Dublin Airport Passenger Capacity Act 2026

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

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AECOM

Dublin Airport (Passenger Capacity) Act 2026

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

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Glossary of Terms

Abbreviation/Term	Definition
Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Assessment of potential effects on European sites in accordance with the Habitats Directive.
ABP (An Bord Pleanála)	Former Irish planning appeals board, now known as An Coimisiún Pleanála.
ACA	Architectural Conservation Area
ACP	An Coimisiún Pleanála
Act	Dublin Airport (Passenger Capacity) Act 2026
ADP	Airfield Drainage Project
AEDT	Aviation Environmental Design Tool
Airside Emissions	Emissions generated by aircraft and airport operations within restricted airside areas.
ALSAA	Aer Lingus Social and Athletic Association
ANCA	Aircraft Noise Competent Authority
ANPR	Automatic Number Plate Recognition
APIS	Air Pollution Information System
APU	Auxiliary Power Unit
AQG	Air Quality Guidelines
Aquifer	Geological formation capable of storing and transmitting groundwater.
ATC	Automatic Traffic Count
ATM	Air Traffic Movement
AWB	Artificial Water Body
BCT	Bat Conservation Trust
BoCCI	Birds of Conservation Concern in Ireland
BusConnects	National programme delivering improved bus services, infrastrcture and network redesign.
CAFE	Clean Air for Europe
CAP	Climate Action Plan

CAZ	Clean Air Zone
CBP	Customs and Border Protection
CCRA	Climate Change Risk Assessment
CHP	Combined Heat and Power
CIEEM	Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
CIWEM	Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management
CJEU	Court of Justice of the European Union
COMAH	Control of Major Accident Hazards
Contaminated Land	Land containing substances at concentrations that may present unacceptable risks to human health or the environment.
CORSIA	Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation
CRTN	Calculation of Road Traffic Noise
Cumulative Effect	An environmental effect arising from interaction of the project with other existing or permitted developments.
daa	Dublin Airport Authority
DAL	Dublin Aerospace Limited
Decarbonisation	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions associated with an activity or sector.
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DESNZ	Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
DHLGH	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
DIATA	Dublin International Aviation Training Academy
DoS	Degree of Saturation
EASA	European Union Aviation Safety Agency
EcIA	Ecological Impact Assessment
EHS	Environment, Health and Safety
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIA Directive	Environmental Impact Assessment Directive: European legislation requiring the assessment of likely significant environmental effects of certain public and private projects.
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report

EPS	European Protected Species
END	Environmental Noise Directive
ERP	Emergency Response Plan
ESB	Electricity Supply Board
ESG	Environmental, Social and Governance
EU	European Union
EU ETS	European Union Emissions Trading System
EUPHA	European Public Health Association
FEGP	Fixed Electrical Ground Power
FCC	Fingal County Council
FRA	Flood Risk Assessment
GDA	Greater Dublin Area
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GII	Ground Investigations Ireland
Ground Investigation	Programme of intrusive and non-intrusive works undertaken to characterise subsurface conditions.
Ground Operations	Aircraft servicing and support activities undertaken wile aircraft are on the ground.
GSE	Ground Support Equipment
GSI	Geological Survey Ireland
GTC	Ground Transportation Centre
GWB	Groundwater Body
Hazard	Potential source of harm capable of causing a major accident or disaster.
HIA	Health Impact Assessment
Hydrogeology	Study of groundwater occurrence, movement and quality in geological materials.
IA	Infrastructure Application
IAA	Irish Aviation Authority
IAC	International Aerospace Coatings
IAIA	International Association for Impact Assessment

IAQM	Institute of Air Quality Management
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICCI	In-Combination Climate Change Impact Assessment
IPH	Institute of Public Health
ISEP/ previously known as IEMA	Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals/ Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment
IGI	Institute of Geologists of Ireland
In-Combination Effect	An effect occurring where different environmental effects from the same project act together on a receptor.
Infrastructure Capacity	Ability of utility infrastructure to accommodate demand while maintaining operational performance.
Interaction Effect	An effect occurring where changes in one environmental topic influence another environmental topic.
IPC	Integrated Pollution Control
ISO	International Organization for Standardisation
ITH	Integrated Transport Hub
JTC	Junction Turning Count
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LAP	Local Area Plan
LAQM	Local Air Quality Management
LCA	Landscape Character Assessment
LEZ	Low Emission Zone
LinSig	Linear Signal Junction Modelling Software: Industry-standard software used to assess signal-controlled junction capacity and performance.
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
MAD	Major Accident and Disaster
MetroLink	Proposed high-capacity metro railway linking Dublin Airport, Swords and Dublin city centre.
MMP	Mobility Management Plan
MMQ	Mean Maximum Queue
mppa	Million Passengers Per Annum: Measure used to express annual airport passenger throughput or capacity.

MRO	Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul
MW	Megawatt
National Emissions Trajectory	Forecast pathway of greenhouse gas emissions over time.
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NIAH	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
NIS	Natura Impact Statement
NLS	National Landscape Strategy
NMS	National Monuments Service: Government body responsible for identification and protection of archaeological heritage.
North Runway Relevant Action (NRRA)	Regulatory approval governing North Runway night-time operations and noise management arrangements.
NPF	National Planning Framework
NQS	Noise Quota Scheme: A noise management system that controls aircraft noise through the allocation of annual noise quota points.
NRRA	North Runway Relevant Action
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project: Major infrastructure project requiring specific consenting procedures in the UK.
NTA	National Transport Authority
NTS	Non-Technical Summary
OCTB	Old Central Terminal Building
OUE	European Odour Unit: Unit used to express odour concentration.
PAG	Project Appraisal Guidelines
PFAS	Group of persistent synthetic chemicals historically used in firefighting foams and industrial products.
PRC	Practical Reserve Capacity
Proposed Order	The proposed Ministerial Order to amend the airport passenger capacity limit from 32 mppa to 40 mppa.
PV	Photovoltaic
QC	Quota Count: Unit used within aircraft noise quota systems to measure the relative noise impact of aircraft movements.
Ramsar Site	Wetland of International Importance, Site designated under the Ramsar Convention.

Recycling	Recovery operation by which waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials or substances.
REM	Road Emissions Model
Residual Risk	Risk remaining after mitigation and management controls have been applied.
Residual Effect	Environmental effect remaining after application of mitigation measures.
RPS	Record of Protected Structures
SASG	Surface Access Stakeholder Group
SEAI	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
SES	Single European Sky
SESAR	Single European Sky Air Traffic Management Research
SID	Strategic Infrastructure Development: Planning application process for nationally significant infrastructure projects in Ireland.
SMS	Safety Management System
SoundPLAN	Environmental noise modelling software used to predict road traffic noise
STAR	Standard Arrival Route: Published air traffic arrival route used by aircraft approaching an airport.
Surface Access	Movement of passengers, staff and visitors to and from the airport via road, public transport, walking or cycling.
SVOC	Semi-Volatile Organic Compound
SWDE	Surface Water Dependent Ecosystem
tCO_2e	Tonnes of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent: Standard unit for reporting greenhouse gas emissions.
TEDL	Trade Effluent Discharge Licence
TII	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
TMU	Traffic Monitoring Unit
UE	Uisce Éireann: Ireland's national water utility.
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
V/C Ratio	Volume-to-Capacity Ratio
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound

WHO	World Health Organization
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WwTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant
ZOI	Zone of Influence
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility