

SCREENING
FOR
STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
REPORT

FOR
PROPOSED VARIATION No. 2
TO THE
CORK CITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022-2028
(AS VARIED)

for: **Cork City Council**



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí
Cork City Council

by: **CAAS Ltd.**



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Section 1 Introduction and Background

1.1 Introduction and Legislative Requirements

This is the Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied).

SEA is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme, or variation to a plan or programme, before a decision is made to adopt it. The SEA Directive requires, inter alia, that SEA is undertaken for certain plans and programmes. Screening is the process for determining whether a particular plan - or variation to a plan -, other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant SEA.

Under Article 7 (13K) of the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004) as amended by the Planning and Development (SEA) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 201 of 2011), Cork City Council is required to determine whether any Proposed Variation needs to be subject to SEA.

The purpose of this report is to inform whether or not to undertake SEA on Proposed Variation No. 2. This report should be read in conjunction with the documents cited within, including the Proposed Variation and the Screening for AA Report.

1.2 Proposed Variation No. 2

The Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Cork City Council. The Plan has already been varied in 2023 with Variation No. 1¹.

Cork City Council has prepared Proposed Variation No. 2 (Cork Docklands) to the Development Plan under Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). The Proposed Variation is intended to be in force for the remaining lifespan of the existing City Development Plan 2022-2028. It comprises:

- A) Updates to section 10.2 "City Docks" of Chapter 10 "Key Growth Areas and Neighbourhood Development Sites" of the existing Plan. A number of consequential text changes as a result of the changes to Chapter 10 arise within other chapters of the existing Plan.
- B) Updates to maps relating to land use zoning, infrastructure and drainage.
- C) Introduction of a new Volume 4, which includes an overview of Framework Plan² design strategies and supplementary guidance to help to ensure that the area is developed in a coherent manner and in a way that reinforces the site's identity, urban design, placemaking and architectural qualities.

The Proposed Variation is being prepared on foot of detailed analysis and design work progressed for the City Docks to reconcile strategic design issues and provide an updated urban design framework. This work will inform the design and implementation of public infrastructure projects and private development within Cork Docklands.

¹ Variation No. 1 (Revised Parking Standards on a City-wide Basis) of the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 relates to the following:

- Amend the Written Statement of Volume 1: Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 by Updating Table 4.6 (Parking Zones);
- Revising Table 11.13 (Maximum Car Parking Standards) relating to a number of destination land -use categories;
- Consequential text changes in Volume 1, Chapter 4 Transport and Mobility and Chapter 11 Placemaking and Managing Development;
- A new map in Volume 2: Mapped Objectives to define the car parking zones spatially (Chapter E: Car Parking Zones).

² Objective 10.17(a) of the existing Plan identifies the need to undertake a Framework Masterplan for the Docklands

The Cork Docklands, a strategic 147 ha regeneration site, to which the Proposed Variation relates is already zoned for development within the current City Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) and contains land to accommodate up to 10,000 residential units and 25,000 jobs, along with the provision of associated community, recreation and educational uses, all underpinned by exemplary urban design principles. The regeneration of this site has the potential to be an exemplar in compact and sustainable urban living, supporting neighbourhood and catalyst uses to create an attractive, inclusive and safe neighbourhood.

At a local level, the existing Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 sets out 9 Strategic Objectives to guide the future growth of the City, based on the 15 Minute City principles. The Proposed Variation will continue the ambition of the Cork City Development Plan to create a compact, high density and sustainable new neighbourhood designed to contribute to delivering a 15 Minute City. The regeneration of City Docks also supports the delivery of new Green and Blue Infrastructure, including an extensive new parkland at Marina Park already delivering a new green lung for the City in advance of planned residential development. This will be accompanied by a network of new connected public spaces north and south of the River Lee.

The Proposed Variation will provide further support for national and regional ambition for sustainable growth within City Docks that is already contributed towards by the existing planning framework. The Proposed Variation is being informed by the wider forward planning framework, guidance, strategies and policies at national and regional level, analysis of the anticipated needs, stakeholder engagement and comparative case study analysis undertaken by a multi-disciplinary design team. The growth of Cork City is an intrinsic part of national and regional planning policy to create more balanced regional development. At a metropolitan scale, the regeneration of City Docks represents a focus on large scale regeneration within the existing built-up area, and a more compact urban form, facilitated through well designed, higher density development and Transit-Orientated Development, as envisaged by the National Planning Framework and Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region. The revised National Development Plan 2021-2030 references Cork Docklands as a landmark urban regeneration and development project which promotes coordinated investment in the renewal and redevelopment of Cork City. The proposed Variation supports the delivery of policy and guidance set out in the "DHLGH: Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2024)" and will not conflict with any Specific Planning Policy Requirements (SPPRs) set out at National level. All projects within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan relating to environmental protection and management.

For further detail, the Proposed Variation documentation should be referred to.

1.3 Consultations

As part of the screening process, environmental authorities³ were notified that a written submission or observation in relation to whether or not implementation of Proposed Variation No. 2 would be likely to have significant effects on the environment may be made to the Council. One written submission was received from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the detailed information and recommendations from this submission are presented and responded to on Table 1.1.

Table 1.1 Issues Raised in EPA Submission and Responses

Ref.	Submission Text/Summary of Issues Raised	SEA Response
1A	We acknowledge your notice, dated 8th April 2025 in relation to the Proposed Variation No 2 to Cork City Development Plan 2022- 2028 and associated Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening. The EPA is one of the statutory environmental authorities under the SEA Regulations. In our role as an SEA environmental authority, we focus on promoting the full and transparent integration of the findings of the	Noted. The SEA Screening process has and will continue to take the guidance document 'SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans – EPA Recommendations and Resources' into

³ The following environmental authorities were notified: Environmental Protection Agency; Department of Environment, Climate and Communications; Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine; Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage; and Cork County Council.

Ref.	Submission Text/Summary of Issues Raised	SEA Response
	<p>Environmental Assessment into plans and programmes¹ and advocating that the key environmental challenges for Ireland are addressed as relevant and appropriate to the plan or programme. Our functions as an SEA environmental authority do not include approving or enforcing SEAs or plans or programmes⁴. As a priority, we focus our efforts on reviewing and commenting on key sector plans. For land use plans at county and local level, we provide a 'self-service approach' via our guidance document 'SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans – EPA Recommendations and Resources'. This document is updated regularly and sets out our key recommendations for integrating environmental considerations into Local Authority land use plans. In finalising your SEA screening determination, we suggest that you take this guidance document into account and incorporate the relevant recommendations as relevant and appropriate to the plan or programme.</p>	<p>account.</p>
<p>1B</p>	<p>SEA Determination If a proposed SEA determination hasn't been made regarding the plan or programme, you should determine whether implementing the plan or programme would be likely to have significant effects on the environment. The SEA Regulations, Schedule 2A (S.I. No. 436 of 2004, as amended) or Schedule 1 (S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended), as appropriate, set out the 'Criteria for determining whether a Plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment' to use to determine whether the plan or programme would be likely to have significant effects on the environment. Guidance on the SEA process, including an SEA pack and checklist, is available on our website at: https://www.epa.ie/our-services/monitoring--assessment/assessment/strategic-environmental-assessment/sea-resources-and-guidance/ We recommend that you take the available guidance into account in making your SEA Screening Determination and incorporate the relevant recommendations as relevant and appropriate to the plan or programme.</p>	<p>Noted. Following completion of this report, Cork City Council will make a determination as to whether implementing the Proposed Variation would be likely to have significant effects on the environment. Following the making of the determination, a copy of the decision, including, the reasons for not requiring an environmental assessment, will be made available for public inspection in the Council's offices and on the Council's website. A copy of the determination will also be sent to the environmental authorities consulted.</p> <p>The criteria set out under Annex II of the SEA Directive [Schedule 2A of the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004) as amended] have been and will be taken into account throughout the SEA Screening process.</p>
<p>1C</p>	<p>EPA SEA Screening Guidance Our Good Practice Guidance for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening (EPA, 2021) provides specific stand-alone guidance to assist plan or programme makers and SEA practitioners. It focuses primarily on plans/programmes in the non-land use sector in Ireland and includes an elaboration of the steps needed for screening, the legislative landscape underpinning SEA screening, and step-by-step process and templates to assist in preparing the required documentation. Strategic Environmental Assessment: Guidelines for Planning Authorities The Strategic Environmental Assessment: Guidelines for Regional Assemblies and Planning Authorities (DHLGH, 2022) provides advice on carrying out SEA in the land-use planning sector for those plans listed in S.I. No.436 of 2004, as amended. These plans comprise regional, county and local plans, including Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies, County or City Development Plans, variations of Development Plans, Local Area Plans and Planning Schemes for Strategic Development Zones. The Guidelines replace previous guidance for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities published in 2004.</p>	<p>The Ministerial SEA Guidelines and the EPA's Guidance on SEA Screening have been and will be taken into account throughout the SEA Screening process.</p>
<p>1D</p>	<p>Sustainable Development In proposing and in implementing the plan or programme, you should ensure that the plan or programme is consistent with the need for proper planning and sustainable development. Adequate and appropriate critical service infrastructure should be in place, or required to be put in place, to service any development proposed and authorised during the lifetime of the plan or programme. In considering the plan or programme, you should take into account the need to align with national commitments on climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as incorporating any relevant recommendations in sectoral, regional and local climate adaptation plans. You should also ensure that the plan or programme aligns with any key relevant higher-level plans and programmes and is consistent with the relevant objectives and policy commitments of the National Planning Framework and the relevant Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy. The Plan should also align with the OPW's 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (OPW, 2009), as relevant and appropriate, in the zoning and development of lands.</p>	<p>Cork City Council will ensure that the Plan as varied and its implementation is consistent with the need for proper planning and sustainable development. Adequate and appropriate critical service infrastructure will be in place, or required to be put in place, to service any development proposed and authorised during the lifetime of the Plan as varied.</p> <p>In considering the Proposed Variation, Cork City Council has taken into account the need to align with national, sectoral, regional and local commitments on climate change mitigation and adaptation.</p> <p>Cork City Council will ensure that implementation of the Plan as varied aligns with and is consistent with higher-level plans and programmes, including the National Planning Framework and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.</p> <p>The Plan as varied will be consistent with the Flood Risk Management Guidelines – refer to Section 2.3.</p>

⁴ 'Plan or programme' is defined in the SEA Directive as including modifications to plans or programmes, which in the Irish context, includes material amendments/alterations, variations etc.

Ref.	Submission Text/Summary of Issues Raised	SEA Response
1D	<p>Ireland’s State of the Environment Report 2024 Ireland’s State of the Environment Report 2024 In October 2024, the EPA published the latest iteration of our 4-yearly State of the Environment Report. This report should be considered, and relevant aspects integrated as appropriate, in implementing the Plan outputs/recommendations. It is available at: https://www.epa.ie/our-services/monitoring--assessment/assessment/state-of-environment-report/</p>	<p>The Proposed Variation preparation and associated SEA Screening process has and will continue to take the recently published EPA State of the Environment Report (2024).</p>
1E	<p>Available Guidance & Resources Our website contains various SEA resources and guidance, including: - SEA process guidance and checklists; - Inventory of spatial datasets relevant to SEA; - Topic and sector specific SEA guidance (including SEA and Integration Guidance (EPA, 2025), Good practice note on Cumulative Effects Assessment (EPA, 2020), Developing and Assessing Alternatives in SEA (EPA, 2015), and Integrated Biodiversity Impact Assessment (EPA, 2012)). You can access these guidance notes and other resources at: https://www.epa.ie/our-services/monitoring--assessment/assessment/strategic-environmental-assessment/sea-topic-and-sector-specific-guidance/</p> <p>EPA SEA WebGIS Tool Our SEA WebGIS Tool has been updated recently and is now available at https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/SEA. It allows an indicative report on key aspects of the environment in a specific geographic area to be produced. It is intended to assist public authorities in SEA screening and scoping exercises.</p> <p>Catchments.ie Our https://www.catchments.ie/maps/ website provides a single point of access to water quality and catchment data from the National WFD monitoring programme.</p> <p>EPA AA GeoTool Our AA GeoTool application has been developed in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service. It allows users to a select a location, specify a search area and gather available information for each European Site within the area. It is available at: https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/AAGeoTool .</p>	<p>Noted. These tools, applications, guidance and resources have and will be taken into account through the SEA Screening process.</p>
1F	<p>Future amendments to the plan or programme Where changes to the plan or programme are made prior to finalisation, or where modifications to the plan or programme are proposed following its adoption, these should be screened for potential for likely significant effects in accordance with the criteria set out in Schedule 2A (S.I. No. 436 of 2004, as amended) or Schedule 1 (S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended) of the SEA Regulations, as appropriate.</p>	<p>Where changes to the Proposed Variation are made prior to finalisation these will be screened for potential for likely significant effects in accordance with the criteria set out in Annex II of the SEA Directive [Schedule 2A of the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004) as amended].</p>
1G	<p>Appropriate Assessment You should ensure that the plan or programme complies with the requirements of the Habitats Directive where relevant. Where an Appropriate Assessment is required, the key findings and recommendations should be incorporated into the SEA and the plan or programme.</p>	<p>The findings of the Screening for AA process have been taken into account by the SEA and Proposed Variation preparation process – refer to Section 2.2.</p>
1H	<p>Environmental Authorities Under the SEA Regulations, prior to making your SEA determination you should consult with: • Environmental Protection Agency; • Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, • Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications; and, • Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine. For land use plans covered under S.I. No. 436 of 2004, as amended, you should also consult with: • any adjoining planning authority whose area is contiguous to the area of a planning authority which prepared a draft plan, proposed variation or local area plan.</p>	<p>The relevant environmental authorities have been consulted through the SEA Screening process.</p>
1I	<p>SEA Determination As soon as practicable after making your determination as to whether SEA is required or not, you should make a copy of your decision, including, if appropriate, the reasons for not requiring an environmental assessment, available for public inspection in your offices and on your website. You should also send a copy of your determination to the relevant environmental authorities consulted.</p>	<p>Noted. Following completion of this report, Cork City Council will make a determination as to whether implementing the Proposed Variation would be likely to have significant effects on the environment. Following the making of the determination, a copy of the decision, including, the reasons for not requiring an environmental assessment, will be made available for public inspection in the Council’s offices and on the Council’s website. A copy of the determination will also be sent to the environmental authorities consulted.</p>
1J	<p>If you have any queries or need further information in relation to this submission, please contact me directly. I would be grateful if you could send an email confirming receipt of this submission to: sea@epa.ie.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

Section 2 SEA Screening

2.1 Introduction

The section examines whether Proposed Variation No. 2 would be likely to have significant environmental effects (and thus would warrant the undertaking of SEA). This examination takes account of relevant criteria set out in Schedule 2A '*Criteria for determining whether a plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment*' of the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations, as amended (see Section 2.5).

