on the conservation function of any Natura 2000 sites.</p>
<p><b>Provide indicators of significance as a result of the identification of effects set out above in terms of:</b></p> <p><b>Loss:</b> Not applicable.</p> <p><b>Fragmentation:</b> Not applicable.</p> <p><b>Disruption:</b> Not applicable.</p> <p><b>Disturbance:</b> Not applicable.</p> <p><b>Change to key elements of the site (e.g. water quality etc):</b> Not applicable.</p>
<p><b>Describe from the above those elements of the project or plan, or combination of elements, where the above impacts are likely to be significant or where the scale or magnitude of impacts are not known.</b></p> <p>No predicted likely significant impacts on the conservation function of any Natura 2000 sites.</p>

**Section 3.0 – Findings of No Significant Effects Matrix**

<p><b>Name of Project or Plan:</b></p>	<p>The proposed variation (No.3) of the Dublin City Development Plan 2022 – 2028 proposes to change zoning objective Z1 to zoning objective Z4 on a 0.4ha</p>
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	site at Botany Weaving Mill, Emerald Square, Cork Street, Dublin 8.
<b>Name and location of Natura 2000 sites:</b>	Natura 2000 sites in the wider vicinity of the proposed variation area are provided in Section 1.4.
<b>Description of the Project or Plan</b>	As provided in Section 2.0, Screening Matrix above.
<b>Is the Project or Plan directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (provide details)?</b>	No.
<b>Are there other projects or plans that together with the project or plan being assessed could affect the site (provide details)?</b>	No

<b>The Assessment of Significance of Effects</b>	
<b>Describe how the project or plan (alone or in combination) is likely to affect the Natura 2000 sites:</b>	No predicted likely significant impacts on the conservation function of any Natura 2000 sites arises from the proposed variation under the variation process.
<b>Explain why these effects are not considered significant:</b>	<p>The proposed variation provides for sustainable development in accordance with the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 and the principles of proper planning and sustainable development.</p> <p>An Appropriate Assessment was carried out at all stages of the Development Plan 2022-2028 in order to ensure that its policies and objectives do not result in significant adverse impacts on the integrity of any of the identified Natura 2000 sites.</p> <p>This included the 0.4ha variation site with the zoning</p>

	<p>objective Z1 since the CDP 2011 – 2017, carried into the CDP 2022 – 2028. With a Z1 zoning objective, these lands were screened as part of CDP 2022 – 2028 with no significant adverse impacts identified. Z1 and Z4 zoning objectives are considered similar in nature, as both zoning objective provide for land uses / development. The difference in likely quantum of development is considered marginal as both zoning objective support sustainable development.</p> <p>There are not predicted to be additional requirements arising from the proposed Variation in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o size and scale</li> <li>o land-take</li> <li>o resources</li> <li>o excavationo emissions</li> <li>o transportationo construction, operation or decommissioning</li> </ul> <p>On this basis, it is concluded that there are not likely to be changes to the sites habitats or species arising as a result of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o loss</li> <li>o fragmentation</li> <li>o disruption</li> <li>o disturbance</li> <li>o changes to other key indicators of significance</li> </ul> <p>In considering the above and when taken together with the distance to the nearest Natura 2000 site of <b>4.8 km</b>, and it is concluded that:</p> <p><b>It is not predicted that the variation will have any significant impact on the conservation function of any Natura 2000 site.</b></p>
<p><b>List of Agencies to be consulted: Provide contact name and telephone or email address:</b></p>	<p>The Manager, Development Applications Unit, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Email: <a href="mailto:sea@environ.ie">sea@environ.ie</a></p> <p>The Manager, The Department of Culture, Heritage</p>

	<p>and the Gaeltacht  <a href="mailto:Manager.DAU@chg.gov.ie">Manager.DAU@chg.gov.ie</a></p> <p>Gerry Clerkin, Dept. Communications Energy and Natural Resources  <a href="mailto:Gerry.clerkin@dcenr.gov.ie">Gerry.clerkin@dcenr.gov.ie</a>  Email: <a href="mailto:CorporateSupport.Unit@dcenr.gov.ie">CorporateSupport.Unit@dcenr.gov.ie</a></p> <p>Co-ordination Unit, Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment.  Email: <a href="mailto:corporatesupport.unit@dccae.gov.ie">corporatesupport.unit@dccae.gov.ie</a></p> <p>Damian Clarke, Assistant Principal Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine  Email: <a href="mailto:damien.clarke@agriculture.gov.ie">damien.clarke@agriculture.gov.ie</a></p> <p>Tadhg O'Mahony, Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Inspectorate, Iniscarra, County Cork.  Email: <a href="mailto:t.omahony@epa.ie">t.omahony@epa.ie</a>  <a href="mailto:sea@epa.ie">sea@epa.ie</a>  Telephone: 021 – 486 0818</p> <p>Forward Planning Division, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council  Email: <a href="mailto:planning@dlrcoco.ie">planning@dlrcoco.ie</a>  <a href="mailto:planningsecretariat@dlrcoco.ie">planningsecretariat@dlrcoco.ie</a></p> <p>Forward Planning Division, South Dublin County Council  Email: <a href="mailto:planning.dept@sdcc.ie">planning.dept@sdcc.ie</a>  <a href="mailto:planningdept@sdblincoco.ie">planningdept@sdblincoco.ie</a></p> <p>Forward Planning Division, Fingal County Council  Email: <a href="mailto:planning@fingalcoco.ie">planning@fingalcoco.ie</a></p> <p>Inland Fisheries Ireland  <a href="mailto:info@fisheriesireland.ie">info@fisheriesireland.ie</a></p>
<p><b>Response to Consultation</b></p>	<p>Submission received from EPA on SEA Screening Report dated 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023</p>

**Data Collected to Carry out the Assessment**

<b>Who carried out the Assessment?</b>	The Planning and Property Development Department of Dublin City Council.
<b>Sources of Data</b>	<p><b>Existing data</b></p> <p>As part of the Appropriate Assessment screening process for the proposed variation, particular reference has been made to the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Managing Natura 2000 sites. The provisions of Article 6, of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC.</i></li> <li>• Circular letter SEA 1/08 and NPWS 1/08. (February 2008) Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government (DoEHLG)</li> <li>• Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government (DoEHLG) Circular letter NPWS 1/10 and PSSP 2/10 (March 2010)</li> <li>• <i>Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland, Guidance for Planning Authorities.</i> Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (2010) DoEHLG,</li> <li>• <i>Natura Impact Report (NIR) of the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028.</i> (Volume 6)</li> <li>• Dublin City Council's Biodiversity Action Plan 2021 – 2025.</li> <li>• Existing NPWS Data. (Source: <a href="https://www.npws.ie/">https://www.npws.ie/</a> Accessed <b>25th July 2023</b>)</li> <li>• <i>Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites Methodological guidance on the provision of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.</i> (2002) European Commission.</li> <li>• Regional Spatial &amp; Economic Strategy for the Eastern &amp; Midlands Region (incl. AA Screening and NIS)</li> <li>• The National Planning Framework (NPF) (Project Ireland 2040) (incl. AA Screening and NIS)</li> <li>• Dublin City Council Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024</li> <li>• Dublin City Council Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 – Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement</li> <li>• Dublin City Council Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 – Final Natura Impact Statement</li> <li>• Dublin City Council Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 – Appropriate Assessment Determination</li> </ul>
<b>Level of Assessment Completed</b>	Desktop study.
<b>Where can the full results of the</b>	

<b>assessment be accessed and viewed</b>	This document contains the full results of the Appropriate Assessment Screening exercise and will be placed on public display.
<b>Overall Conclusion</b>	Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening indicates that the proposed variation will not have any significant cumulative, direct or indirect impacts upon any of the Natura 2000 sites. Therefore it is not considered necessary to undertake any further stages of the Appropriate Assessment process.

## 4.0 AA Screening Conclusion

Proposed Variation No. 3 was screened (under Article 6(3) of the EC Habitats Directive) to ascertain whether it is likely to result in any significant effects on sites designated under the European Commission's Natura 2000 network of sites (European sites) and designated for their nature conservation importance.

The Screening Matrix in Section 2 above identifies potential impacts associated with the proposed Variation, examines whether there are any sites within the Zone of Influence from the proposed Variation and assesses whether there is any risk of the proposed Variation resulting in a likely significant effect on any European site, (including through damage, disturbance or the potential to result in the loss of qualifying habitat or qualifying species / special conservation interests of European sites and to undermine the conservation objectives of the European sites) either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

Having regard to this referred examination and assessment and having regard to the nature of the proposed Variation as well as considering other plans and projects, it is considered there is no potential for likely significant effects on any European sites due to habitat loss, disturbance to key species, changes in key indicators of conservation value, etc.

Variation No. 3 does not therefore require an Appropriate Assessment or the preparation of a Natura Impact Report (NIR).



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Deirdre Scully  
City Planner

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023

# APPENDIX 1

TABLE A: NATURA 2000 SITES WITHIN THE CITY / WITHIN A 15 to c. 25KM RADIUS OF THE CITY BOUNDARY.

European Site Name and code	Distance from Plan	Reasons for Designation <sup>1</sup> for – QIs or SCIs (*=Priority Annex I Habitat) Conservation Objectives
<b>Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)</b>		
North Dublin Bay SAC [000206]	Within the city boundary	<p>Annex I Habitats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140];</li> <li>• Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210];</li> <li>• Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310];</li> <li>• Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330];</li> <li>• Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410];</li> <li>• Embryonic shifting dunes [2110];</li> <li>• Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ('white dunes') [2120];</li> <li>• Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ('grey dunes') [2130]* ; and</li> <li>• Humid dune slacks [2190].</li> </ul> <p>Annex II Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>) [1395].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats and species [1140, 1330, 1395, 1410], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:            "NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: North Dublin Bay SAC 000206. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht."</p> <p>To <b>Restore</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1210, 1310, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2190], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:            "NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: North Dublin Bay SAC 000206. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht."</p>
South Dublin Bay SAC [000210]	Within the city boundary	<p>Annex I Habitats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140];</li> <li>• Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210];</li> <li>• Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]; and</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> "Qualifying Interests" (QI's) for SACs and "Special Conservation Interests" (SCI's) for SPAs based on relevant Statutory Instruments for each SPA, and NPWS Conservation Objectives for SACs taken from NIR for Appropriate Assessment for Dublin City Development Plan 2022 – 2028.

European Site Name and code	Distance from Plan	Reasons for Designation <sup>1</sup> for – QIs or SCIs (*=Priority Annex I Habitat) Conservation Objectives
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embryonic shifting dunes [2110].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1140, 1210, 1310, 2110], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:  “NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: South Dublin Bay SAC 000210. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.”</p> <p>Please note that this SAC overlaps with South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (004024). The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping site as appropriate.</p>
Baldoye Bay SAC [000199]	Approximately 420m from the city boundary	Annex I Habitats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140];</li> <li>Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310];</li> <li>Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330]; and</li> <li>Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1140, 1310, 1330, 1410], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:  “NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives: Baldoye Bay SAC 000199. Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.”</p>
Howth Head SAC [000202]	Approximately 1.5km from the city boundary	Annex I Habitats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]; and</li> <li>European dry heaths [4030].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1230, 4030], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:  “NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives: Howth Head SAC 000202. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.”</p> <p>Please note that this SAC overlaps with Howth Head Coast SPA (004113) (North Bull Island SPA (004006) and adjoins North Dublin Bay SAC (000206) and Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (003000). The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping sites as appropriate.</p>
Ireland’s Eye SAC [002193]	Approximately 3.8km offshore from the city boundary	Annex I Habitats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]; and</li> <li>Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1220, 1230], as defined by the list of attributes and</p>

European Site Name and code	Distance from Plan	Reasons for Designation <sup>1</sup> for – QIs or SCIs (*=Priority Annex I Habitat) Conservation Objectives
		<p>targets set out in:</p> <p>“NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives: Ireland's Eye SAC 002193. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.”</p> <p>Please note that this SAC overlaps with Ireland’s Eye SPA (004117) and is adjacent to Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (003000). The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping sites as appropriate.</p>
Malahide Estuary SAC [000205]	Approximately 3.4km from the city boundary	<p>Annex I Habitats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140];</li> <li>• Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310];</li> <li>• <i>Spartina</i> swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>) [1320]<sup>2</sup>;</li> <li>• Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330];</li> <li>• Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410];</li> <li>• Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120]; and</li> <li>• Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]*.</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1140, 1310, 1410], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>“NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Malahide Estuary SAC 000205. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.”</p> <p>To <b>Restore</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1330, 2120 and 2130], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>“NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Malahide Estuary SAC 000205. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.”</p> <p>Please note that this SAC overlaps with Malahide Estuary SPA (004025). The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping site as appropriate.</p>
Rogerstown Estuary SAC [000208]	Approximately 9.7km from the city boundary	<p>Annex I Habitats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estuaries [1130];</li> <li>• Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140];</li> <li>• Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310];</li> <li>• Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330];</li> <li>• Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410];</li> <li>• Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup>1320 *Spartina* swards (*Spartinion maritimae*) habitat is included within the conservation objectives document for Malahide Estuary SAC, but not within the Statutory Instruments document. NPWS have stated that it is not necessary to assess the likely effects of plans or projects against this Annex I habitat at this site

European Site Name and code	Distance from Plan	Reasons for Designation <sup>1</sup> for – QIs or SCIs (*=Priority Annex I Habitat) Conservation Objectives
		<p>dunes) [2120]; and,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]*.</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1130, 1140, 1310 &amp; 1410], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>“NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Rogerstown Estuary SAC 000208. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.”</p> <p>To <b>Restore</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [1330, 2120 and 2130], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>“NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Rogerstown Estuary SAC 000208. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.”</p> <p>Please note that this SAC overlaps with Rogerstown Estuary SPA (004015). The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping sites as appropriate.</p>
Lambay Island SAC [000204]	Approximately 11.7km offshore from the city boundary	<p>Annex I Habitats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reefs [1170]; and,</li> <li>• Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]</li> </ul> <p>Annex II Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>) [1364]; and,</li> <li>• Harbour seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>) [1365].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats and species [1170, 1231, 1364 and 1365], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>“NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Lambay Island SAC 000204. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.”</p> <p>Please note that this SAC overlaps with Lambay Island SPA (004069) and adjoins Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (003000). The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping sites as appropriate.</p>
Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC [003000]	Approximately 2.4km offshore from the city boundary	<p>Annex I Habitats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reefs [1170].</li> </ul> <p>Annex II Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>) [1351].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitat and species [1170 and 1351], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>“NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC</p>

European Site Name and code	Distance from Plan	Reasons for Designation <sup>1</sup> for – QIs or SCIs (*=Priority Annex I Habitat) Conservation Objectives
		<p>003000. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.”</p> <p>Please note that this SAC overlaps with North Bull Island SPA (004006), Rockabill SPA (004014), Lambay Island SPA ( 004117), Dalkey Islands SPA (004172). It also adjoins Howth Head SAC (000202), Lambay Island SAC (000204) and Ireland Eye SAC (002193). The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping sites as appropriate.</p>
Wicklow Mountains SAC [002122]	Approximately 6.7km from the city boundary	<p>Annex I Habitats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110];</li> <li>• Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160];</li> <li>• Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010];</li> <li>• European dry heaths [4030];</li> <li>• Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060];</li> <li>• Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130];</li> <li>• Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe) [6230];</li> <li>• Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130];</li> <li>• Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110];</li> <li>• Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210];</li> <li>• Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220]; and</li> <li>• Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0].</li> </ul> <p>Annex II Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats and species [1355, 3110, 3160, 6130], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: “NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives: Wicklow Mountains SAC 002122. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.”</p> <p>To <b>Restore</b> the favourable conservation condition of the qualifying interest habitats [4010, 4030, 4060, 6230, 7130, 8110, 8210, 8220, 91A0], as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: “NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives: Wicklow Mountains SAC 002122. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.”</p> <p>Please note that this SAC overlaps with Wicklow Mountains SPA (004040). The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping site as appropriate.</p>
<b>Special Protection Areas</b>		
North Bull Island	Within the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light-bellied Brent Goose Branta bernicla hrota [A046];</li> </ul>

European Site Name and code	Distance from Plan	Reasons for Designation <sup>1</sup> for – QIs or SCIs (* = Priority Annex I Habitat) Conservation Objectives
SPA [004006]	city boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shelduck Tadorna tadorna [A048];</li> <li>• Teal Anas crecca [A052];</li> <li>• Pintail Anas acuta [A054];</li> <li>• Shoveler Anas clypeata [A056];</li> <li>• Oystercatcher Haematopus ostralegus [A130];</li> <li>• Golden Plover Pluvialis apricaria [A140];</li> <li>• Grey Plover Pluvialis squatarola [A141];</li> <li>• Knot Calidris canutus [A143];</li> <li>• Sanderling Calidris alba [A144];</li> <li>• Dunlin Calidris alpina [A149];</li> <li>• Black-tailed Godwit Limosa limosa [A156];</li> <li>• Bar-tailed Godwit Limosa lapponica [A157];</li> <li>• Curlew Numenius arquata [A160];</li> <li>• Redshank Tringa tetanus [A162];</li> <li>• Turnstone Arenaria interpres [A169];</li> <li>• Black-headed Gull Chroicocephalus ridibundus [A179]; and</li> <li>• Wetlands and Waterbirds [A199].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species and wetland habitat of North Bull Island SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: “NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives: North Bull Island SPA 004006. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.”</p> <p>Please note that this SPA overlaps with North Dublin Bay SAC (000206) and Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (003000) and adjoins Howth head SAC (000202) and South Dublin Bay And river Tolka Estuary SPA (004024). The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping sites as appropriate.</p>
South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA [004024]	Within the city boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light-bellied Brent Goose Branta bernicla hrota [A046];</li> <li>• Oystercatcher Haematopus ostralegus [A130];</li> <li>• Ringed Plover Charadrius hiaticula [A137];</li> <li>• Grey Plover Pluvialis squatarola [A140];</li> <li>• Knot Calidris canutus [A143];</li> <li>• Sanderling Calidris alba [A144];</li> <li>• Dunlin Calidris alpina [A149];</li> <li>• Bar-tailed Godwit Limosa lapponica [A157];</li> <li>• Redshank Tringa totanus [A162];</li> <li>• Black-headed Gull Chroicocephalus ridibundus [A179];</li> <li>• Roseate Tern Sterna dougallii [A192];</li> <li>• Common Tern Sterna hirundo [A193];</li> <li>• Arctic Tern Sterna paradisaea [A194]; and</li> <li>• Wetlands and Waterbirds [A999].</li> </ul>

