

METROLINK

Integrated Transport. Integrated Life.

A15.10

**Relevant
Protective
Policies**

Contents

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1. Protective Policies and Objectives, as contained within Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 (Dublin City Council, 2016) and Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023 (Fingal County Council, 2017)

| Protective Policies and/or Associated Objectives, where applicable |
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| <i>Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 (Dublin City Council, 2016)</i> |
| <i>“Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure” Policies</i> |
| SI06: To implement the European Union Water Framework Directive through the implementation of the appropriate River Basin Management Plan and Programme of Measures. |
| SI07: To take into consideration the relevant River Basin Management Plan and Programme of Measures when considering new development proposals. |
| <i>“Green Infrastructure, Open Space & Recreation” Policies</i> |
| GI2: That any plan/project, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects that has the potential to give rise to significant effect on the integrity of any European site(s), shall be subject to an appropriate assessment in accordance with Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directives. |
| GI4: To co-ordinate open space, biodiversity and flood management requirements, in progressing a green infrastructure network. |
| GI7: To continue to protect and enhance landscape, including existing green spaces through sustainable planning and design for both existing community and for future generations in accordance with the principles of the European Landscape Convention. |
| GI9: To incorporate open space into the green infrastructure network for the city, providing a multi-functional role including urban drainage, flood management, biodiversity, outdoor recreation and carbon absorption. |
| GI10: To continue to manage and protect and/ or enhance public open spaces to meet the social, recreational, conservation and ecological needs of the city and to consider the development of appropriate complementary facilities which do not detract from the amenities of spaces. |
| GI11: To seek the provision of additional spaces in areas deficient in public open spaces – by way of pocket parks or the development of institutional lands |
| GI16: To protect and improve the unique natural character and ecological value of all rivers within and forming boundaries to the administrative area of Dublin City Council, in accordance with the Eastern River Basin District management plan. |
| GI20: To seek continued improvement in water quality, bathing facilities and other recreational opportunities in the coastal, estuarine and surface waters in the city, having regard to the sensitivities of Dublin Bay and to protect the ecology and wildlife of Dublin Bay |
| GI23: To protect flora, fauna and habitats, which have been identified by Articles 10 and 12 of Habitats Directive, Birds Directive, Wildlife Acts 1976–2012, the Flora (Protection) Order 2015 S.I No. 356 of 2015, European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 to 2015. |
| GI24: To conserve and manage all Natural Heritage Areas, Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas designated, or proposed to be designated, by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. |
| GI25: To make provisions for habitat creation/ maintenance and facilitate biodiversity by encouraging the development of linear parks, nature trails, wildlife corridors, urban meadows and urban woodlands. |
| GI26: To have regard to the conservation and enhancement of significant non-designated areas of ecological importance in accordance with development standards set out in this plan. |
| <i>“Shape and Structure of the City” Policies</i> |
| SC15: To recognise and promote green infrastructure and landscape as an integral part of the form and structure of the city, including streets and public spaces. |
| <i>“Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure” Objectives</i> |
| SI4: To promote and maintain the achievement of at least good status in all water bodies in the city. |