2.2 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Appropriate Assessment (AA) is an impact assessment process concerning *Natura 2000*, or *European*, sites - these sites have been designated or proposed for designation by virtue of their ecological importance. The Habitats Directive⁵ and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) provide the requirement to screen for likely significant effects on European Sites. If the effects are deemed to be *significant, potentially significant or uncertain* then Stage 2 AA must be undertaken.

The Proposed Variation is being subject to a screening for AA process in order to establish whether or not AA must be undertaken. The accompanying Screening for AA Report concludes that the Proposed Variation No. 2 is not foreseen to have any likelihood for any significant effects on any European site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects⁶; consequently Stage 2 AA is demonstrated as not being required.

2.3 Requirement for Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

The Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 has been subject to Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA), ensuring the integration of flood risk management considerations as required by the Flood Risk Management Ministerial Guidelines, into the Plan. The appended Addendum to the Plan's SFRA demonstrates that the Plan, as varied, will continue to be consistent with the Flood Risk Management Ministerial Guidelines.

2.4 SEA Screening Analysis

The analysis of the Proposed Variation is undertaken with reference to the main interactions with Strategic Environmental Objectives⁷ (SEOs). SEOs are aligned with those used by the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 SEA and are detailed in full at Table 2.1. The range of interactions identified with symbols are detailed on Table 2.2.

Using the SEO codes (Table 2.1) and interaction symbols (Table 2.2), Table 2.3 examines whether each relevant part of the Proposed Variation would be likely to have significant environmental effects (and thus would warrant the undertaking of SEA).

⁵ Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora

⁶ Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.

⁷ Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) are methodological measures developed from policies which generally govern environmental protection objectives established at international, Community or Member State level and are used as standards against which the provisions of the Proposed Variation can be considered in order to help identify whether any provisions would be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

Table 2.3 is supplemented by Table 2.4 which provides details on, with respect to Proposed Variation No. 2 in combination with the wider planning framework (including the existing Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028, as varied):

- Significant positive effects, likely to occur;
- Potentially significant adverse effects, if unmitigated;
- Likely residual non-significant adverse effects; and
- A selection of mitigation measure(s) from the existing Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied).

Effects encompass the full range of effects⁸, including those arising cumulatively – such as those potentially arising as a result of interactions with other plans and programmes.

The examination of the Plan also takes into account relevant criteria set out under Annex II of the SEA Directive '*Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in Article 3(5)*' (see Section 2.5).

The Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 sits within a hierarchy of strategic actions such as plans and programmes and is subject to a number of high-level environmental protection policies and objectives with which it must comply (including those detailed in Appendix II). The Development Plan, as varied, will be implemented within areas that have existing plans and programmes for a range of sectors at a range of levels (e.g. National, River Basin District, Regional, City and Local) that are already subject to more specific higher and lower tier SEA and AA. The City Development Plan, as varied, will be consistent with such plans, programmes and legislation and may, in turn, guide lower-level strategic actions. In this regard, Appendix II includes statutory provisions, plans, policies and strategies that set the context within which the City Development Plan, as varied, and associated Proposed Variation No. 2 are framed.

⁸ These include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects

Table 2.1 Strategic Environmental Objectives

Environmental Component	SEO Code	Guiding Principle	Strategic Environmental Objectives
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	BFF	No net contribution to biodiversity losses or deterioration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To preserve, protect, maintain and, where appropriate, enhance the terrestrial, aquatic and soil biodiversity, particularly EU designated sites and protected species Ensure no adverse effects on the integrity of any European site, with regard to its qualifying interests, associated conservation status, structure and function Safeguard national, regional and local designated sites and supporting features which function as stepping stones for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species Enhance biodiversity in line with the National Biodiversity Action Plan and its targets To protect, maintain and conserve the City's natural capital
Population and Human Health	PHH	Improve quality of life for all ages and abilities based on high-quality, serviced, well connected and sustainable residential, working, educational and recreational environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote economic growth to encourage retention of working age population and funding of sustainable development and environmental protection and management Ensure that existing population and planned growth is matched with the required public infrastructure and the required services Safeguard the City's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and well-being
Soil (and Land)	S	Ensure the long-term sustainable management of land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect soils against pollution, and prevent degradation of the soil resource Promote the sustainable use of infill and brownfield sites over the use of greenfield sites Safeguard areas of prime agricultural land and designated geological sites
Water	W	Protection, improvement and sustainable management of the water resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the status of water bodies is protected, maintained and improved in line with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive Ensure water resources are sustainably managed to deliver proposed regional and City growth targets in the context of existing and projected water supply and wastewater capacity constraints ensuring the protection of receiving environments Avoid inappropriate zoning and development in areas at risk of flooding and areas that are vulnerable to current and future erosion Integrate sustainable water management solutions (such as SuDS, porous surfacing and green roofs) into development proposals
Material Assets	MA	Sustainable and efficient use of natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optimise existing infrastructure and provide new infrastructure to match population distribution proposals - this includes transport infrastructure Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all which encourages a broad energy generation mix to ensure security of supply – wind, solar, hydro, biomass, energy from waste and traditional fossil fuels Promote the circular economy, reduce waste, and increase energy efficiencies Ensure there is adequate sewerage and drainage infrastructure in place to support new development Reduce the energy demand from the transport sector and support moves to electrification of road and rail transport modes Encourage the transition to a zero-carbon economy by facilitating the development of a grid infrastructure to support renewables and international connectivity. Reduce the average energy consumption per capita including promoting energy efficient buildings, retrofitting, smart-buildings, towns and grids
Air	A	Support clean air policies that reduce the impact of air pollution on the environment and public health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole resulting from emissions to air from all sectors with particular reference to emissions from transport, residential heating, industry and agriculture Maintain and promote continuing improvement in air quality through the reduction of emissions and promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency Promote continuing improvement in air quality Reduction of emissions of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, ammonia and fine particulate matter which are

Environmental Component	SEO Code	Guiding Principle	Strategic Environmental Objectives
			responsible for acidification, eutrophication and ground-level ozone pollution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet Air Quality Directive standards for the protection of human health – Air Quality Directive • Significantly decrease noise pollution and move closer to WHO recommended levels
Climatic Factors	C	Achieving transition to a competitive, low carbon, climate-resilient economy that is cognisant of environmental impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To minimise emissions of greenhouse gasses • Integrate sustainable design solutions into the City’s infrastructure (e.g. energy efficient buildings; green infrastructure) • Contribute towards the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in line with national targets • Promote development resilient to the effects of climate change • Promote the use of renewable energy, energy efficient development and increased use of public transport
Cultural Heritage	CH	Safeguard cultural heritage features and their settings through responsible design and positioning of development	Protect places, features, buildings and landscapes of cultural, archaeological or architectural heritage
Landscape	L	Protect and enhance the landscape character	To implement the Plan’s framework for identification, assessment, protection, management and planning of landscapes having regard to the European Landscape Convention

Table 2.2 Main Interactions and associated Symbols

Symbol	Main Interactions Identified
+	Potential beneficial environmental effects are present already and would be further contributed towards.
-	Potentially adverse environmental effects are present already, would be further contributed towards and would be mitigated so as not to result in significant residual effects ⁹ .
+/-	Potential environmental effects comprise: those that are beneficial, present already and would be further contributed towards; and those that are potentially adverse, present already, would be further contributed towards and would be mitigated so as not to be significant ¹⁰ .
0	No significant interaction.
*	Please also refer to Section 2.2.
#	Please also refer to Section 2.3.

⁹ Including by the measures identified on Table 2.4.

¹⁰ Including by the measures identified on Table 2.4.

Table 2.3 SEA Screening Analysis of Proposed Variation No. 2

SEO Codes (see Table 2.2) for Main Interactions									Additional SEA Screening Comments
BFF	PHH	S	W	MA	A	C	CH	L	
-/+*	-/+	-/+	-/+#	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	<p>Proposed Variation No. 2 comprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Updates to section 10.2 "City Docks" of Chapter 10 "Key Growth Areas and Neighbourhood Development Sites" of the existing Plan. A number of consequential text changes as a result of the changes to Chapter 10 arise within other chapters of the existing Plan. B) Updates to maps relating to land use zoning, infrastructure and drainage. C) Introduction of a new Volume 4, which includes an overview of Framework Plan design strategies and supplementary guidance to help to ensure that the area is developed in a coherent manner and in a way that reinforces the site's identity, urban design, placemaking and architectural qualities. <p>The Proposed Variation is being prepared on foot of detailed analysis and design work progressed for the City Docks to reconcile strategic design issues and provide an updated urban design framework. This work will inform the design and implementation of public infrastructure projects and private development within Cork Docklands.</p> <p>The Cork Docklands, a strategic 147 ha regeneration site, to which the Proposed Variation relates is already zoned for development within the current City Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) and contains land to accommodate up to 10,000 residential units and 25,000 jobs, along with the provision of associated community, recreation and educational uses, all underpinned by exemplary urban design principles. The regeneration of this site has the potential to be an exemplar in compact and sustainable urban living, supporting neighbourhood and catalyst uses to create an attractive, inclusive and safe neighbourhood.</p> <p>At a local level, the existing Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 sets out 9 Strategic Objectives to guide the future growth of the City, based on the 15 Minute City principles. The Proposed Variation will continue the ambition of the Cork City Development Plan to create a compact, high density and sustainable new neighbourhood designed to contribute to delivering a 15 Minute City. The regeneration of City Docks also supports the delivery of new Green and Blue Infrastructure, including an extensive new parkland at Marina Park already delivering a new green lung for the City in advance of planned residential development. This will be accompanied by a network of new connected public spaces north and south of the River Lee.</p> <p>The Proposed Variation will provide further support for national and regional ambition for sustainable growth within City Docks that is already contributed towards by the existing planning framework. The Proposed Variation is being informed by the wider forward planning framework, guidance, strategies and policies at national and regional level, analysis of the anticipated needs, stakeholder engagement and comparative case study analysis undertaken by a multi-disciplinary design team. The growth of Cork City is an intrinsic part of national and regional planning policy to create more balanced regional development. At a metropolitan scale, the regeneration of City Docks represents a focus on large scale regeneration within the existing built-up area, and a more compact urban form, facilitated through well designed, higher density development and Transit-Orientated Development, as envisaged by the National Planning Framework and Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region. The revised National Development Plan 2021-2030 references Cork Docklands as a landmark urban regeneration and development project which promotes coordinated investment in the renewal and redevelopment of Cork City. The proposed Variation supports the delivery of policy and guidance set out in the "DHLGH: Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2024)" and will not conflict with any Specific Planning Policy Requirements (SPPRs) set out at National level. All projects within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan relating to environmental protection and management.</p> <p>The Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 has been subject to full SEA, which identified various environmental effects arising from implementation of the Plan, and facilitated the integration of measures into the Development Plan to ensure the appropriate protection and management of the environment with which all lower tier plans/projects must comply. Proposed Variation No. 2 would contribute towards the proper planning and sustainable development of the City and the consequential environmental effects that have been identified by the SEA for the existing Plan. Taking into account the measures that have already been integrated into the existing Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development, any potential effects arising from Proposed</p>

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

SEO Codes (see Table 2.2) for Main Interactions									Additional SEA Screening Comments
BFF	PHH	S	W	MA	A	C	CH	L	
									<p>Variation No. 2, would either: be present already (beneficial) and would be further contributed towards, but not to a significant extent; and/or would be mitigated so as not to be significant (adverse). Table 2.4 should be referred to in this regard.</p> <p>Furthermore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The accompanying Screening for AA Report concludes that the Proposed Variation No. 2 is not foreseen to have any likelihood for any significant effects on any European site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects¹¹; and The appended Addendum to the Plan's SFRA demonstrates that the Plan, as varied, will continue to be consistent with the Flood Risk Management Ministerial Guidelines. <p>Taking into account all of the above, Proposed Variation No. 2 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects. Consequently, it is advised that SEA is not required.</p>

¹¹ Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.
CAAS for Cork City Council

Table 2.4 Details of environmental effects with respect to Proposed Variation No. 2 in combination with the wider planning framework

Environmental Component	Environmental Effects, in combination with the wider planning framework Effects include in-combination effects that are already planned for through the wider planning framework including the existing Development Plan, to which the Proposed Variation relates, the Revised National Planning Framework, the National Development Plan, the Southern Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and associated Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan, the Cork Metropolitan Area Transportation Strategy, adjacent Development Plans and lower-tier land use plans – see Appendix I.			Selection of Mitigation Measures from the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied), including those that will continue to apply to the City Docks Where the Proposed Variation provides for: the addition of text, this is indicated in blue colour “like this”; and the deletion of text, this is indicated in strike through “like this”.
	Significant Positive Effect, likely to occur	Potentially Significant Adverse Environmental Effects, if unmitigated	Likely Residual Adverse Non-Significant Effects	
Various – see below	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various – see below 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various – see below 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various – see below 	<p>Objective 2.42 SEA Monitoring The Council shall, in conjunction with the Southern Regional Assembly and other stakeholders as relevant, implement the monitoring programme as set out in the SEA Environmental Report and Statement. This will include the preparation of stand-alone SEA Monitoring Reports:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To accompany the report required of the manager under section 15(2) of the Act, including information in relation to progress on, and the results of, monitoring the significant environmental effects of implementation of the development plan; On the significant environmental effects of implementing the Plan, in advance of the beginning of the review of the next Plan. <p>Objective 4.6 Corridor & Route Selection Process Policies and Objectives relating to new roads and other transport infrastructure projects (including greenways, walkways, cycleways and blueways) that are not already provided for by existing plans/ programmes or are not already permitted, are subject to the undertaking of feasibility assessment having regard to normal planning considerations and environmental sensitivities as identified in the SEA Environmental Report and the objectives of the Plan relating to sustainable mobility.</p> <p>Objective 7.25 Sustainable Tourism To support the sustainable growth of tourism and marketing of Cork City as a multi-faceted visitor destination and a gateway to the southern region, Wild Atlantic Way and Ireland’s Ancient East by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working in partnership with Fáilte Ireland, businesses and other stakeholders to support tourism investment, innovation and promotional and marketing strategies. Supporting the implementation of the Cork City Tourism Strategy 2017-2022, the Local Economic and Community Plan-2016-2021 (Pure Cork) and their successor strategies. To support the implementation of the Tourism Destination Plan for Cork City and East Cork. Develop existing tourist attractions and activities, while seeking investment in new attractions that help to diversify the tourism market. Support the development of cultural facilities such as the Crawford Art Gallery and the Cork Events Centre. Support initiatives that improve the sustainability of tourism, and support eco-tourism along with the reduction of the carbon footprint of tourist accommodation, attractions and activities. Support high quality proposals, initiatives and pilot projects that represent opportunities to provide new or enhanced visitor facilities and attractions. This also extends to proposals that utilise technology to improve visitors’ experiences and aid interpretation and navigation and seek to better leverage the City’s network of green and blue infrastructure as tourism attractions. Seeking to manage, where appropriate, any increase in visitor numbers to semi-natural areas in order to avoid significant effects including loss of habitat and disturbance, by ensuring that new any projects, such as greenways, are located a suitable distance from ecological sensitivities, such as riparian zones. Seeking to manage, where relevant, any increase in visitor numbers to key habitats and / or any change in visitor behaviour in order to avoid significant effects, including loss of habitat and disturbance, by ensuring that new projects and activities are located a suitable distance from ecological sensitivities. Visitor / Habitat Management Plans may be required for proposed projects where relevant and as appropriate. <p>Objective 7.38 Cork Harbour Planning Framework Cork City Council is committed to part-take as a key stakeholder and consultee in the preparation of a Cork Harbour Planning Framework Initiative, in coordination with other Local Authorities and stakeholders in the harbour area, as required under RSES Objective 79 and Cork MASP Objective 3 Cork Harbour, during the lifetime of the Plan. Cork City Council supports the preparation of an agreed framework to guide planning policy in managing the future development of the Cork Harbour Economy (CHE) as set out in RPO79 of the RSES to ensure that the sustainable development of the area not only harnesses the economic and social benefits to the City-region but also ensures that biodiversity, flora and fauna both within and outside protected sites</p>

				<p>are considered via the appropriate SEA and AA mechanisms.</p> <p>Objective 9.20 Seveso</p> <p>(a) Assessment of Development in Vicinity of Seveso III Sites: Land use proposals for development within the vicinity of sites identified under the Control of Major Accident Hazards Directive and any regulations, under any enactment, giving effect to that Directive, will be assessed having regard to technical guidance provided by the Health and Safety Authority.</p> <p>(b) Relocation of Seveso III Sites: Cork City Council will actively seek the relocation of Seveso III facilities / activities to suitable alternative sites outside the City.</p> <p>Various Development Management Provisions.</p> <p>Objective Chapter 2 Core Strategy: To co-ordinate and enable active land management with the delivery of key infrastructure and regeneration projects, Cork City Council will prepare a framework plan for the existing and emerging built environment in and around the central city area. The plan will seek to co-ordinate the delivery of compact liveable growth by facilitating the planning and design of the following land use related issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active land management of strategic underutilised sites • Inter connections between the City Centre, City Docks and Tivoli Docks. • Enable high levels of mobility connecting BusConnects Cork, the proposed LRT route and the emerging Lee to Sea Greenway • Land use planning around planned transport interchanges • Built Heritage and Conservation, including maritime heritage • GBI implementation, Natural Heritage, and Biodiversity management • Co-ordinating Placemaking objectives at a local level • River Transport and Mobility (including water-based transport and recreation) • River use management to balance demand and potentially conflicting interests. <p>Table 6.4 17. Maritime Activities and Recreation Hub: To support the planning, design and delivery of a multi-use maritime activities and recreation hub in the Marina along the River Lee. The hub shall enhance the recreational, natural and cultural heritage value of the River Lee by improving access, activities and use of the water including water-based leisure activities and land site facilities such as rowing, light craft, swimming and other suitable active and passive recreational activities. Planning and design shall include stakeholders engagement designed to facilitate safe, improved accessibility to the water and the exploration of co-location and sharing of community, enterprise, recreation and open space infrastructure that helps create a community based maritime hub for the city and wider area.</p> <p>Objective 6.3 Cork City Council will seek to work with stakeholders in facilitating safe, improved accessibility to the water environment including the River Lee and Cork Harbour and encouraging uses which optimise the amenity, tourism, recreation and leisure opportunities associated with this blue infrastructure, while contributing towards the protection of protected species and without adversely impacting on the day-to-day economic functions of these assets.</p>
<p>Biodiversity and Flora and Fauna</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution towards protection of ecology (including designated sites, ecological connectivity, habitats) by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the City Centre and the City's suburbs) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-served lands elsewhere in the City and beyond. • Contribution towards the maintenance of existing green infrastructure and associated ecosystem services, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats. • Contribution towards protection and/or 	<p>Arising from both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of/damage to biodiversity in designated sites (including European Sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna; • Habitat loss, fragmentation and deterioration, including patch size and edge effects; and • Disturbance (e.g. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of an extent of non-protected habitats and species arising from the replacement of semi-natural land covers with artificial surfaces. • Losses or damage to ecology (these would be in compliance with relevant legislation). 	<p>Strategic Biodiversity Goals</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) To protect and enhance designated areas of natural heritage and protected species and to adhere to all relevant biodiversity legislation; (2) To ensure that sites and species of natural heritage and biodiversity importance in non-designated areas are identified, protected and managed appropriately; (3) To create green and blue infrastructure network thereby creating ecological corridors linking areas of biodiversity importance; (4) To implement the recommendations of the GBI study and integrate green and blue infrastructure solutions into new developments; (5) To ensure all citizens are within 5km of a green and ideally wild space; (6) To protect and maintain the integrity and maximise rivers and watercourses within the city; (7) To protect and enhance the city's trees and urban woodlands; and (8) To promote best practice guidelines for management, control and eradication of invasive alien species. <p>Green and Blue Infrastructure, Open Space and Biodiversity Development Objectives</p> <p>Strategic Objective 5: Green and Blue Infrastructure, Open Space and Biodiversity</p> <p>To strengthen the green and blue infrastructure of Cork City. To protect and promote biodiversity and habitat connectivity and protect natural areas. To protect and enhance Cork City's unique landscape character and maritime heritage. To ensure all of Cork City's residents have access to open spaces, recreation and amenity facilities and natural areas.</p> <p>A strong green and blue infrastructure network is essential to the quality of life of Cork City's residents and contributes towards the creation of places where people want to live and work. It is an objective of Cork City Council to achieve a healthy, green and connected City with high-quality and interconnected open spaces, parks, diverse natural areas and green and blue corridors.</p> <p>Proposals for new development in Cork City will respect and reflect the topography, landscape and ecology of the City, and will protect and enhance the City's green and blue infrastructure by ensuring that development does not fragment existing networks of green and blue infrastructure. Proposals for new development will demonstrate how green and blue infrastructure, open space, sport and recreation, landscape and biodiversity are considered commensurate to the scale and context of the development in the development process. Large-scale developments will incorporate open spaces to contribute to the green and blue infrastructure in the City.</p> <p>Objective 6.5 Trees and Urban Woodland</p> <p>(a) To protect and enhance the City's tree and urban woodlands in public and private ownership. Cork City Council will seek to survey, map and maintain existing important individual and groups of trees, using Tree Preservation Orders as appropriate.</p> <p>(b) To encourage the planting of new urban woodlands and trees where appropriate throughout the City and particularly where there are deficiencies in tree coverage as identified in the Cork City Green and Blue Infrastructure Study.</p>

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	<p>maintenance of biodiversity and flora and fauna by contributing towards the protection of natural capital including the environmental vectors of air, water and soil. Biodiversity and flora and fauna includes biodiversity in designated sites (including European Sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species (including birds and bats), listed/protected species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats (including terrestrial and aquatic habitats), and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna – including terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity and flora and fauna.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustains existing sustainable rural management practices – and the communities who support them – to ensure the continuation of long-established managed landscapes and the flora and fauna that they contain. 	<p>due to noise and lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species such as birds and bats.</p>		<p>(c) To support the preparation of a City Tree Strategy which provides a vision for long-term planting, protection and maintenance of trees, hedgerows and woodlands. (d) To support retaining existing trees and the planting of new trees as part of new developments subject to care on the species of tree and the siting and management of the trees to avoid conflict with transport safety and residential amenity in particular. (e) To promote the planting of pollinator friendly native deciduous trees and mixed forestry to benefit biodiversity.</p> <p>Objective 6.6 Rivers, Waterway and Wetlands (a) To protect and maintain the integrity, and maximise the potential, of the natural heritage and biodiversity value of rivers, associated watercourses and wetlands in Cork City, and to (b) To promote an integrated approach to optimising opportunities associated with rivers, waterways and wetlands generate biodiversity, recreation, tourism, and economic benefits.</p> <p>Objective 6.22 Natural Heritage and Biodiversity (a) To protect, promote and enhance Cork City’s natural heritage and biodiversity. (b) To support the implementation of the National Biodiversity Plan and the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and successor publications in Cork City. (c) To support and implement the biodiversity actions from the Cork City Heritage and Biodiversity Plan (2021-2026) in partnership with all relevant stakeholders. (d) Cork City Council will seek to establish and use a City biodiversity database, accessible across all council departments for consideration in land management decision-making. (e) Cork City Council will work with communities to enhance, and the delivery of new, biodiversity-rich areas throughout the City including individual buildings, streets, public and private spaces by supporting the provision of green roofs and walls, rain gardens, biodiversity-rich parklets, rainwater harvesting, natural banks and naturalised SUDS. (f) Cork City Council will seek, where appropriate, to enhance the linear habitat connectivity, including the interconnection and enhancement of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlands, gardens, open spaces, fields and hedgerows. • Coastal habitats, river catchments, lakes, streams, ponds. • Aquatic, marginal and bank side habitats. • Parks, playing fields and recreational areas. • Upstream of mapped flood zones. • City transport routes. <p>Objective 6.23 Designated Sites and Protected Species To protect and enhance designated sites and areas of natural heritage and biodiversity and the habitats, flora and fauna for which it is designated, and to protect, enhance and conserve designated species.</p> <p>Objective 6.24 Information to be considered for development affecting designated sites To ensure that development proposals affecting designated sites have regard to the sensitivities identified in the SEA Environmental Report prepared in respect of this Plan.</p> <p>Objective 6.25 Non-designated Areas of Biodiversity Importance Cork City Council will seek to map the City’s ecological networks and corridors of local biodiversity value outside of designated areas, and to work with local stakeholders in supporting the effective management of features which are important for wild flora and fauna and habitats.</p> <p>Objective 6.26 Alien Invasive Species To support the implementation of measures to control and prevent the introduction, establishment or spread of ecologically damaging alien invasive species (e.g. Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam).</p> <p>Paragraph 6.62 “As with all Plan provisions, Objectives in this Section will be implemented subject to compliance with the Habitats and Birds Directives and other ecological protection objectives”</p> <p>Paragraph No. 6.63 “No plans, programmes, etc. or projects giving rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on European sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans, programmes, etc. or projects)¹².”</p> <p>Paragraph 6.64 “Any agricultural or fishing/aquaculture activities related developments or would be considered subject to compliance with the Habitats and Birds Directives and in consultation with Inland Fisheries Ireland as relevant”.</p> <p>Objective 9.19 External Lighting To require that external lighting proposals minimise the harmful effects of light pollution, are energy efficient, and do not have an excessive impact on residential or visual amenity, biodiversity or result in the distraction of road users.</p> <p>Also refer to measures under other environmental components including Soil, Water and Air and Climatic Factors.</p> <p>Objective 9.18 Air Quality (a) To protect and improve air quality in Cork City in accordance with the provisions of EU Directives and national legislation on air pollution and support the actions of the City Council’s Air Quality Strategy 2021-2026, and its successors.</p>
<p>Population and Human Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of economic growth to encourage retention of working age population and funding of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential adverse effects arising from flood events. • Potential interactions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential interactions with residual effects on environmental 	

¹² Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the project to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.

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	<p>sustainable development and environmental protection and management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution towards appropriate provision of infrastructure and services to existing population and planned growth by facilitating compact development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the City Centre and the City's suburbs) that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-serviced lands elsewhere in the City and beyond. • Contribution towards the protection of human health by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the City Centre and the City's suburbs) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-serviced lands elsewhere in the City and beyond. • Contributes towards protection of human health as a result of contributing towards the protection of natural capital including environmental vectors, including air and water. 	<p>if effects arising from environmental vectors.</p>	<p>vectors – please refer to residual adverse effects under “Soil”, “Water” and “Air and Climatic Factors” below.</p>	<p>(b) To continue to monitor air quality results submitted from selected locations throughout the City in co-operation with the Environmental Protection Agency and support the creation of a regional air quality and greenhouse gas emissions inventory.</p> <p>Objective 9.20 Noise To support the implementation of the objectives of The Cork Agglomeration Noise Action Plan 2018 – 2023 and promote the pro-active management of noise where it is likely to have significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life.</p> <p>Objective 9.21 Seveso (a) Assessment of Development in Vicinity of Seveso III Sites: Land use proposals for development within the vicinity of sites identified under the Control of Major Accident Hazards Directive and any regulations, under any enactment, giving effect to that Directive, will be assessed having regard to technical guidance provided by the Health and Safety Authority. (b) Relocation of Seveso III Sites: Cork City Council will actively seek the relocation of Seveso III facilities / activities to suitable alternative sites outside the City</p>
<p>Soil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution towards the protection of soils (including those used for agriculture) and designated sites of geological heritage by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the City Centre and the City's suburbs) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential adverse effects on the hydrogeological and ecological function of the soil resource, including as a result of development on contaminated lands. • Potential for riverbank and coastal erosion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of an extent of soil function arising from the replacement of semi-natural land covers with artificial surfaces. • Riverbank erosion will continue to occur naturally over time and is likely to be enhanced 	<p>Also refer to measures under other environmental components including Water.</p> <p>Objective 6.7 Carbon Sequestration To work with landowners, communities and other stakeholders in supporting initiatives to increase carbon sequestration through the effective and sustainable use of undeveloped, vacant and agricultural land. This could include opportunities to explore protecting soil fertility, reducing erosion, increasing soil organic matter, re-wetting bogs and peatland and restoring degraded soils.</p> <p>Objective 6.27 Areas of Geological Importance To seek the conservation of important features of geological interest in Cork City. Objective Chapter 7 Quarries and Aggregate Resources: To recognise the important role the mineral extraction and aggregate industry can play by protecting any reserves of aggregates and minerals from development that might impact on their utilisation. Extractions that would result in a reduction of the visual amenity of areas of high amenity or damage to areas of scientific importance or of geological, botanical, zoological and other natural significance including all designated European Sites or have a detrimental impact on residential amenity will not be permitted. The Planning Authority will have regard to the Guidelines for Planning Authorities for Quarries and Ancillary Activities (DoEHLG, 2004) when assessing applications relating to the extraction industry.</p>