European Site Name and code	Distance from Plan	Reasons for Designation <sup>1</sup> for – QIs or SCIs (*=Priority Annex I Habitat) Conservation Objectives
		<p>To <b>Maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species and wetland habitat of South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>“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.”</p> <p>Please note that this SPA overlaps with South Dublin Bay SAC (000210) and adjoins North Bull Island SPA (004006) and North Dublin Bay SAC (000206). The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping sites as appropriate.</p>
Baldoye Bay SPA [004016]	Approximately 890m from the city boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light-bellied Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> [A046];</li> <li>• Shelduck <i>Tadorna</i> [A048];</li> <li>• Ringed Plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> [A137];</li> <li>• Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> [A140];</li> <li>• Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> [A141];</li> <li>• Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i> [A157]; and</li> <li>• Wetlands and Waterbirds [A999].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species and wetland habitat of Baldoye Bay SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>“NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Baldoye Bay SPA 004016. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.”</p> <p>Please note that this SPA overlaps with Baldoye Bay SAC (000199). The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping site as appropriate.</p>
Howth Head Coast SPA [004113]	Approximately 3.8km from the city boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kittiwake <i>Rissa tridactyla</i> [A188].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain or Restore</b> the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species of Howth head Coast SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>“NPWS (2022) Conservation objectives for Howth Head Coast SPA [004113]. Generic Version 9.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.”</p> <p>Please note that this SPA overlaps with Howth Head Coast SAC (000202) and adjoins Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (003000). The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping site as appropriate.</p>
Ireland's Eye SPA [004117]	Approximately 3.6km from the city boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> [A017];</li> <li>• Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i> [A184];</li> <li>• Kittiwake <i>Rissa tridactyla</i> [A188];</li> <li>• Guillemot <i>Uria aalge</i> [A199]; and</li> </ul>

European Site Name and code	Distance from Plan	Reasons for Designation <sup>1</sup> for – QIs or SCIs (*=Priority Annex I Habitat) Conservation Objectives
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Razorbill <i>Alca torda</i> [A200].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain</b> or <b>Restore</b> the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species of Ireland's Eye Coast SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>"NPWS (2022) Conservation objectives for Ireland's Eye SPA [004117]. Generic Version 9.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage".</p> <p>Please note that this SPA overlaps with Ireland Eye SAC (002193) and adjoins Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (003000).The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping site as appropriate.</p>
Malahide Estuary SPA [004025]	Approximately 4.1km from the city boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great Crested Grebe <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> [A005];</li> <li>• Light-bellied Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> [A046];</li> <li>• Shelduck <i>Tadorna</i> [A048];</li> <li>• Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i> [A054];</li> <li>• Goldeneye <i>Bucephala clangula</i> [A067];</li> <li>• Red-breasted Merganser <i>Mergus serrator</i> [A069];</li> <li>• Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> [A130];</li> <li>• Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> [A140];</li> <li>• Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> [A141];</li> <li>• Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i> [A143];</li> <li>• Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i> [A149];</li> <li>• Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa</i> [A156];</li> <li>• Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i> [A157];</li> <li>• Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i> [A162]; and,</li> <li>• Wetland and Waterbirds [A999].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species and wetland habitat of Malahide Estuary SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>"NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Malahide Estuary SPA 004025. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht".</p> <p>Please note that this SPA overlaps with Malahide Estuary SAC (000205).The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping site as appropriate.</p>
Rogerstown Estuary SPA [004015]	Approximately 9.7km from the city boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greylag Goose <i>Anser anser</i> [A043];</li> <li>• Light-bellied Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> [A046];</li> <li>• Shelduck <i>Tadorna</i> [A048];</li> <li>• Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> [A056];</li> <li>• Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> [A130];</li> <li>• Ringed Plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> [A137];</li> </ul>