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| SI5: To promote the enhancement of aquatic ecosystems and, with regard to their water needs, terrestrial ecosystems and wetlands directly depending on the aquatic ecosystems. |
| SI6: To promote the protection and improvement of the aquatic environment, including through specific measures for the progressive reduction or cessation of discharges and emissions. |
| SI7: To promote the progressive reduction of pollution of groundwater and prevent its further pollution. |
| “Green Infrastructure, Open Space & Recreation” Objectives |
| GIO17: To seek the continued improvement of water quality, bathing facilities and other recreational opportunities in the coastal, estuarine and surface waters in the city and to protect the ecology and wildlife of Dublin Bay. |
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| GIO24: To develop Biosecurity Codes of Practice to deal with invasive species and ensure compliance with EU (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 and EU Regulations 2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species. |
| GIO27: To protect trees, hedgerows or groups of trees which function as wildlife corridors or ‘stepping stones’ in accordance with Article 10 of the EU Habitats Directive. |
| GIO28: To identify opportunities for new tree planting to ensure continued regeneration of tree cover across the city, taking account of the context within which a tree is to be planted and planting appropriate tree species for the location. |
| Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023 (Fingal County Council, 2017) |
| “Movement and Infrastructure” Objectives |
| Objective WQ01: Strive to achieve ‘good status’ in all waterbodies in compliance with the <i>Water Framework Directive, the Eastern River Basin District Management Plan 2009-2015</i> and the associated Programme of Measures (first cycle) and to cooperate with the development and implementation of the second cycle national <i>River Basin Management Plan 2017-2021</i> . |
| Objective WQ02: Protect and develop, in a sustainable manner, the existing groundwater sources and aquifers in the County and control development in a manner consistent with the proper management of these resources in conformity with the <i>Eastern River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015</i> and the second cycle national <i>River Basin Management Plan 2017-2021</i> and any subsequent plan and the Groundwater Protection Scheme. |
| Objective WQ04: Protect existing riverine wetland and coastal habitats and where possible create new habitats to maintain naturally functioning ecosystems whilst ensuring they do not impact negatively on the conservation objectives of any European Sites. |
| “Natural Heritage” Objectives |
| Objective NH08: Ensure that the management of the Council’s open spaces and parks is pollinator-friendly, provides more opportunities for biodiversity, and does not introduce or lead to the spread of invasive species. |
| Objective NH09: Support the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, in the maintenance and, as appropriate, the achievement of favourable conservation status for the habitats and species in Fingal to which the <i>Habitats Directive</i> applies. |
| Objective NH10: Ensure that the Council takes full account of the requirements of the <i>Habitats and Birds Directives</i> , as they apply both within and without European Sites in the performance of its functions. |
| Objective NH11: Ensure that the Council, in the performance of its functions, takes full account of the objectives and management practices proposed in any management or related plans for European Sites in and adjacent to Fingal published by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. |
| Objective NH12: Undertake field studies and map invasive species throughout the County and initiate control programs with all relevant stakeholders and landowners to control the key invasive species. |
| Objective NH13: Ensure that proposals for development do not lead to the spread or introduction of invasive species. If developments are proposed on sites where invasive species are or were previously present, the applicants will be required to submit a control and management program for the particular invasive species as part of the planning process and to comply with the provisions of the <i>European Communities Birds and Habitats Regulations 2011</i> (S.I. 477/2011). |
| Objective NH14: Protect inland fisheries within and adjacent to Fingal and take full account of Inland Fisheries Ireland Guidelines in this regard when undertaking, approving or authorising development or works which may impact on rivers, streams and watercourses and their associated habitats and species. |
| Objective NH15: Strictly protect areas designated or proposed to be designated as Natura 2000 sites (i.e. Special Areas of |