	<p>more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-serviced lands elsewhere in the City and beyond.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution towards the protection of the environment from contamination the highest standards of remediation, and where appropriate to consultations with the EPA and other relevant bodies, will be required to resolve any instances of environmental pollution created by contaminated land. 		<p>by climate change.</p>	
<p>Water</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution towards the protection of water by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the City Centre and the City's suburbs) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-serviced lands elsewhere in the City and beyond. Contributions towards the protection of water resources including the status of surface and groundwaters and water-based designations. Contribution towards flood risk management and appropriate drainage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential adverse effects upon the status of water bodies and entries to the WFD Register of Protected Areas (ecological and human value), arising from changes in quality, flow and/or morphology. Increase in flood risk and associated effects associated with flood events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any increased loadings as a result of development to comply with the River Basin Management Plan. Flood related risks remain due to uncertainty with regard to extreme weather events – however such risks will be mitigated by measures that have been integrated into the Plan. 	<p>Also refer to measures under other environmental components including Soil and Material Assets. Chapter 4 paragraph 4.9 The capacity and efficiency of the national road network drainage regimes in Cork City will be safeguarded.</p> <p>Objective 6.6 Rivers, Waterway and Wetlands</p> <p>(a) To protect and maintain the integrity, and maximise the potential, of the natural heritage and biodiversity value of rivers, associated watercourses and wetlands in Cork City, and to</p> <p>(b) To promote an integrated approach to optimising opportunities associated with rivers, waterways and wetlands generate biodiversity, recreation, tourism, and economic benefits.</p> <p>Chapter 9 paragraph "Coastal Change"</p> <p>A National Coastal Change Management Strategy Steering Group was set up in 2020 to scope out an approach for the development of a national coordinated and integrated strategy to manage the projected impact of coastal change to our coastal communities, economies, heritage, culture and environment. Cork City Council supports the preparation of the strategy and will consider its findings when published and how it may impact its functional area. In the interim consideration will be given to areas that may be at risk or vulnerable to coastal erosion or coastal change, including change associated with climate change.</p> <p>Objective 9.4 SUDS</p> <p>(a) To require that all planning applications for new development incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) in so far as possible. Such proposals shall be accompanied by a comprehensive SUDS assessment including run-off quantity, run off quality and impacts on habitat and water quality.</p> <p>(b) To encourage the provision of green roofs and green walls as an integrated part of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) and which provide benefits for biodiversity, wherever feasible.</p> <p>(c) To investigate the feasibility of preparing Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) guidelines for Cork City during the lifetime of the plan. In the interim The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage document: Nature-based Solutions to the Management of Rainwater and Surface Water Runoff in Urban Areas Water Sensitive Urban Design - Best Practice Interim Guidance Document, will provide guidance in this regard..</p> <p>Objective 9.5 Discharging</p> <p>(a) To ensure that onsite petrol/oil interceptors and silt traps shall be installed to all significant road projects/upgrades or for proposals where surface water otherwise discharges to watercourses, to prevent hydrocarbon pollution of the receiving waters.</p> <p>(b) To ensure that developments permitted by the Council which involve discharge of wastewater to surface waters or groundwaters, comply with the requirements of the EU Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations and EU Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations.</p> <p>Objective 9.6 Storm Water</p> <p>To provide adequate storm water infrastructure in order to accommodate the planned levels of growth within the plan area and to ensure that appropriate flood management measures are implemented to protect property and infrastructure.</p> <p>Objective 9.7 Water Quality</p> <p>(a) To ensure the delivery of the relevant policies and objectives of The River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018 – 2021 and any subsequent plan, including those relating to protection of water status, improvement of water status, prevention of deterioration and meeting objectives for designated protected sites.</p> <p>(b) To support Irish Water in its implementation of Water Quality Management Plans for ground, surface, coastal and estuarine waters as part of the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive and in the development of Drinking Water Protection Plans.</p> <p>(c) To support the provision of mitigation and protection measures for all protected areas, including Drinking Water Protected Areas</p>

				<p>and associated Source Protection Plans in line with the Water Framework Directives and River Basin Management Plans.</p> <p>(d) To have cognisance of, where relevant, the EU's Common Implementation Strategy Guidance Document No. 20 and 36 which provide guidance on exemptions to the environmental objectives of the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>Objective 9.8 Flood Protection</p> <p>To protect, enhance and manage the City's floodplains, wetlands and coastal habitat areas that are subject to flooding as vital 'green infrastructure' which provides space for storage and conveyance of floodwater, enabling flood risk to be more effectively managed and reduce the need to provide flood defence infrastructures. Cork Council will also require that all proposed flood protection or alleviation works will be subject to Appropriate Assessment to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity, defined by the structure and function, of any European Sites and that the requirements of Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive are met.</p> <p>Objective 9.9 Flood Protection Schemes</p> <p>To work with the Office of Public Works (OPW) in the progression and completion of Flood Risk Management Plans and flood relief schemes including the Lower Lee Flood Relief Scheme (LLFRS), schemes in Blackpool, Glanmire / Glashaboy, Douglas / Togher and other schemes that may be developed during the period of the plan.</p> <p>Objective 9.10 Development in Flood Risk Areas</p> <p>(a) To restrict development in identified flood risk areas, in particular flood plains. All new development proposals shall comply with the requirements of the Planning System and Flood Risk Management –Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009) and Department of Environment, Community and Local Government Circular PL2/2014, in particular through the application of the sequential approach and the Development Management Justification Test.</p> <p>(b) All significant proposals for development identified as being vulnerable to flooding will be required to provide a site specific Flood Risk Assessment to identify potential loss of floodplain storage and proposals for the storage or attenuation (e.g. SUDS) of run-off discharges (including foul drains) to ensure development does not increase the flood risk in the relevant catchment.</p> <p>(c) Adopt a river catchment approach to rivers entering the City, practicing natural flood management wherever practical and appropriate.</p> <p>South Docks Drainage and Levels Strategy</p> <p>Chapter 10 paragraph 10.108</p> <p>Cork City Council has prepared a South Docks Drainage and Levels Strategy (2022) to inform the development of the City Docks (hereafter referred to as "the Strategy"). The objective of the Strategy is to provide a long-term placemaking vision that is flexible, environmentally responsible and climate- resilient, particularly to potential changes in sea level and rainfall intensity. The Strategy is based on a sustainable urban drainage solution (<i>SUDS</i>) approach to provide the drainage network and conveyance and mitigation of water. The aim is to provide water features on Centre Park Road and Monahan's Road that form an integral part of the urban landscape. The Strategy was finalised in Q3 2022.</p> <p>Chapter 10 paragraph 10.109</p> <p>The Strategy provides an integrated landscape and sustainable blue-green drainage concept design, combining a number of key components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marina Park /Atlantic Pond, the strategic park of landscape and recreational significance to the City <i>South Docks</i> and wider area. The Park is designed to accommodate significant flood storage (c.72,000 cubic metres including c. 43,000 at the Atlantic Pond / surrounds, <i>c. 24,000 within the park</i> and c5,500 at the <i>Pairc Uí Chóimh Aall Weather pitch tanks storage cells</i>); • The Kennedy Spine Park that will provide flood storage for c.1500 cubic metres of flood storage integrated into a park that will combine soft and hard landscapes reflecting the vision for this <i>key park piece of public open space</i>; • An east-west green spine along Centre Park Road (West of Marquee Road), incorporating an open swale that is designed to accommodate c.2,300 cubic metres of flood storage;An east-west green spine along Monahan Road, incorporating an improved drainage ditch <i>channel/open swale</i> designed to accommodate <i>c.4,900 5000</i> cubic metres of flood storage; • Storage adjacent to the Atlantic Pond on the Ardfoyle Convent lands capable of accommodating c. 5,000 cubic metres of water; • A north south green spine between Marina Park and the River Lee Frontage. The north south green route broadly along the line of Marquee Road and the boundary of the ESB and former Tedcastle sites. • The Strategy sets out a <i>the</i> full schedule of the strategic flood storage locations for the City <i>South Docks</i>. <p>Chapter 10 paragraph 10.110</p> <p>The Strategy provides the following (<i>Refer to see-Map in Chapter D in Volume 2: Mapped Objectives: which provides a Summary of Proposed Infrastructure Measures in the South Docks Drainage and Levels Strategy</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An infrastructure strategy to ensure that the South Docks is resilient to flood risk and climate change; • Drainage catchments that reflect the capacity of the network to deal with pluvial (rainfall) runoff; • A surface water drainage network based upon SuDS / nature-based solutions, including conveyance by grey infrastructure. • A perimeter flood protection from tidal and fluvial (river) flood risks, in accordance with the Drainage and Flood Levels Strategy, including a transition from the standard perimeter defence of 4.35m OD at the proposed Kent Station Bridge to the proposed flood protection levels at Albert Quay <i>East, to be delivered as part of the Cork Docklands to City Centre Road Improvement Scheme</i>. • Minimum ground (public realm and streets) level and building finished floor levels (FFLs) with proposed ground levels as close to existing ground levels as possible, while mitigating against pluvial (cloud-burst-rainfall) flood risk. • Public strategic (regional) flood storage will need to be provided across a number of locations in the South Docks, as set out above. • Site acquisition is likely to be as required to deliver elements of this green storage infrastructure, which the strategy that are located in
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			<p>private ownership. A key location for the preferred additional storage location will be: The proposed public open space to the south of the Atlantic Pond and within the Ardfoyle Convent lands, which would form part of the Marina Park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Strategy indicates that there may be a requirement for a surface water pumping station in the vicinity of the proposed extension to the Atlantic Pond area in the future to ensure the necessary adaptation plans are in place to meet the challenge mitigate the risks presented by climate change. It is estimated that with a total site area of a total of c.250sqm being will be required to accommodate this pumping station infrastructure. The Strategy identifies a possible locations for this facility on the proposed extension to the Atlantic Pond area. However this is indicative only The suitability of these, or other locations, for the pumping station will need to be identified during the life of the Plan when required, in response to the prevailing climate change. <p>Chapter 10 paragraph 10.111 A perimeter flood defence will also need to be integrated into the design for the North Docks and included in the North Docks Masterplan, which is due to be prepared. This will be based on the same principles of using SuDS, public realm, embracing the river and developing amenity as part of the drainage and flood defence for the North Docks.</p> <p>Minimum Ground Levels and Finished Floor Levels Chapter 10 paragraph 10.112 It is necessary to marginally increase localised ground (public realm and roads) levels at low points to between 0.85m OD and 1.0m OD to facilitate an effective gravity system and achievable storage volumes for scenarios flood events up to Medium-High End Risk Future Scenario (HEMRFS).</p> <p>Chapter 10 paragraph 10.113 To ensure that the proposed buildings within the South Docks achieve the appropriate standard of protection from flooding are at acceptably low levels of risk of surface water flooding, it is proposed to set minimum finished floor levels (FFL) at least 300mm above the predicted 1 in 100 year relevant High-End Future Scenario flood event, taking account of two types of flooding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A pluvial flood event, where stormwater discharges from the South Docks are "tide locked" Tidal inundation from the River Lee in the event of a breach in the polder defence. <p>The standard of protection to be provided is summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pluvial and Fluvial flood protection designed to a standard of 1%AEP, assuming +40% rainfall intensity, due to climate change. Tidal flood protection designed to a standard of 0.5%AEP, assuming +1.05m sea-level rise due to climate change. <p>pluvial flood level and the residual inundation risk, which varies across the docks, as shown in Figure 10.10. The recommended finished floor levels throughout the South Docks are summarised in Figure 10.10.</p> <p>Flood defence for the North Docks will be achieved through the setting of appropriate building finished floor levels for new developments, designed to withstand sea-level rise of up to 0.5m due climate change, in accordance with OPW document The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines.</p> <p>Chapter 10 paragraph 10.114 Finished floor levels within Figure 10.10 are recommendations only. It is recommended that this minimum level apply only to Water Compatible Development and Less Vulnerable Development as defined by the Flood Risk Planning Guidelines, and subject to site specific flood risk assessment demonstrating appropriate flood mitigation strategy. Within the polder, finished floor levels for less vulnerable uses do not strictly need to be above the residual risk level but will need defences up to that level through building flood resilience measures. Planning applications for new development both within the South Docks and the North Docks will still need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the OPW Guidelines by means of a Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment.</p> <p>Chapter 10 paragraph 10.115 Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 10.114 above, within the polder defended polder areas of South Docklands, a general minimum FFL the finished floor level for Highly Vulnerable Development shall be +1.9mOD. This is required to mitigate the residual flood risk arising from a breach of the polder defence during based on 1 in 200 year 0.5%AEP tidal flood level, including appropriate allowances for climate change, residual risk (breach and overtopping) and freeboard.</p> <p>Chapter 10 paragraph 10.116 It is envisaged that minimum FFLs along the quayside would be set at or above the proposed polder defence level of +3.85m to +4.35m OD, except for the western end of Kennedy Quay which transitions from to Albert Quay East. At this location where a minimum FFL of +3.85m OD can will be accommodated due to constraints imposed by existing streetscapes. Proposed Minimum Finished Floor Levels are provided in Figure 10.10 and in the Character Area Guidance. The proposed ground levels as for streets and spaces are set out in the South Docks Drainage Strategy (see Map D in Volume 2: Mapped Objectives: Summary of Proposed Infrastructure Measures in the South Docks Drainage and Levels Strategy).</p> <p>Development Management Controls SuDS and Site run-off Chapter 10 paragraph 10.117 It is proposed that all private developments, except waterfront developments, will provide on-site storage for surface water, to prevent overwhelming of the capacity of the proposed public system during extreme events and thus share the burden of providing the necessary surface water storage volume, which can be designed and provided through</p>
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				<p>many storage mitigation techniques. Waterfront developments can discharge directly into the River Lee unattenuated. The gradual implementation of the private storage will incrementally reduce the pressure on the public drainage system, thus providing flexibility in the relative timing of the delivery of both public and private sector developments and infrastructure.</p> <p>Chapter 10 paragraph 10.118 It is proposed that there will be a split shared responsibility for surface water storage between private and public lands by requiring all developments to limit discharges to the public system to an absolute maximum of 68l/s/ha (approximately 50% of design peak brownfield runoff rate for critical storm event) irrespective of tidal phase.</p> <p>Chapter 10 paragraph 10.119 Development proposals will have to demonstrate site run-off flow rates of 50% of greenfield run-off rate to the public SuDS. Developments will be required to ameliorate the private 50% rainfall- will be required to demonstrate how this discharge limit will be achieved, and include calculations for the volume of onsite storage to be provided. The proposals should seek to present storage solutions that are in line with on-site utilising Sustainable Urban Drainage System and Nature Based Solutions Principles (see Objective 9.4: Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems and para. 11.258).</p> <p>Basements and Structural Design Strategies Chapter 10 paragraph 10.120 Based on the findings of the Hydrogeology Desk Study (November 2021) completed as part of the Strategy, maintaining the aquitard function provided by the existing alluvium soil layer has been identified as a key requirement of the proposed redevelopment of the South Docks. It is however recognised, that the nature of the ground conditions and anticipated type and height of the buildings will mean that piling, and potentially basements, will be required in many instances. Where it is necessary for such structures to penetrate the alluvium layer, the detailing of the foundations, basements and piling will need to ensure that no new flow paths are created and that an equivalent aquitard function is maintained post-development. Structural design strategies that do not penetrate the alluvium later will be the preference for structural design solutions and departure from this approach will require justification.</p> <p><i>Objective relating to Hop Island:</i> Chapter 11 paragraph 11.260 Land use zoning objectives provided by this Plan are subject to the following conditions: (1) Undeveloped land in Flood Zone A that is the subject of any zoning objective are only zoned for and shall only be developed for water compatible uses as identified in the Guidelines. (2) Undeveloped land in Flood Zone B that is the subject of any zoning objective are only zoned for and shall only be developed for water compatible or less vulnerable uses as identified in the Guidelines. (3) With respect to lands that have already been developed in Flood Zone A or B the potential conflict (between zoning and highly or less vulnerable development in Flood Zone A and between zoning and highly vulnerable development in Flood Zone B) will be avoided by applying the following zoning approach, subject to the exception areas set out in (iii) below: (i) Cork City Council will facilitate the appropriate management and sustainable use of these areas. This will mean generally limiting new development, but facilitating existing development uses that may require small scale development such as small extensions. Development proposals within these areas shall be accompanied by a detailed Flood Risk Assessment, carried out in accordance with The Planning System and Flood Risk Assessment Guidelines and Circular PL 2/2014 (or as updated), which shall assess the risks of flooding associated with the proposed development. Where development proposals submitted to the Planning Authority relate to existing buildings or developed areas, the sequential approach cannot be used to locate them in lower-risk areas and the Justification Test will not therefore apply. Proposals seeking to change the use of existing buildings from a less vulnerable use to a use that would be more vulnerable to the effects of flooding may not be permissible in areas of elevated flood risk, whilst some change of use proposals not increasing the vulnerability to the effects of flooding or small scale extensions to such buildings will be considered on their individual merits but are acceptable in principle. An existing dwelling or building that is not located within an area at risk of flooding but has a large rear garden / curtilage that is located within Flood Zone A or B would not be suitable for a more in-depth residential development proposal which would propose a residential use within Flood Zone A or B. (ii) Proposals shall only be considered favourably where it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority that they would not have adverse impacts or impede access to a watercourse, floodplain or flood protection and management facilities, or increase the risk of flooding to other locations and be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area. The nature and design of structural and non-structural flood risk management measures required for development in such areas (see relevant Flood Risk Assessments - section below) will also be required to be demonstrated, to ensure that flood hazard and risk will not be increased. Measures proposed shall follow best practice in the management of health and safety for users and residents of the development. (iii) Exceptional areas are the already developed City Centre and Docklands areas, which have undergone Justification Tests and have been zoned for development, and established built-up areas of Cork City including suburban areas such as Model Farm Road / Carrigrohane Road area and Douglas. Future development in these areas will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be subject to site-specific flood risk assessments; • comply with the flood risk management provisions of this Plan, including the structural and non-structural risk management measures outlined under Flood Risk Assessments below, and relevant measures contained in the Council's 2020 South Docks Drainage Strategy; and • will benefit from Flood Relief Schemes being progressed by the OPW. </p>
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Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