European Site Name and code	Distance from Plan	Reasons for Designation <sup>1</sup> for – QIs or SCIs (*=Priority Annex I Habitat) Conservation Objectives
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> [A141];</li> <li>• Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i> [A143];</li> <li>• Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i> [A149];</li> <li>• Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa</i> [A156];</li> <li>• Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i> [A162]; and,</li> <li>• Wetland and Waterbirds [A999].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain</b> the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species and wetland habitat of Rogerstown Estuary SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: “NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Rogerstown Estuary SPA 004015. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.”</p> <p>Please note that this SPA overlaps with Rogerstown Estuary SAC (000208).The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping site as appropriate.</p>
Lambay Island SPA [004069]	Approximately 11.6km offshore from the city boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> [A017];</li> <li>• Shag <i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i> [A018];</li> <li>• Greylag Goose <i>Anser anser</i> [A043];</li> <li>• Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus</i> [A183]</li> <li>• Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i> [A184];</li> <li>• Kittiwake <i>Rissa tridactyla</i> [A188];</li> <li>• Guillemot <i>Uria aalge</i> [A199];</li> <li>• Razorbill <i>Alca torda</i> [A200]; and</li> <li>• Puffin <i>Fratercula arctica</i> [A204].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain or Restore</b> the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species of Lambay Island SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: “NPWS (2022) Conservation objectives for Lambay Island SPA 004069. Generic Version 9.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage”.</p> <p>Please note that this SPA overlaps with Lambay Island SAC (000204) and adjoins Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (003000).The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping site as appropriate.</p>
Dalkey Islands SPA [004172]	Approximately 7.9km offshore from the city boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roseate Tern <i>Sterna dougallii</i> [A192];</li> <li>• Common Tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i> [A193]; and</li> <li>• Arctic Tern <i>Sterna paradisaea</i> [A194].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain or Restore</b> the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species of Dalkey Islands SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in: “NPWS (2022) Conservation objectives for Dalkey Islands SPA</p>