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| Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs); also known as European sites) including any areas that may be proposed for designation or designated during the period of this Plan. |
| Objective NH16: Protect the ecological integrity of proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs), Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs), Statutory Nature Reserves, Refuges for Fauna, and Habitat Directive Annex I sites. |
| Objective NH17: Ensure that development does not have a significant adverse impact on proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs), Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs), Statutory Nature Reserves, Refuges for Fauna, Habitat Directive Annex I sites and Annex II species contained therein, and on rare and threatened species including those protected by law and their habitats. |
| Objective NH18: Protect the functions of the ecological buffer zones and ensure proposals for development have no significant adverse impact on the habitats and species of interest located therein. |
| Objective NH19: Develop Ecological Masterplans for the Rogerstown, Malahide and Baldoyle Estuaries focusing on their ecological protection and that of their surrounding buffer zones. |
| Objective NH23: Protect the ecological functions and integrity of the corridors indicated on the Development Plan Green Infrastructure Maps. |
| Objective NH24: Protect rivers, streams and other watercourses and maintain them in an open state capable of providing suitable habitat for fauna and flora, including fish. |
| Objective NH25: Provide for public understanding of and public access to rivers, waterway corridors and wetlands, where feasible and appropriate, in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Waterways Ireland and other relevant stakeholders, while maintaining them free from inappropriate development and subject to Ecological Impact Assessment and screening for Appropriate Assessment as appropriate. |
| Objective NH26: Promote the use of watercourses, rivers and lakes for the pursuit of angling, through working with Inland Fisheries Ireland to improve water quality, to improve fish stocks and to provide safe access to fishing, where appropriate, taking full account of the requirements of the <i>Habitats Directive</i> and other relevant legislation. |
| Objective NH27: Protect existing woodlands, trees and hedgerows which are of amenity or biodiversity value and/or contribute to landscape character and ensure that proper provision is made for their protection and management. |
| Objective NH51: Protect High Amenity areas from inappropriate development and reinforce their character, distinctiveness and sense of place. |
| Objective NH65: Ensure that there is appropriate public access to the coast including the provision of coastal walkways and cycleways, while taking full account of the need to conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the coast and the need to avoid significant adverse impacts on European Sites and species protected by law, through Screening for Appropriate Assessment, and examine the designation of traditional walking routes thereto as public rights of way. |
| “Green Infrastructure” Objectives |
| Objective GI01: Support the implementation of the Fingal Heritage Plan in relation to the provision of Green Infrastructure. |
| Objective GI02: Create an integrated and coherent green infrastructure for the County by requiring the retention of substantial networks of green space in urban, urban fringe and adjacent countryside areas to serve the needs of communities now and in the future including the need to adapt to climate change. |
| Objective GI03: Develop the green infrastructure network to ensure the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity, including the protection of European Sites, the provision of accessible parks, open spaces and recreational facilities (including allotments and community gardens), the sustainable management of water, the maintenance of landscape character including historic landscape character and the protection and enhancement of the architectural and archaeological heritage. |
| Objective GI04: Seek a net gain in green infrastructure through the protection and enhancement of existing assets, through the provision of new green infrastructure as an integral part of the planning process, and by taking forward priority projects including those indicated on the Development Plan green infrastructure maps during the lifetime of the Development Plan. |
| Objective GI06: Resist development that would fragment or prejudice the County’s strategic green infrastructure network. |
| Objective GI07: Ensure green infrastructure protection and provision promotes pedestrian access, cycling, and public transport in preference to the car, as appropriate. |
| Objective GI10: Develop and implement a Green Infrastructure Strategy for Fingal in partnership with key stakeholders and the public, taking an ecosystem services approach to strategy development and public consultation. |
| Objective GI15: Ensure the protection of European Sites is central to Fingal County Council’s Green Infrastructure Strategy. |
| Objective GI18: Require all Local Area Plans to protect, enhance, provide and manage green infrastructure in an integrated |

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| and coherent manner addressing the five GI themes set out in the Development Plan – Biodiversity, Parks, Open Space and Recreation, Sustainable Water Management, Archaeological and Architectural Heritage, and Landscape. |
| Objective GI20: Require all new development to contribute to the protection and enhancement of existing green infrastructure and the delivery of new green infrastructure, as appropriate. |
| Objective GI21: Require all new development to address the protection and provision of green infrastructure for the five GI themes set out in the Development Plan (Biodiversity, Parks, Open Space and Recreation, Sustainable Water Management, Archaeological and Architectural Heritage, and Landscape) in a coherent and integrated manner. |
| Objective GI22: Require all proposals for large scale development such as road or drainage schemes, wind farms, housing estates, industrial parks or shopping centres to submit a Green Infrastructure Plan as an integral part of a planning application. |
| Objective GI24: Ensure biodiversity conservation and/or enhancement measures, as appropriate, are included in all proposals for large scale development such as road or drainage schemes, wind farms, housing estates, industrial parks or shopping centres. |
| Objective GI25: Integrate provision for biodiversity with public open space provision and sustainable water management measures (including SuDS) where possible and appropriate. |
| Objective GI26: Maximise the use and potential of existing parks, open space and recreational provision, both passive and active, by integrating existing facilities with proposals for new development and by seeking to upgrade existing facilities where appropriate. |
| Objective GI27: Provide a range of accessible new parks, open spaces and recreational facilities accommodating a wide variety of uses (both passive and active), use intensities and interests. |