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<p>Air and Climatic Factors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution towards climate mitigation and adaptation by facilitating compact development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the City Centre and the City's suburbs) that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-served lands elsewhere in the City and beyond. In combination with other plans, programmes etc., contribution towards the objectives of the wide policy framework relating to climate mitigation and adaptation, and associated contribution towards maintaining and improving air quality and managing noise levels, including through measures relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable compact growth; Sustainable mobility, including walking, cycling and public transport; Drainage, flood risk management and resilience; Sectors including energy and buildings; and Sustainable design, energy efficiency and green infrastructure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential conflict between development under the Plan and aiming to reduce carbon emissions in line with local, national and European environmental objectives. Potential conflicts between transport emissions, including those from cars, and air quality. Potential conflicts between increased frequency of noise emissions and protection of sensitive receptors. Potential conflicts with climate adaptation measures including those relating to flood risk management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An extent of travel related greenhouse gas and other emissions to air. This has been mitigated by provisions which have been integrated into the Plan, including those relating to sustainable compact growth and sustainable mobility. Interactions between noise emissions and sensitive receptors. Various provisions have been integrated into the Plan to ensure that noise levels at sensitive receptors will be minimised. 	<p>Also refer to Plan's various sustainable transport provisions and detailed measures for Climate Action to Chapter 5 "Climate Change and the Environment".</p> <p>Objective 6.7 Carbon Sequestration To work with landowners, communities and other stakeholders in supporting initiatives to increase carbon sequestration through the effective and sustainable use of undeveloped, vacant and agricultural land. This could include opportunities to explore protecting soil fertility, reducing erosion, increasing soil organic matter, re-wetting bogs and peatland and restoring degraded soils.</p> <p>Objective 9.18 Air Quality (a) To protect and improve air quality in Cork City in accordance with the provisions of EU Directives and national legislation on air pollution and support the actions of the City Council's Air Quality Strategy 2021-2026, and its successors. (b) To continue to monitor air quality results submitted from selected locations throughout the City in co-operation with the Environmental Protection Agency and support the creation of a regional air quality and greenhouse gas emissions inventory.</p> <p>Objective 9.20 Noise To support the implementation of the objectives of The Cork Agglomeration Noise Action Plan 2018 – 2023 and promote the pro-active management of noise where it is likely to have significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life.</p>

<p>Material Assets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution towards appropriate provision of infrastructure and services to existing population and planned growth by facilitating compact development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the City Centre and the City's suburbs) that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-served lands elsewhere in the City and beyond. • Contribution towards compliance with national and regional water services and waste management policies. • Contribution towards increase in renewable energy use by facilitating renewable energy and electricity transmission infrastructure developments. • Contribution towards limits in increases in energy demand from the transport sector by facilitating sustainable compact growth. • Contribution towards reductions in average energy consumption per capita including promoting sustainable compact growth, sustainable design mobility, sustainable design and energy efficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to provide adequate and appropriate waste water treatment (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts). • Failure to adequately treat surface water run-off that is discharged to water bodies (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts). • Failure to comply with drinking water regulations and serve new development with adequate drinking water (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts). • Increases in waste levels. • Potential impacts upon public assets and infrastructure. • Interactions between agriculture and soil, water, biodiversity and human health - including phosphorous and nitrogen deposition as a result of agricultural activities and the production of secondary inorganic particulate matter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exceedance of capacity in critical infrastructure risks remain, including due to uncertainty with regard to climate – however, such risks will be mitigated by: measures, including those requiring the timely provision of critical infrastructure, and compliance with the Water Framework Directive and associated River Basin Management Plan. • Residual wastes to be disposed of in line with higher-level waste management policies. • Any impacts upon public assets and infrastructure to comply with statutory planning/ consent-granting framework. 	<p>Also refer to measures under other environmental components including Population and Human Health, Cultural Heritage, Soil, Water, Air, various Land Use and Phasing provisions.</p> <p>Environmental Infrastructure Development Objectives</p> <p>Strategic Objective 8: Environmental Infrastructure</p> <p>Objective 9.1 Irish Water</p> <p>(a) To work with Irish Water to ensure the efficient and sustainable use and development of water resources and water services infrastructure in the City.</p> <p>(b) To work with Irish Water to identify and facilitate the timely delivery of water and wastewater projects in order to facilitate development in accordance with the Core Strategy.</p> <p>(c) To work with Irish Water in promoting water conservation and demand management measures among users and support the implementation of measures such as leakage reduction and network improvements.</p> <p>(d) To support Irish Water in the development and implementation of the National Water Resources Plan and Drinking Water Safety Plans.</p> <p>(e) To support Irish Water in the promotion of effective management of trade discharges to sewers in order to maximise the capacity of existing sewer networks and minimise detrimental impacts on sewage treatment works.</p> <p>Objective 9.2 Waste Water</p> <p>(a) To require all new proposals for development to provide a separate foul and surface water drainage system and to incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems in so far as practical.</p> <p>(b) As part of new proposals for development, evidence of consultation with Irish Water should be submitted as part of a planning application, demonstrating that adequate water services are available to service the development and that existing water services will not be negatively impacted.</p> <p>Objective 9.3 Group Water Schemes, Private Wells and Individual Treatment Systems</p> <p>(a) To require that all developments where public water mains are available or likely to be available and have sufficient capacity, shall connect to them.</p> <p>(b) To ensure that all new developments connect to the public wastewater infrastructure, where available, and to encourage existing developments that are in close proximity to a public sewer to connect to that sewer, subject to a connection agreement with Irish Water.</p> <p>(c) To discourage the provision of single house septic tanks and treatment plants to minimise the risk of groundwater pollution in line with the rural housing policy of this Plan. Where such facilities are permitted, full compliance with the prevailing regulations and standards, including the EPA's Code of Practice Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Houses (PE ≤10) (EPA 2009), and its replacement the EPA Code of Practice for Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (Population Equivalent ≤ 10) (2021), will be required.</p> <p>(d) Residential development that requires the provision of private wastewater treatment facilities (i.e. Developer Provided Infrastructure), other than single house systems will generally not be permitted.</p> <p>(e) To ensure that private wastewater treatment facilities, where permitted, are operated in compliance with their wastewater discharge license, in order to protect water quality.</p> <p>Objective 9.12 Waste Management</p> <p>(a) To support the sustainable management of waste in line with the objectives of the Southern Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021 and the National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy (NWMPCE) when published, which will replace the existing Regional Waste Management Plans.</p> <p>(b) To facilitate the transition to a circular economy facilitating the value recovery and recirculation of resources in order to generate minimal waste.</p> <p>(c) Continue to fulfil duties under the Waste Management (certification of historic unlicensed waste disposal and recovery activity) Regulations 2008 (S.I. No 524 of 2008), including those in relation to the identification and registration of closed landfills.</p> <p>(d) To encourage the recycling of construction and demolition waste and the reuse of aggregate and other materials in future construction projects. Applications for large infrastructure projects shall be accompanied by a Construction and Environmental Management Plan that includes details of how construction and demolition waste generated is to be managed and, where reuse/recycling is not practicable, disposed of, in line with legislative requirements.</p> <p>Objective 9.14 Undergrounding of Cables</p> <p>The Council will encourage the undergrounding of cables and associated equipment where feasible and generally require such services be located underground as part of new developments. It is acknowledged that this may not always be possible for high voltage transmission infrastructure. Proposals should demonstrate that environmental impacts including the following are minimised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat loss as a result of removal of field boundaries and hedgerows (right of way preparation) followed by topsoil stripping (to ensure machinery does not destroy soil structure and drainage properties); • Short to medium term impacts on the landscape where, for example, hedgerows are encountered; • Impacts on underground archaeology; • Impacts on soil structure and drainage; and • Impacts on surface waters as a result of sedimentation. <p>9.14 To promote the increased use of renewable energy resources in Cork City such as solar, small or microscale wind, geothermal, heat</p>
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<p>Cultural Heritage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributes towards protection of cultural heritage elsewhere by facilitating development within an existing built footprint. Contributes towards protection of cultural heritage within an existing built footprint by facilitating brownfield development and regeneration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential effects on protected and unknown archaeology and protected architecture arising from construction and operation activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential effects on known architectural and archaeological heritage and unknown archaeology however, these will occur in compliance with legislation. 	<p>Strategic Objective 7: Heritage, Arts and Culture To protect and reinforce the unique character and built fabric of the city, towns, villages, suburbs, neighbourhoods and places that make up the fabric of Cork City, both the character derived from the natural environment and the man-made character created by the built form. This will be achieved by protecting Protected Structures, archaeological monuments, and archaeological heritage and Architectural Conservation Areas, while providing opportunities for new development that respects the rich and historic built heritage of the City. To identify, protect, enhance and promote Cork's unique cultural heritage and expression in an authentic and meaningful way. To foster and support the arts and culture in Cork City by encouraging new and improved facilities and by ensuring that arts and culture infrastructure are integrated into large-scale developments on key sites. To support the development of a vibrant cultural and creative sector in the City as a key enabler of innovation, placemaking and community development throughout the City. To support the role of Cork City as a significant domestic and international tourism destination and support the sustainable use and development of the City's tourism assets. To ensure that elements of archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage significance are identified, retained and interpreted wherever possible and the knowledge placed in the public domain. Proposals for new development must have regard to the historic built heritage of the City, particularly Protected Structures, archaeological monuments and heritage and Architectural Conservation Areas, and any development that has a detrimental impact on these assets will not normally be acceptable.</p> <p>Objective 8.1 Strategic Archaeology Objective (a) To protect and preserve archaeological monuments as listed in the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) and the Wreak Inventory of Ireland Database (WIID). All sites can be accessed on the Historic Environment Viewer (www.archaeology.ie). The National Monuments Service will be informed of all development proposals which relate to Sites and Zones of Archaeological Interest. (b) Cork City Council will have regard to the relevant national statutory policies and guidelines, including Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage and to Best Practice Guidance documents published by the Heritage Council and the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland. (c) To preserve the character and setting of the medieval city wall and defences, which is a National Monument, according to the recommendations of the Cork City Walls Management Plan (2007) and the National Policy on Town Defences (2008). (d) To promote the retention, reuse, and enhancement of buildings and other elements of architectural, archaeological and other significance. (e) To ensure that development reflects and is sensitive to the historical importance and character of the city and its hinterland, in particular the street layout and pattern, plot sizes, building heights and scales. (f) To improve and encourage access to and understanding of the architectural and archaeological heritage of the City.</p> <p>Objective 8.2 Protection of the Archaeological Resource (a) Cork City Council will protect and enhance the archaeological value of the sites (and their settings) listed in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) and the Historic Environment Viewer. (b) Cork City Council will ensure that development proposals will protect and preserve archaeological sites discovered since the publication of the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP). (c) To ensure the preservation of archaeological remains in-situ, in accordance with national policy (and in the interests of sustainability) impacts on the buried archaeological environment should be avoided where possible.</p> <p>Objective 8.3 The Value of Archaeological Knowledge To require that all appropriate archaeological excavation should be undertaken to the highest possible standards and the information made publicly available. The acquisition and dissemination of knowledge is a core principle for the protection of the archaeological heritage of the city. Cork City Council will endeavour to ensure public dissemination through publications and public lectures.</p> <p>Objective 8.4 Protection of the Medieval Historic Core (a) Where development is proposed within the medieval historic core a policy of minimising the impact on the archaeological resource will be promoted. Any proposed development will be assessed on the level and amount of undisturbed archaeology present on the site. (b) Cork City Council/ will seek to protect Cork's medieval street pattern, and in particular, seek to conserve and enhance the laneways within the setting of the streetscape. (c) Development proposals will seek to retain historic building lines and traditional plot widths where they derive from medieval origins. The physical integrity of the medieval core should be respected through the retention of plot sizes which can be achieved by the refurbishment of existing buildings.</p> <p>Objective 8.5 Protection of Cork's Medieval City Wall and Defences (a) Cork City Council will ensure preservation in-situ of the Medieval City Wall and Defences and will have regard to the preservation and enhancement of the line of the City Wall when considering development proposals in its vicinity. Disturbance, removal and alteration of</p>