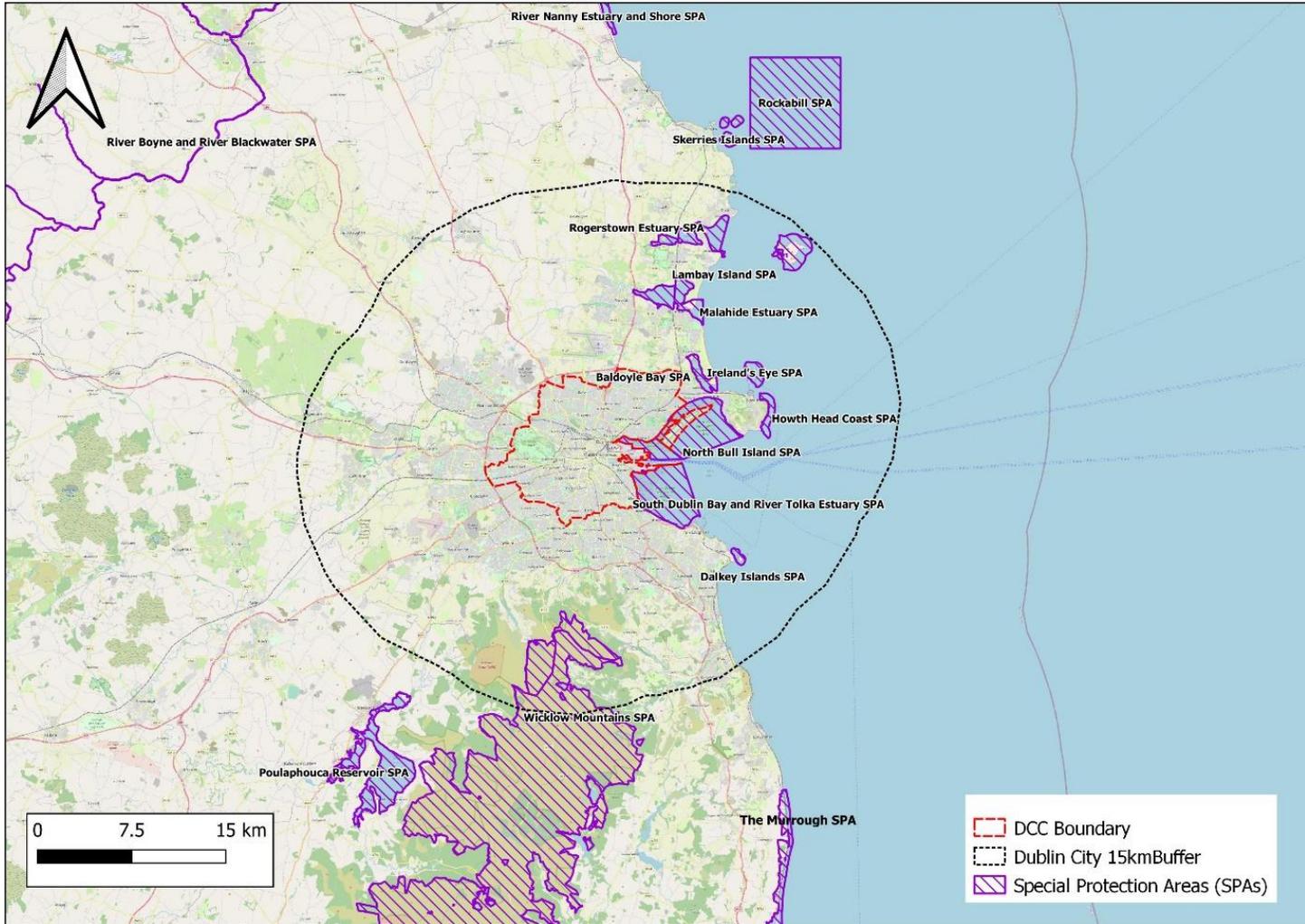
European Site Name and code	Distance from Plan	Reasons for Designation <sup>1</sup> for – QIs or SCIs (*Priority Annex I Habitat) Conservation Objectives
		<p>[004172]. Generic Version 9.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.”</p> <p>Please note that this SPA overlaps with Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (00300) and . The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping site as appropriate.</p>
Wicklow Mountains SPA [004040]	Approximately 6.7km from the city boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Merlin Falco columbarius [A098]; and</li> <li>• Peregrine Falco peregrinus [A103].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain or Restore</b> the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species of Wicklow Mountains SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>“NPWS (2021) Conservation objectives for Wicklow Mountains SPA [004040]. Generic Version 8.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage”.</p> <p>Please note that this SPA overlaps with Wicklow Mountains SAC (0021220).The conservation objectives for this site should be used in conjunction with those for the overlapping site as appropriate.</p>
Skerries Islands SPA [004122]	Approximately 18.3km from the city boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cormorant Phalacrocorax carbo [A017];</li> <li>• Shag Phalacrocorax aristotelis [A018];</li> <li>• Light bellied Brent Goose Branta Bernicla hrota [A046];</li> <li>• Purple Sandpiper Calidris maritima [A148];</li> <li>• Turnstone Arenaria interpres [A169]; and</li> <li>• Herring Gull Larus argentatus [A184].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain or Restore</b> the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species of Skerries Island SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>“NPWS (2022) Conservation objectives for Skerries Islands SPA [004122]. Generic Version 9.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage”.</p> <p>Please note that this SPA adjoins Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (003000) and Rockabill SPA.</p>
Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA [004063]	Approximately 19km from the city boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greylag Goose Anser [A043]; and</li> <li>• Lesser Black-backed Gull Larus fuscus [A183].</li> </ul> <p>To <b>Maintain or Restore</b> the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species of Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:</p> <p>“NPWS (2022) Conservation objectives for Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA [004063]. Generic Version 9.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage”.</p>
The Murrough SPA [004186]	Approximately 25.6km from the city boundary	<p>Red-throated Diver Gavia stellata A001</p> <p>Greylag Goose Anser A043</p> <p>Light Bellied Brent Goose Branta bernicla hrota A046</p>

European Site Name and code	Distance from Plan	Reasons for Designation <sup>1</sup> for – QIs or SCIs (*=Priority Annex I Habitat) Conservation Objectives
		<p>Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i> A050  Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> A052  Black-headed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> A179  Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i> A162  Little Tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i> A195  Wetlands A999</p> <p>To <b>Maintain</b> or <b>Restore</b> the favourable conservation condition of the special conservation interest bird species of The Murrough SPA, as defined by the list of attributes and targets set out in:  “NPWS (2022) Conservation objectives for The Murrough SPA [004186]. Generic Version 9.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage”.</p>
North-West Irish Sea cSPA 004236		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Common Scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>) [A065]</li> <li>• Red-throated Diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>) [A001]</li> <li>• Great Northern Diver (<i>Gavia immer</i>) [A003]</li> <li>• Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>) [A009]</li> <li>• Manx Shearwater (<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>) [A013]</li> <li>• Shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>) [A018]</li> <li>• Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017]</li> <li>• Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193]</li> <li>• Little Tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) [A195]</li> <li>• Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188]</li> <li>• Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179]</li> <li>• Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182]</li> <li>• Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183]</li> <li>• Great Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus marinus</i>) [A187]</li> <li>• Little Gull (<i>Larus minutus</i>) [A177]</li> <li>• Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184]</li> <li>• Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192]</li> <li>• Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194]</li> <li>• Puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>) [A204]</li> <li>• Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>) [A200]</li> <li>• Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) [A199]</li> </ul>

