



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí  
Cork City Council

# **Appropriate Assessment Screening Report**

## **Emmett Place Enhancement Project**

Oct 2024

## APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

Section 177 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)  
Article 6(3) and 6(4) EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)

Due to the specific context of Cork City relative to the location of the European sites identified below a combined appropriate assessment screening report is used to assess potential impacts on both sites.

### 1. EUROPEAN SITE DATA

<b>Great Island Channel candidate Special Area Of Conservation (site code 001058)</b>	
Conservation objective	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected.
Qualifying interests	Annex I listed habitats: mudflats, sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide, estuaries, spartina swards, Atlantic salt meadows.
References and further information	<i>Conservation Objectives for Great Island Channel SAC [001058]</i> (NPWS), <i>Natura 2000 Standard Data Form</i> (NPWS), <i>Site Synopsis Great Island Channel Site Code 001058</i> (NPWS) (see <a href="http://www.npws.ie">www.npws.ie</a> for further details)

<b>Cork Harbour Special Protection Area (site code 004030)</b>	
Conservation objective	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as special conservation interests for this SPA.
Qualifying interests	Annex I-listed bird species: bar-tailed godwit, common tern (breeding), golden plover, ruff, whooper swan. Other birds of special conservation interest include black-headed gull, black-tailed godwit, common gull, curlew, dunlin, great crested grebe, grey heron, grey plover, lapwing, lesser black-backed gull, little grebe, oystercatcher, pintail, red-breasted merganser, redshank, shelduck, shoveler, teal, and widgeon. This site is an internationally important wetland site supporting > 20,000 wintering waterfowl.
References and further information	<i>Conservation Objectives for Cork Harbour SPA [004030]</i> (NPWS), <i>Natura 2000 Standard Data Form</i> (NPWS), <i>Site Synopsis Cork Harbour SPA Site Code 004030</i> (NPWS) (see <a href="http://www.npws.ie">www.npws.ie</a> for further details)

### 2. DETAILS OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

<b>Reference no.</b>	<b>Emmett Place Enhancement Project</b>
Development consent type	Local authority own development (Part 8 Planning & Development Regulations)
Development location	Emmett Place, Lavitt's Quay, Cork City
Distance from cSAC	9.3km
Distance from SPA	3.2km
Description of development	Enhancement of existing public realm, reallocation of roadspace to public realm, road realignment and provision of designated event space
Relevant strategies or policies	National Planning Framework 2040, Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy 2040, City Development Plan , City Centre Revitalisation Action Plan, City Centre Movement Strategy and Cork City Climate Action Plan.
EIS submitted?	no
Screening report/NIS submitted?	no

### 3. ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY DIRECT, INDIRECT AND CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

1. Is the proposed development directly connected to or necessary for the conservation management of the SPA and/or cSAC? <i>(If yes, no further assessment required. If no, screening required.)</i>	<b>No</b>
2. Is the proposed development located within or partly within the SPA?	<b>No</b>
3. Is the proposed development located within 100m of the SPA?	<b>No</b>
4. Does the proposed project involve the development, extension or upgrade of a cycleway or walkway within 200m of the SPA?	<b>No</b>
5. Does the proposed development involve development in the intertidal or coastal zone within the potential impact zone of the SPA?	<b>No</b>
6. Could the proposed project increase the level of recreational or other use of marine or intertidal areas within the potential impact zone of the SPA?	<b>No</b>
7. Does the proposed development involve the excavation of previously undeveloped land within an area that has been identified to be at risk of flooding within the potential impact zone of the SPA?	<b>No</b>
8. Does the proposed development involve the removal of significant amounts of topsoil within 100m of the SPA?	<b>No</b>
9. Does the existing wastewater treatment system have the capacity to treat any additional loading?	<b>n/a</b>
10. Would the proposed development result in direct surface water or other discharge to water bodies in or feeding into the SPA or cSAC?	<b>No</b>
11. Would the proposed development involve dredging or could it result in the mobilisation of marine sediments in the Harbour area?	<b>No</b>
12. Could the proposed development give rise to increased risk of oil or chemical spillage or leaks within the marine environment or watercourse within the potential impact zone for the SPA or cSAC?	<b>No</b>
13. Are there relevant plans or projects which, in combination with the proposed development, are likely to give rise to any cumulative effects?	<b>No</b>
<p><b>Comments or notes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No works will take place within any Natura 2000 site. No material or spoil from the works will be deposited in any Natura 2000 site. There will be no encroachment on the habitats or species of any Natura 2000 site.</li> <li>• There will be no loss of Natura 2000 site habitat area, no fragmentation of the habitats of Natura 2000 sites, no disturbance to the qualifying species of the Natura 2000 sites, no impacts on population density of these species, no impacts on water resources and no impacts on water quality of the Natura 2000 sites.</li> <li>• There will be no significant emissions to air or soil during construction or operation. There will also be no significant noise emissions during the construction or operational phase.</li> <li>• In addition to the proposed development, other relevant proposed or permitted projects in the surrounding areas of Cork City have been considered. Due to the nature and short-term duration of the works and the location of the proposed development in relation to any Natura 2000 Sites, there is unlikely to be any significant impacts as a result of cumulative or in-combination effects with the proposed development.</li> </ul>	



#### 4. SCREENING CONCLUSION STATEMENT

*In view of the above it is considered that (tick one box only):*

- Appropriate Assessment is not required**  
The proposed development is directly connected / necessary to the conservation management of a site.
- Appropriate Assessment is not required** It can be excluded through screening that the proposed development will have No significant effects on the sites.
- Further information is required**  
Potential impacts have been identified through initial screening and/or there is insufficient information to enable the planning authority to screen out impacts, but on balance it is determined that the issues could be resolved through minor modifications to the proposed development or by appropriate conditions. The information required is specified below.
- Appropriate Assessment is required**  
Significant issues have been identified and/or significant effects are certain, likely or uncertain, and the submission of a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) is required, or the proposed development must be rejected.

#### Further information required / Comments or Notes

- There is no potential for the proposed development to significantly impact on Natura 2000 Sites.
- The proposed development is not directly connected with, or necessary to the conservation management of any Natura 2000 sites.
- The proposed development, alone or in combination with other projects, is not likely to have significant effects on Natura 2000 sites in view of their conservation objectives.
- There is no potential for the proposed development to significantly impact on Natura 2000 Sites.
- The proposed development is not directly connected with, or necessary to the conservation management of any Natura 2000 sites.
- The proposed development, alone or in combination with other projects, is not likely to have significant effects on Natura 2000 sites in view of their conservation objectives.

	Name	Position	Signature	Date
Prepared by	John Gibson	Executive Engineer		15/10/2024
Approved by	G. O'Beirne	Director of Services		16/10/24