				<p>the line of the City Wall will not be permitted. An appropriate buffer zone between the City Wall and the development will also be required.</p> <p>(b) Cork City Council will seek to improve public awareness and increase knowledge and appreciation of the medieval city walls.</p> <p>Objective 8.6 Protection of burial Grounds Cork City Council will seek to preserve and enhance burial grounds and their settings. Development in and adjacent to these areas will be limited. Where former burial grounds are in use as amenity spaces then their retention for passive recreational use will be required.</p> <p>Objective 8.7 Industrial Archaeology Cork City Council requires that all development proposals for industrial buildings and sites of industrial archaeological importance be accompanied by an archaeological assessment of the building(s) and their surrounding environment. Retention and/or incorporation of industrial buildings will be encouraged. Where in exceptional circumstances demolition is permitted, a detailed building report will be required.</p> <p>Objective 8.8 Underwater Archaeology Cork City Council requires that all development proposals which will impact on marine, riverine, lacustrine, intertidal/sub-tidal environments, and areas of former reclaimed land, shall be subject to appropriate archaeological assessment.</p> <p>Objective 8.9 Preservation of archaeology within open space in developments In development proposals where archaeological remains is to be retained in-situ the archaeology will be protected, safeguarded and, where suitable, be interpreted in an accessible manner. Where the archaeology being preserved is located in open space, then this will be in addition to the overall open space provisions.</p> <p>Objective 8.10 Archaeological Management Strategy for the City (a) Cork City Council will seek to prepare and implement conservation and management plans for National Monuments and Recorded Monuments in Cork City Council Ownership. (b) Cork City Council will seek to develop an archaeological strategy for the city, to include management and protection of strategic research locations. (c) Cork City Council will seek to develop an archaeological GIS for archaeological investigations undertaken in the city. (d) Cork City Council will seek to ensure that the tourism strategy within medieval historic core and in area/setting of historic monuments should draw on its archaeological heritage and should reflect a strong and authentic sense of place.</p> <p>Objective 8.11 Strategic Arts and Culture Objective (a) To celebrate Cork as a city of culture and to support the further development of Cork as a centre for arts, culture and creativity. (b) To grow Cork's cultural capacity by retaining and attracting creative practitioners to live and work in Cork. (c) To support the continued advancement, participation and collaboration of arts and cultural services through the implementation of the forthcoming Cork City Arts Strategy (2021 – 2025). (d) To creatively engage citizens in shaping Cork's cultural identity through implementation of the Creative Cork Strategy 2018 – 2022 and its successors. (e) To protect and enhance the cultural amenities of the city including the conservation, protection and enhancement of Cork City's natural, built and cultural heritage. (f) To ensure the preservation and promotion of the cultural identity of Cork's urban and rural city neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Objective 8.12 Cork as a City of Culture To celebrate Cork as a city of culture and to support the further development of Cork as a centre for arts, culture and creativity; Cork City Council will aim to further expand and improve on the provision of such facilities and consider cultural provision in development management.</p> <p>Objective 8.13 Cork's Cultural Capacity To grow Cork's cultural capacity by retaining and attracting creative practitioners to live and work in Cork. To this end Cork City Council will seek to: (a) Ensure that cultural facilities are not lost from existing buildings in redevelopment proposals i.e. where the redevelopment of sites/buildings which include an existing cultural facility is proposed that this facility is replicated/re-housed in the new development. (b) Support the development of vacant premises and sites in the City Centre for arts and cultural uses. (c) Support the development of infrastructure for artists including spaces for artists to live, work and exhibit. (d) Ensure the retention and facilitation of artistic/design based educational institutions in the City, recognising the role of third level education institutions, including UCC and MTU, in the promotion and development of arts and culture in the City.</p> <p>Objective 8.14 Cork City Arts Strategy To support the continued advancement, participation and collaboration of arts and cultural services through the implementation of the Cork City Arts & Culture Strategy 2022 - 2026.</p> <p>Objective 8.15 Creative Cork Strategy To creatively engage citizens in shaping Cork's cultural identity through implementation of the Creative Cork Strategy 2018 – 2022 Cork City Council will seek to: (a) Invest in long term engagement in creative collaboration. (b) Recognise youth culture as a creative force and an art form for Cork City. (c) Creatively engage our citizens in Archaeology, built, natural and cultural heritage. (d) Creatively use our public space for our communities through one large scale cultural public event each year. (e) Recognise Cork City as an intercultural city.</p>
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(e) Implement the Arts Strategy for Cork Docklands Public Realm as part of the Docklands Development (f) Protect and enhance built heritage through development for cultural uses where necessary, appropriate and feasible. (g) Continue to promote and encourage the provision of public art in large scale developments, in public parks and other public spaces. (h) Ensure that all construction projects undertaken by Cork City Council which are supported by Government funding are considered for the 'Per cent for Art' Scheme. (i) Ensure a good distribution of artistic and creative spaces and events across the walkable neighbourhoods areas identified in Chapter 2.</p> <p>Objective 8.17 Conservation of the City's Built Heritage (a) To seek to ensure the conservation of Cork City's built heritage. (b) To ensure that Cork's Built Heritage contributes fully to the social and economic life of the city and to pursue actions that ensure Cork's built heritage will benefit from good custodianship and building occupation.</p> <p>Objective 8.18 Reuse and Refurbishment Historic Buildings (a) The City Council will actively encourage the re-use of historic buildings in the interests of conservation and environmental sustainability to minimise waste and optimise on the embodied energy in existing buildings. (b) Uses which will have a minimal impact on the character of historic structures will be encouraged. (c) Alterations will adhere to best practice conservation standards. (d) The reinstatement of lost features and removal of unsympathetic additions will be encouraged where appropriate. (e) It is recognised that the protection and retention of historic buildings within the medieval city, has the dual advantage of protecting the rich archaeological resource and the Recorded Monument of the City Wall.</p> <p>Objective 8.19 Record of Protected Structures To maintain a Record of Protected Structures (RPS) which shall include structures or parts of structures which are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest, and which it is an objective to protect.</p> <p>(a) Any changes or alterations to the character of a Protected Structure which would in the opinion of Cork City Council, have a material effect on the character of the structure, will require planning permission. (b) Cork City Council will have regard to the relevant statutory guidance issue by the central government department responsible for the built heritage, including the Architectural heritage protection, guidelines for planning authorities. (c) Proposals for demolition of a Protected Structure shall not be permitted except in exceptional circumstances and where it can be shown that a greater public interest will be served which outweighs the loss to the architectural heritage. (d) Any alteration or demolition of a Protected Structure shall require the preparation of a full drawn and photographic record to Best Conservation Practice. (e) A broad range of uses will be considered for the regeneration / reuse of protected structures that are derelict / underutilised. (f) Where the planning authority accepts the principle of demolition a detailed written and photographic inventory of the building will be made and sent to the Cork City and County Archives and the Irish Architectural Archive for record purposes. (g) Where a planning application is being granted for development within the curtilage of a Protected Structure, the conservation of the protected structure will be prioritised as the first phase of the development to prevent endangerment, abandonment and dereliction.</p> <p>Objective 8.20 Historic Landscapes Cork City Council will ensure that the designated and undesignated historic landscapes and gardens throughout the city are protected from inappropriate development and enhanced where possible.</p> <p>Objective 8.21 Enabling Development To allow for the enabling of development Cork City Council will consider permitting the following, notwithstanding the zoning objectives of the area:</p> <p>(a) The restoration of a Protected Structure, or other buildings of architectural or other merit, currently in poor condition, to conservation best practice for any purpose compatible with the character of the building. (b) The conservation of a Protected Structure or other building of architectural or other merit, independently of its current condition for a range of potential uses such as tourism, social, cultural amenity as a priority, or housing and business uses as a secondary potential use, in cases where, in Cork City Council's opinion, that the converted building is capable of functioning as an important additional tourist attraction or facility, and the use is compatible with the character of the building (c) Cork City Council will promote by whatever means it considers most appropriate the temporary or short-term use, in particular arts, community or tourist uses, of vacant or underused structures or sites of built heritage interest for any use which is compatible with the character of the structure or site.</p>
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				<p>Objective 8.22 National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) Cork City Council will have regard to Ministerial recommendations to the City Council to consider the designation of the buildings and gardens listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage as Protected Structures. Cork City Council will consider the structures listed in the NIAH for protection, by designation of Protected Structures, by the adoption of Architectural Conservation Areas to protect groups of buildings, or by whatever other means the Council considers will most effectively protect the architectural heritage of the City. These Ministerial Recommendations will be taken into account when the Cork City Council is considering proposals for development that would affect the historic or architectural interest of these structures. Cork City Council will seek to engage with key stakeholder groups, including public representatives, building owners and the public to develop the most appropriate response for the protection of specific buildings, groups of buildings and historic areas.</p> <p>Objective 8.23 Development in Architectural Conservation Areas Development in Architectural Conservation Areas should have regard to the following: (a) Works that impact negatively upon features within the public realm, such as stone setts, cobbles or other historic paving, railings, street furniture, stone kerbing etc. shall not be generally permitted. (b) Design and detailing that responds respectfully to the historic environment in a way that contributes new values from our own time. This can be achieved by considering layout, scale, materials and finishes and patterns such as plot divisions in the surrounding area. (c) Historic materials and methods of construction should be retained and repaired where this is reasonable, e.g. historic windows and doors, original roof coverings, metal rainwater goods should be retained along with original forms and locations of openings etc. (d) Repairs or the addition of new materials should be appropriate and in keeping with the character of the original structures.</p> <p>Objective 8.24 Demolition in Architectural Conservation Areas Demolition of structures and parts of structures will in principle only be permitted in an Architectural Conservation Area where the structure, or parts of a structure, are considered not to contribute to the special or distinctive character, or where the replacement structure would significantly enhance the special character more than the retention of the original structure.</p> <p>Objective 8.25 Recording of Structures in Architectural Conservation Areas Where in exceptional circumstances a structure or a part of a structure which is considered to contribute to the special character of the area, is permitted to be demolished, it should first be recorded in drawn and photographic form prior to demolition, and where appropriate should be monitored during demolition. The building record should be lodged with the Cork City & County Archives and with the Irish Architectural Archive in addition to the requirements of planning permission conditions.</p> <p>Objective 8.26 Individual buildings of character in suburban areas and villages There will be a presumption against the demolition of such structures of vernacular or historic / social interest which contribute to the character and identity of an area. Their re-use will be prioritised.</p> <p>Objective 8.27 Elements of Built Heritage Cork City Council will ensure the protection of important elements of the built heritage and their settings as appropriate.</p> <p>Objective 8.28 Separate access to the Upper Floors of Buildings In order to ensure the continued use of upper floors above ground floor commercial uses, there will be a presumption against the loss of access to the upper floors of buildings from street frontages, Cork City Council will seek the reinstatement of upper floor access points wherever possible from the street.</p> <p>Objective 8.29 Historic Town Centre Supports To advance the provision of collaborative supports for Historic Town Centres in Cork City, including the Collaborative Town Centre Health Check (CTCHC) Programme recently established by the Heritage Council.</p>
<p>Landscape</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributes towards protection of wider landscape and landscape designations by facilitating development within an existing built footprint. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occurrence of adverse visual impacts and conflicts with the appropriate protection of designations relating to the landscape. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscapes will change overtime as a result of natural changes in vegetation cover combined with new developments that will occur in compliance with the Plan's landscape protection measures. 	<p>Objective 6.9 Landscape (a) To preserve and enhance Cork's landscape character, key landscape assets and views and prospects of special amenity value. (b) Landscape will be an important factor in all development proposals, ensuring that a proactive view of development is undertaken while maintaining respect for the environment and heritage generally in line with the principle of sustainability. (c) To ensure that new development meets the highest standards of placemaking, siting and design. (d) To protect those prominent open hilltops, valley sides and ridges that define the character of the Cork City Hinterland and those areas which form strategic, largely undeveloped gaps between the main Hinterland settlements from development. (e) To discourage proposals necessitating the removal of extensive amounts of trees, hedgerows and historic walls or other distinctive boundary treatments. (f) To support, as appropriate, any relevant recommendations contained in the National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025.</p> <p>Objective 6.10 City Landscape Strategy Cork City Council will undertake a City Landscape Strategy during the life of this Plan to ensure that the management of development throughout the City will have regard for the value of the landscape, its character, distinctiveness and sensitivity.</p> <p>Objective 6.11 Landscape and Development To ensure that the management of development throughout Cork City will have regard for the value of the landscape, its character, distinctiveness and sensitivity in order to minimize the visual and environmental impact of development, particularly in designated areas of high landscape value where higher development standards (layout, design, landscaping, materials) are required.</p> <p>Objective 6.12 Landscape Preservation Zones To preserve and enhance the character and visual amenity of Landscape Preservation Zones through the careful management of development. Development will be considered only where it safeguards the value and sensitivity of the particular landscape and achieves</p>

				<p>the respective site-specific objectives, as set out in Tables 6.6-6.10.</p> <p>Objective 6.14 Cork City View Management Framework</p> <p>(a) To protect the strategic panoramic, linear, river prospect or scenic route views identified in this Plan and ensure that development proposals do not have an undue detrimental impact on these views.</p> <p>(b) Development proposals will be assessed against their impact on the designated view if it falls within the foreground, middle ground or background of that view. New development should not harm, and where possible should make a positive contribution to, the characteristics and composition of the designated views and their landmark elements. It should also preserve or enhance viewers' ability to recognise and to appreciate Strategically Important Landmarks in these views.</p> <p>(c) Development proposals that could affect a designated view should be accompanied by an assessment that explains, evaluates and justifies any visual impact on the view affected. The scoping process for determining whether a development proposal is likely to affect a designated view should be completed in consultation with Cork City Council. The assessment should demonstrate that the proposal is consistent with the relevant objectives of this Plan. The assessment should form part of a design statement or townscape and visual impact assessment submitted with a planning application.</p> <p>(d) Development in the foreground and middle ground of a designated view should not be overly intrusive, unsightly or prominent to the detriment of the view. Most designated views are seen in a 120 degree field of view. It is not expected that the view outside of this field of vision should be assessed unless specified by Cork City Council.</p> <p>(e) Strategic and local landmark buildings will need to be considered in the scoping of views to identify the potential impacts of development proposals.</p> <p>Objective 6.15 Development on Scenic Routes</p> <p>(a) To protect the character of those views and prospects obtainable from scenic routes identified in this Plan.</p> <p>(b) To require those seeking to carry out development in the environs of a scenic route to demonstrate that there will be no adverse obstruction or degradation of the views towards and from vulnerable landscape features. In such areas, the appropriateness of the design, site layout, and landscaping of the proposed development must be demonstrated along with mitigation measures to prevent significant alterations to the appearance or character of the area.</p> <p>(c) To encourage appropriate landscaping and screen planting of developments along scenic routes which provides guidance in relation to landscaping.</p> <p>Objective 8.20 Historic Landscapes</p> <p>Cork City Council will ensure that the designated and undesignated historic landscapes and gardens throughout the city are protected from inappropriate development and enhanced where possible.</p>
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2.5 Schedule 2A

PART 1

1. The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources

The Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Cork City Council. The Plan has already been varied in 2023 with Variation No. 1¹³.