# APPENDIX 2

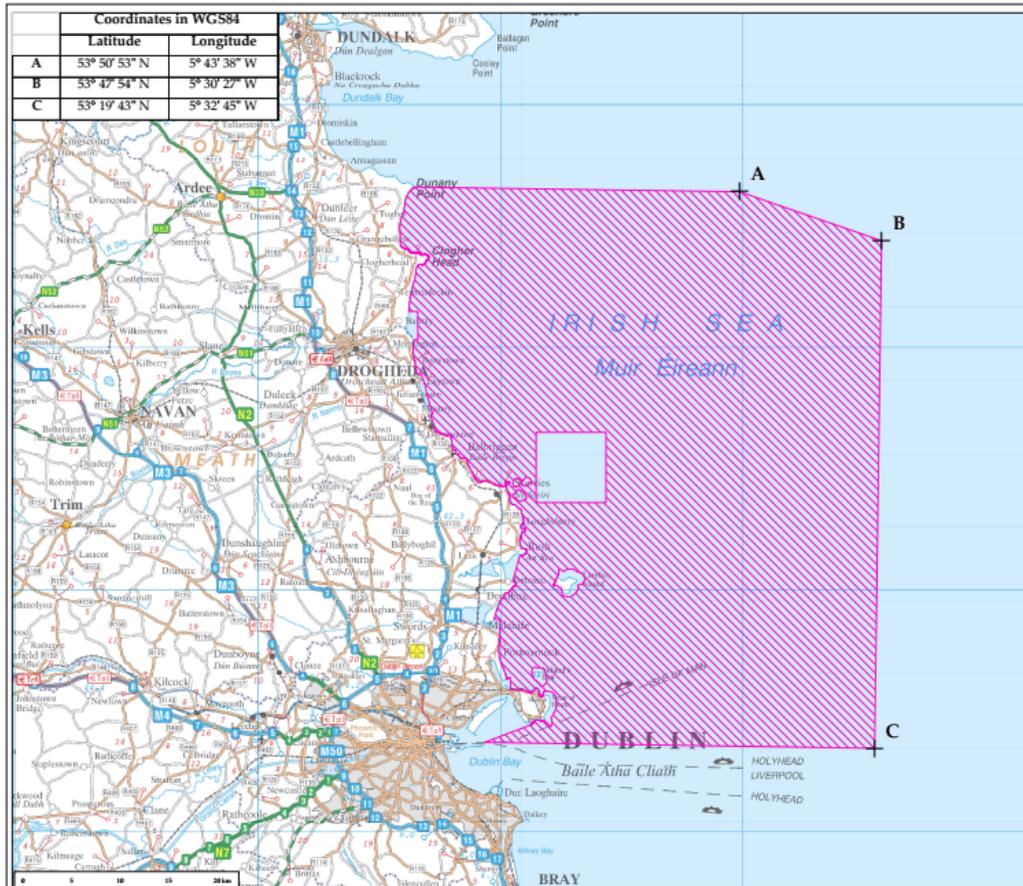


# APPENDIX 3



Special Protection Areas (SPAs)

# APPENDIX 4



**LIMISTÉAR FAOI CHOSAINTE SPEISIALTA MOLTA**  
**CANDIDATE SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA**

Limistéar faoi Chosaint Speisialta Molta  
Candidate Special Protection Area

North-west Irish Sea cSPA  
004236  
Achar / Area 233,343 ha

CO. BHAILE ÁTHA CLIATH, CO. LÚ AGUS CO. NA M  
CO. DUBLIN, CO. LOUTH AND CO. MEATH

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áiríúil agus Oidhreachta  
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

NATURA 200

Na hAitheantas Oidhreachta Éireann Cúlraí Uisce CHS/NAI\_011/016/18 agus Mionson  
Oidhreachta Éireann Linn na hOibre CHS/0001\_011 © Oidhreachta Éireann / Government of Ireland  
Cúlra Cúlraí Oidhreachta Éireann na hOibre / Cúlraí Oidhreachta Éireann na hOibre