

Planning Authority Habitats Directive Appropriate Assessment

Screening Determination for Celbridge Hazelhatch Mobility Corridor

Appropriate Assessment Screening Statement

Kildare County Council (KCC) appointed RPS to prepare a Stage 1 Screening Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment of the Proposed Development to consider, analyse and assess whether in view of best scientific knowledge and applying the precautionary principle, and in light of the conservation objectives of relevant European Sites, the Proposed Scheme, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will adversely affect the integrity of European Sites.

The Stage 1 Screening Report concluded that:

- The project is not directly connected with or necessary for the management on any European Site.
- On the basis of works adjacent to the River Liffey, and the details regarding the Proposed Scheme at the time of assessment, the Proposed Scheme has potential to result in LSEs, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, on the following European sites:
 - North Dublin Bay SAC (000206);
 - South Dublin Bay SAC (000210);
 - South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (004024);
 - North Bull Island SPA (004006);
 - North-West Irish Sea SPA (004236);
 - Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (003000);
 - Dalkey Islands SPA (004172); and
 - Howth Head Coast SPA (004113); and
- Due to the LSEs identified, it is concluded that a Stage 2 NIS is required to inform an AA
 of the adverse effects to site integrity of the Proposed Scheme on the European sites
 and their associated QIs and SCIs, by the Competent Authority.

KCC, as Competent Authority has received and reviewed the Screening Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment. It is considered that the AA Screening Report prepared by RPS contains a fair and reasonable assessment of the likelihood of significant effects of the development on European sites.

That assessment is adopted as the assessment of KCC and KCC agrees with the conclusion that the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) is required.

Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

Reasons for Determination

Having had regard to the above, KCC has determined that a Stage 2 Natura Impact Statement is required as it cannot exclude, in view of best scientific knowledge and on the basis of objective scientific information, following the screening that the Proposed Scheme, either individually, and in combination with other plans and projects, in the absence of mitigation, will have significant effects on the following (8) European sites:

- North Dublin Bay SAC (000206);
- South Dublin Bay SAC (000210);
- South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (004024);
- North Bull Island SPA (004006);
- North-West Irish Sea SPA (004236);
- Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC (003000);
- Dalkey Islands SPA (004172); and
- Howth Head Coast SPA (004113);

KCC has therefore determined that the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement is required in respect of the Proposed Scheme to assist the competent authority for development consent in undertaking an assessment of potential adverse effects of the proposed road development works either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects on the integrity of the above (8) European sites.

Signed:

Alan Dunney.

Director of Services

Planning, Enterprise, Economic Development & Emergency

Services

Date:

6/4/2025