Proposed Variation No. 2 comprises:

- A) Updates to section 10.2 “City Docks” of Chapter 10 “Key Growth Areas and Neighbourhood Development Sites” of the existing Plan. A number of consequential text changes as a result of the changes to Chapter 10 arise within other chapters of the existing Plan.
- B) Updates to maps relating to land use zoning, infrastructure and drainage.
- C) Introduction of a new Volume 4, which includes an overview of Framework Plan design strategies and supplementary guidance to help to ensure that the area is developed in a coherent manner and in a way that reinforces the site’s identity, urban design, placemaking and architectural qualities.

The Proposed Variation is being prepared on foot of detailed analysis and design work progressed for the City Docks to reconcile strategic design issues and provide an updated urban design framework. This work will inform the design and implementation of public infrastructure projects and private development within Cork Docklands.

The Cork Docklands, a strategic 147 ha regeneration site, to which the Proposed Variation relates is already zoned for development within the current City Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) and contains land to accommodate up to 10,000 residential units and 25,000 jobs, along with the provision of associated community, recreation and educational uses, all underpinned by exemplary urban design principles. The regeneration of this site has the potential to be an exemplar in compact and sustainable urban living, supporting neighbourhood and catalyst uses to create an attractive, inclusive and safe neighbourhood.

At a local level, the existing Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 sets out 9 Strategic Objectives to guide the future growth of the City, based on the 15 Minute City principles. The Proposed Variation will continue the ambition of the Cork City Development Plan to create a compact, high density and sustainable new neighbourhood designed to contribute to delivering a 15 Minute City. The regeneration of City Docks also supports the delivery of new Green and Blue Infrastructure, including an extensive new parkland at Marina Park already delivering a new green lung for the City in advance of planned residential development. This will be accompanied by a network of new connected public spaces north and south of the River Lee.

The Proposed Variation will provide further support for national and regional ambition for sustainable growth within City Docks that is already contributed towards by the existing planning framework. The Proposed Variation is being informed by the wider forward planning framework, guidance, strategies and policies at national and regional level, analysis of the anticipated needs, stakeholder engagement and comparative case study analysis undertaken by a multi-disciplinary

¹³ Variation No. 1 (Revised Parking Standards on a City-wide Basis) of the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 relates to the following:

- Amend the Written Statement of Volume 1: Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 by Updating Table 4.6 (Parking Zones);
- Revising Table 11.13 (Maximum Car Parking Standards) relating to a number of destination land -use categories;
- Consequential text changes in Volume 1, Chapter 4 Transport and Mobility and Chapter 11 Placemaking and Managing Development;
- A new map in Volume 2: Mapped Objectives to define the car parking zones spatially (Chapter E: Car Parking Zones).

design team. The growth of Cork City is an intrinsic part of national and regional planning policy to create more balanced regional development. At a metropolitan scale, the regeneration of City Docks represents a focus on large scale regeneration within the existing built-up area, and a more compact urban form, facilitated through well designed, higher density development and Transit-Orientated Development, as envisaged by the National Planning Framework and Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region. The revised National Development Plan 2021-2030 references Cork Docklands as a landmark urban regeneration and development project which promotes coordinated investment in the renewal and redevelopment of Cork City. The proposed Variation supports the delivery of policy and guidance set out in the “*DHLGH: Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2024)*” and will not conflict with any Specific Planning Policy Requirements (SPPRs) set out at National level. All projects within the area to which the Proposed Variation relates will continue to need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the existing Development Plan relating to environmental protection and management.

The Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 has been subject to full SEA, which identified various environmental effects arising from implementation of the Plan, and facilitated the integration of measures into the Development Plan to ensure the appropriate protection and management of the environment with which all lower tier plans/projects must comply. Proposed Variation No. 2 would contribute towards the proper planning and sustainable development of the City and the consequential environmental effects that have been identified by the SEA for the existing Plan. Taking into account the measures that have already been integrated into the existing Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development, any potential effects arising from Proposed Variation No. 2, would either: be present already (beneficial) and would be further contributed towards, but not to a significant extent; and/or would be mitigated so as not to be significant (adverse). Table 2.4 should be referred to in this regard.

Furthermore:

- The accompanying Screening for AA Report concludes that the Proposed Variation No. 2 is not foreseen to have any likelihood for any significant effects on any European site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects¹⁴; and
- The appended Addendum to the Plan’s SFRA demonstrates that the Plan, as varied, will continue to be consistent with the Flood Risk Management Ministerial Guidelines.

Taking the above into account, arising from the degree to which Proposed Variation No. 2 and associated the Development Plan would set a framework for projects and other activities, the Proposed Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

2. The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the degree to which the plan influences other plans, including those in a hierarchy

The Variation is proposed to the existing, already in force, Development Plan, as varied. The City Development Plan is influenced by higher-level legislation, plans and programmes and influences lower-tier plans. Any future development under the City Development Plan, as varied, would have to comply with the various provisions of the existing Plan that relate to sustainable development and the protection and management of the environment – see Table 2.4.

Taking the above and the other SEA commentary provided under Section 2.4 into account, arising from the degree to which Proposed Variation No. 2 associated the Development Plan would, influence other plans, the Proposed Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

¹⁴ Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.

3. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development*

The Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 has been subject to full SEA, which identified various environmental effects arising from implementation of the Plan, and facilitated the integration of measures into the Development Plan to ensure the appropriate protection and management of the environment with which all lower tier plans/projects must comply.

Taking the above and the other SEA commentary provided under Section 2.4 into account, arising from the relevance of Proposed Variation No. 2 and the associated Development Plan, for the integration of environmental considerations, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development, the Proposed Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

4. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme*

Environmental problems arise where there is a conflict between current environmental conditions and legislative targets. Through its provisions relating to environmental protection and management, the existing, already in force, Development Plan, to which the Proposed Variation relates, contributes towards ensuring that environmental conditions do not get worse and, where possible, it contributes towards its amelioration.

Taking the above and the other SEA commentary provided under Section 2.4 into account, arising from environmental problems relevant to Proposed Variation No. 2 and the associated Development Plan, the Proposed Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

5. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the relevance of the plan or programme, or modification to a plan or programme, for the implementation of European Union legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection)*

The existing, already in force, Development Plan to which Proposed Variation No. 2 relates already includes various provisions that would contribute towards the implementation of European legislation on the environment. Some of these provisions are identified within Table 2.4.

Taking the above and the other SEA commentary provided under Section 2.4 into account, arising from relevance of Proposed Variation No. 2 and the associated Development Plan for the implementation of European Union legislation on the environment, the Proposed Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

PART 2

1. *Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects*

Proposed Variation No. 2 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of Proposed Variation provided under Section 2.4).

2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the cumulative nature of the effects

Proposed Variation No. 2 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Plan provided under Section 2.4).

3. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the transboundary nature of the effects

Proposed Variation No. 2 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Plan provided under Section 2.4).

4. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)

Proposed Variation No. 2 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Plan provided under Section 2.4).

5. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)

Proposed Variation No. 2 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Plan provided under Section 2.4).

6. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:

a) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;

Proposed Variation No. 2 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Plan provided under Section 2.4).

b) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values, and;

Proposed Variation No. 2 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Plan provided under Section 2.4).

c) intensive land-use.

Proposed Variation No. 2 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Plan provided under Section 2.4).

7. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, European Union or international protection status

Proposed Variation No. 2 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Plan provided under Section 2.4).

Section 3 Screening for SEA Concluding Advice

Screening is the process for deciding whether a particular plan - or variation to a plan -, other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant SEA. The purpose of this report is to provide the findings of the evaluation of the requirement for SEA to be undertaken on Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028, as varied.

The Proposed Variation has been examined, including against relevant criteria set out in Schedule 2A *'Criteria for determining whether a plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment'* of the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004), as amended by the Planning and Development (SEA) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 201 of 2011). This SEA Screening Report provides the findings of this examination.

The Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 has been subject to full SEA, which identified various environmental effects arising from implementation of the Plan, and facilitated the integration of measures into the Development Plan to ensure the appropriate protection and management of the environment with which all lower tier plans/projects must comply. Proposed Variation No. 2 would contribute towards the proper planning and sustainable development of the City and the consequential environmental effects that have been identified by the SEA for the existing Plan. Taking into account the measures that have already been integrated into the existing Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development, any potential effects arising from Proposed Variation No. 2, would either: be present already (beneficial) and would be further contributed towards, but not to a significant extent; and/or would be mitigated so as not to be significant (adverse).

Furthermore:

- The accompanying Screening for AA Report concludes that the Proposed Variation No. 2 is not foreseen to have any likelihood for any significant effects on any European site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects¹⁵; and
- The appended Addendum to the Plan's SFRA demonstrates that the Plan, as varied, will continue to be consistent with the Flood Risk Management Ministerial Guidelines.

Taking into account all of the above, Proposed Variation No. 2 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects. Consequently, it is advised that SEA is not required.

This report will be referred to Cork City Council to inform the making of a Screening for SEA determination in advance of public display of the Proposed Variation.

The Screening for SEA process will consider any future alterations to the Proposed Variation and such consideration may require subsequent determination by the Council, where alterations are proposed.

¹⁵ Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.

Appendix I Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 Stage 2 SFRA Addendum I

Introduction and Scope

This is Addendum I to the Stage 2 SFRA prepared for the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028.

It considers relevant components of Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Development Plan and provides the findings of the Stage 2 SFRA undertaken on Proposed Variation No.2.

The Addendum follows the SFRA methodology detailed in and should be read in conjunction with the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 Stage 2 SFRA Report, which is available alongside the Development Plan¹⁶.

Cork City Development Plan and Proposed Variation No. 2

The Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 provides for sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Cork City Council. The Plan has already been varied in 2023 with Variation No. 1¹⁷.

Cork City Council has prepared Proposed Variation No. 2 (Cork Docklands) to the Development Plan under Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). The Proposed Variation is intended to be in force for the remaining lifespan of the existing City Development Plan 2022-2028. It comprises:

- A) Updates to section 10.2 "City Docks" of Chapter 10 "Key Growth Areas and Neighbourhood Development Sites" of the existing Plan. A number of consequential text changes as a result of the changes to Chapter 10 arise within other chapters of the existing Plan.
- B) Updates to maps relating to land use zoning, infrastructure and drainage.
- C) Introduction of a new Volume 4, which includes an overview of Framework Plan design strategies and supplementary guidance to help to ensure that the area is developed in a coherent manner and in a way that reinforces the site's identity, urban design, placemaking and architectural qualities.

The Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 provides for the sustainable development and proper planning within the administrative area of Cork City Council.

The Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 was subject to Stage 2 SFRA that, inter alia, informed the land use zoning provided for by the Plan and facilitated the integration of various provisions into the Plan that will contribute towards flood risk and surface water management in the City, including in the Docklands area. A selection of measures contained in the Plan relating to flood risk management and drainage provided below.

City Development Plan measures relating to land use zoning and flood risk management and drainage

City Development Plan measures relating to land use zoning and flood risk management and drainage are reproduced as follows:

Chapter 11 "Placemaking and Managing Development", "Flood Risk Assessment and Land Use Zoning"

Paragraph No. 11.262

The Flood Zones identified by the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (refer to the SFRA report that accompanies the Plan) should be used in line with the requirements provided for by the Flood Guidelines for land uses in Flood Zones A and B.

Paragraph No. 11.263

Land use zoning objectives provided by this Plan are subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Undeveloped land in Flood Zone A that is the subject of any zoning objective are only zoned for and shall only be developed for water compatible uses as identified in the Guidelines.
- (2) Undeveloped land in Flood Zone B that is the subject of any zoning objective are only zoned for and shall only be developed for water compatible or less vulnerable uses as identified in the Guidelines.

¹⁶ Including at <https://www.corkcity.ie/en/cork-city-development-plan/>.

¹⁷ Variation No. 1 (Revised Parking Standards on a City-wide Basis) of the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 relates to the following:

- Amend the Written Statement of Volume 1: Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 by Updating Table 4.6 (Parking Zones);
- Revising Table 11.13 (Maximum Car Parking Standards) relating to a number of destination land -use categories;
- Consequential text changes in Volume 1, Chapter 4 Transport and Mobility and Chapter 11 Placemaking and Managing Development;
- A new map in Volume 2: Mapped Objectives to define the car parking zones spatially (Chapter E: Car Parking Zones).

- (3) With respect to lands that have already been developed in Flood Zone A or B the potential conflict (between zoning and highly or less vulnerable development in Flood Zone A and between zoning and highly vulnerable development in Flood Zone B) will be avoided by applying the following zoning approach, subject to the exception areas set out in (iii) below:
- (i) Cork City Council will facilitate the appropriate management and sustainable use of these areas. This will mean generally limiting new development, but facilitating existing development uses that may require small scale development such as small extensions. Development proposals within these areas shall be accompanied by a detailed Flood Risk Assessment, carried out in accordance with The Planning System and Flood Risk Assessment Guidelines and Circular PL 2/2014 (or as updated), which shall assess the risks of flooding associated with the proposed development. Where development proposals submitted to the Planning Authority relate to existing buildings or developed areas, the sequential approach cannot be used to locate them in lower-risk areas and the Justification Test will not therefore apply. Proposals seeking to change the use of existing buildings from a less vulnerable use to a use that would be more vulnerable to the effects of flooding may not be permissible in areas of elevated flood risk, whilst some change of use proposals not increasing the vulnerability to the effects of flooding or small scale extensions to such buildings will be considered on their individual merits but are acceptable in principle. An existing dwelling or building that is not located within an area at risk of flooding but has a large rear garden / curtilage that is located within Flood Zone A or B would not be suitable for a more in-depth residential development proposal which would propose a residential use within Flood Zone A or B.
 - (ii) Proposals shall only be considered favourably where it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority that they would not have adverse impacts or impede access to a watercourse, floodplain or flood protection and management facilities, or increase the risk of flooding to other locations and be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area. The nature and design of structural and non-structural flood risk management measures required for development in such areas (see relevant Flood Risk Assessments - section below) will also be required to be demonstrated, to ensure that flood hazard and risk will not be increased. Measures proposed shall follow best practice in the management of health and safety for users and residents of the development.
 - (iii) Exceptional areas are the already developed City Centre and Docklands areas, which have undergone Justification Tests and have been zoned for development, and established built-up areas of Cork City including suburban areas such as Model Farm Road / Carrigrohane Road area and Douglas. Future development in these areas will:
 - be subject to site-specific flood risk assessments;
 - comply with the flood risk management provisions of this Plan, including the structural and non-structural risk management measures outlined under Flood Risk Assessments below, and relevant measures contained in the Council's 2020 South Docks Drainage Strategy; and
 - will benefit from Flood Relief Schemes being progressed by the OPW.

Flood hazard and flood risk information is an emerging dataset of information. The flood risk mapping used by the Council may be altered in light of future data and analysis. Therefore, all landowners and developers are advised that Cork City Council accept no responsibility for losses or damages arising due to assessments of vulnerability to flooding of lands, uses and developments. Owners, users and developers are advised to take all reasonable measures to assess the vulnerability to flooding in a particular area, prior to submitting a planning application.

Chapter 11 "Placemaking and Managing Development", "Flood Risk Assessments"

Paragraph No. 11.265

The Council will have regard to the Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Local Authorities (DEHLG and OPW 2009) when assessing planning applications. All significant proposals for development identified as being vulnerable to flooding will be required to provide a site-specific Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) in accordance with the Guidelines. A detailed site-specific FRA should quantify the risks, the effects of selected mitigation and the management of any residual risks.

Paragraph No. 11.266

Assessments shall consider and provide information on the implications of climate change with regard to flood risk in relevant locations. The 2009 OPW Draft Guidance on Assessment of Potential Future Scenarios for Flood Risk Management (or any superseding document) and available information from the CFRAM Studies shall be consulted to this effect.

Paragraph No. 11.267

In Flood Zone C, where the probability of flooding is low (less than 0.1%, Flood Zone C), site-specific Flood Risk Assessment may be required and the developer should satisfy themselves that the probability of flooding is appropriate to the development being proposed. This Development Plan's SFRA datasets and the most up to date CFRAM Programme mapping should be consulted by prospective applicants for developments in this regard and will be made available to Development Management processes in the Council.

Paragraph No. 11.268

Further details are also included in Chapter 9 Environmental Infrastructure and Management.

Paragraph No. 11.269

Applications for vulnerable development in flood risk zones, including within Flood Zones A and B in the City Centre and the Dockland areas and in areas at risk under the OPW's Mid-Range Future Scenario, shall provide details of structural and non-structural risk management measures to include, but not be limited to specifications of the following:

(1) Floor Levels

In areas of limited flood depth, the specification of the threshold and floor levels of new structures shall be raised above expected flood levels to reduce the risk of flood losses to a building, by raising floor heights within the building structure using a suspended floor arrangement or raised internal concrete platforms.

When designing an extension or modification to an existing building, an appropriate flood risk reduction measure shall be specified to ensure the threshold levels into the building are above the design flood level. However, care must also be taken to ensure access for all is provided in compliance with Part M of the Building Regulations.

Where threshold levels cannot be raised to the street for streetscape, conservation or other reasons, the design shall specify a mixing of uses vertically in buildings - with less vulnerable uses located at ground floor level, along with other measures for dealing with residual flood risk.

(2) Internal Layout

Internal layout shall be designed and specified to reduce the impact of flooding (e.g. living accommodation, essential services, storage space for provisions and equipment shall be designed to be located above the predicted flood level). In addition, designs and specifications shall ensure that, wherever reasonably practicable, the siting of living accommodation (particularly sleeping areas) shall be above flood level.

With the exception of single storey extensions to existing properties, new single storey accommodation shall not be deemed appropriate where predicted flood levels are above design floor levels. In all cases, specifications for safe access, refuge and evacuation shall be incorporated into the design of the development.

(3) Flood-Resistant Construction

Developments in flood vulnerable zones should specify the use of flood-resistant construction aimed at preventing water from entering buildings - to mitigate the damage floodwater caused to buildings.

Developments should specify the use of flood resistant construction prepared using specialist technical input to the design and specification of the external building envelope – with measures to resist hydrostatic pressure (commonly referred to as “tanking”) specified for the outside of the building fabric.

The design of the flood resistant construction shall specify the need to protect the main entry points for floodwater into buildings - including doors and windows (including gaps in sealant around frames), vents, air-bricks and gaps around conduits or pipes passing through external building fabric.

The design of the flood resistant construction should also specify the need to protect against flood water entry through sanitary appliances as a result of backflow through the drainage system.

Developments in flood vulnerable zones that are at risk of occasional inundation should incorporate design and specification for flood resilient construction which accepts that floodwater will enter buildings and provides for this in the design and specification of internal building services and finishes. These measures limit damage caused by floodwater and allow relatively quick recovery. This can be achieved by specifying wall and floor materials such as ceramic tiling that can be cleaned and dried relatively easily, provided that the substrate materials (e.g. blockwork) are also resilient. Electrics, appliances and kitchen fittings should also be specified to be raised above floor level, and one-way valves shall be incorporated into drainage pipes.

(4) Emergency Response Planning

In addition to considering physical design issues for developments in flood vulnerable zones, the developer shall specify that the planning of new development also takes account of the need for effective emergency response planning for flood events in areas of new development.

Applications for developments in flood vulnerable zones shall provide details that the following measures will be put in place and maintained:

- Provision of flood warnings, evacuation plans and ensuring public awareness of flood risks to people where they live and work;
- Coordination of responses and discussion with relevant emergency services i.e. Local Authorities, Fire and Rescue, Civil Defence and An Garda Síochána through the SFRA; and
- Awareness of risks and evacuation procedures and the need for family flood plans.

(5) Access and Egress During Flood Events

Applications for development in flood vulnerable zones shall include details of arrangements for access and egress during flood events. Such details shall specify that:

- Flood escape routes have been kept to publicly accessible land;
- Such routes will have signage and other flood awareness measures in place, to inform local communities what to do in case of flooding; and
- This information will be provided in a welcome pack to new occupants.

Paragraph No. 11.270

Further and more detailed guidance and advice can be found at <http://www.flooding.ie> and in the Building Regulations.

Chapter 12 “Land Use Zoning Objectives”, “Permitted Uses”

Paragraph No. 12.7

Further to Plan provisions relating to flood risk management under other parts of this Plan (including paragraph no’s. 11.261 to 11.267 and paragraph no’s. 12.21 to 12.23), permissible uses within flood zones A or B in areas that have not passed the Justification Test (i.e. those areas outside of Cork City Centre and the North and South Docklands) shall be constrained to those “water compatible” and “less vulnerable” uses as appropriate to the particular flood zone (please refer to the accompanying Strategic Flood Risk Assessment document).

Objective 12.1 Land Uses and Flooding Objective

To Facilitate the appropriate management and sustainable use of Flood Zones A and B identified by the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

Other City Development Plan measures relating to flood risk management and drainage are provided on the table below.

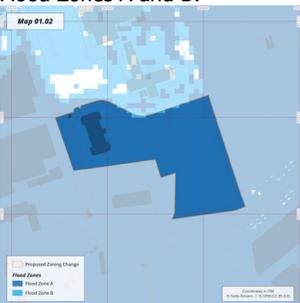
Plan Ref.	Provision
Strategic Objective 4: Climate and Environment	<p>Where the Proposed Variation provides for: the addition of text, this is indicated in blue colour “like this”; and the deletion of text, this is indicated in strike through “like this”.</p> <p>To support transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable future. To support the circular economy. Cork City Council is committed to the implementation of measures to support the achievement of national policies and targets for climate mitigation, including the Government’s policy under Ireland’s Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-30 and Climate Action Plan 2019, National Mitigation Plan, National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland. At the time of preparation of this Plan, the Government agreed to advance the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2021 to support Ireland’s transition to Net Zero and achieve a climate neutral economy by 2050.</p> <p>Proposals for new development in Cork City will strive to reduce carbon footprints by carbon emission reductions, sustainable energy consumption, sustainable transport, use of renewable energy sources, green construction methods including passive solar design, and flood risk mitigation and adaptation and use of nature-based solutions, through design, layout, implementation and operation.</p> <p>A statement commensurate with the nature and scale of the development proposal will be required to accompany planning applications demonstrating how climate resilience has been considered and implemented at all stages in the development process.</p>
Paragraph 9.5 Assessment of Development in Areas of Flood Risk	<p>The Planning System and Flood Risk Management: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009) , subsequently amended under Department of Environment, Community and Local Government Circular PL2/2014 , outline how the aim of flood risk management is to minimise the level of flood risk to people, business, infrastructure and the environment through the identification and management of existing and potential future flood risks. The Guidelines recommend a sequential approach to spatial planning, promoting avoidance rather than justification and subsequent mitigation of risk. The guidelines define the Justification Test as an assessment of whether a development proposal within an area at risk of flooding meets specific criteria for proper planning and sustainable development and demonstrates that it will not be subject to unacceptable risk nor increase flood risk elsewhere. The Justification Test should be applied only where development is within flood risk areas that would be defined as inappropriate under the screening test of the sequential risk-based approach. Cork City Council will adopt a precautionary approach, namely to avoid development in floodplains, wetlands and coastal areas prone to flooding and so preserve these natural defences that hold excess water until it can be released slowly back into river systems, the sea or seep into the ground. Where flood risk is an issue, applicants will generally be required to carry out a site specific Flood Risk Assessment (apart from minor developments, where such an approach would not be justified). Policy in relation to the incorporation of measures such as Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) to reduce surface runoff is outlined above and should be incorporated in so far as possible to reduce risks.</p> <p>Coastal Change</p> <p>A National Coastal Change Management Strategy Steering Group was set up in 2020 to scope out an approach for the development of a national coordinated and integrated strategy to manage the projected impact of coastal change to our coastal communities, economies, heritage, culture and environment. Cork City Council supports the preparation of the strategy and will consider its findings when published and how it may impact its functional area. In the interim consideration will be given to areas that may be at risk or vulnerable to coastal erosion or coastal change, including change associated with climate change.</p>
Paragraph 9.6 Coastal Change	<p>A National Coastal Change Management Strategy Steering Group was set up in 2020 to scope out an approach for the development of a national coordinated and integrated strategy to manage the projected impact of coastal change to our coastal communities, economies, heritage, culture and environment. Cork City Council supports the preparation of the strategy and will consider its findings when published and how it may impact its functional area. In the interim consideration will be given to areas that may be at risk or vulnerable to coastal erosion or coastal change, including change associated with climate change.</p>
Objective 9.6 Storm Water	<p>To provide adequate storm water infrastructure in order to accommodate the planned levels of growth within the plan area and to ensure that appropriate flood management measures are implemented to protect property and infrastructure.</p>
Objective 9.8 Flood Protection	<p>To protect, enhance and manage the City’s floodplains, wetlands and coastal habitat areas that are subject to flooding as vital ‘green infrastructure’ which provides space for storage and conveyance of floodwater, enabling flood risk to be more effectively managed and reduce the need to provide flood defence infrastructures. Cork Council will also require that all proposed flood protection or alleviation works will be subject to Appropriate Assessment to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity, defined by the structure and function, of any European Sites and that the requirements of Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive are met.</p>
Objective 9.9 Flood Protection Schemes	<p>To work with the Office of Public Works (OPW) in the progression and completion of Flood Risk Management Plans and flood relief schemes including the Lower Lee Flood Relief Scheme (LLFRS), schemes in Blackpool, Glanmire / Glashaboy, Douglas / Togher and other schemes that may be developed during the period of the plan.</p>

Plan Ref.	Provision Where the Proposed Variation provides for: the addition of text, this is indicated in blue colour "like this"; and the deletion of text, this is indicated in strike through "like this".
Objective 9.10 Development in Flood Risk Areas	(a) To restrict development in identified flood risk areas, in particular flood plains. All new development proposals shall comply with the requirements of the Planning System and Flood Risk Management –Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009) and Department of Environment, Community and Local Government Circular PL2/2014, in particular through the application of the sequential approach and the Development Management Justification Test. (b) All significant proposals for development identified as being vulnerable to flooding will be required to provide a site specific Flood Risk Assessment to identify potential loss of floodplain storage and proposals for the storage or attenuation (e.g. SUDS) of run-off discharges (including foul drains) to ensure development does not increase the flood risk in the relevant catchment. (c) Adopt a river catchment approach to rivers entering the City, practicing natural flood management wherever practical and appropriate.
Paragraph 10.108	Cork City Council has prepared a South Docks Drainage and Levels Strategy (2022) to inform the development of the City Docks (hereafter referred to as "the Strategy"). The objective of the Strategy is to provide a long-term placemaking vision that is flexible, environmentally responsible and climate- resilient, particularly to potential changes in sea level and rainfall intensity. The Strategy is based on a sustainable urban drainage solution (SUDS) approach to provide the drainage network and conveyance and mitigation of water. The aim is to provide water features on Centre Park Road and Monahan's Road that form an integral part of the urban landscape. The Strategy was finalised in Q3 2022.
Paragraph 10.109	The Strategy provides an integrated landscape and sustainable blue-green drainage concept design, combining a number of key components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marina Park /Atlantic Pond, the strategic park of landscape and recreational significance to the City South Docks and wider area. The Park is designed to accommodate significant flood storage (c.72,000 cubic metres including c. 43,000 at the Atlantic Pond / surrounds, c. 24,000 within the park and c5,500 at the Pairc Uí Choimh Ail Weather pitch tanks storage cells); • The Kennedy Spine Park that will provide flood storage for c.1500 cubic metres of flood storage integrated into a park that will combine soft and hard landscapes reflecting the vision for this key park piece of public open space; • An east-west green spine along Centre Park Road (West of Marquee Road), incorporating an open swale that is designed to accommodate c.2,300 cubic metres of flood storage;An east-west green spine along Monahan Road, incorporating an improved drainage ditch channel/open swale designed to accommodate c.4,900 5000 cubic metres of flood storage; • Storage adjacent to the Atlantic Pond on the Ardfoyle Convent lands capable of accommodating c. 5,000 cubic metres of water; • A north-south green spine between Marina Park and the River Lee Frontage. The north-south green route broadly along the line of Marquee Road and the boundary of the ESB and former Tedcastle sites. The Strategy sets out a the full schedule of the strategic flood storage locations for the City South Docks.
Paragraph 10.110	The Strategy provides the following (Refer to see-Map in Chapter D in Volume 2: Mapped Objectives: which provides a Summary of Proposed Infrastructure Measures in the South Docks Drainage and Levels Strategy): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An infrastructure strategy to ensure that the South Docks is resilient to flood risk and climate change; • Drainage catchments that reflect the capacity of the network to deal with pluvial (rainfall) runoff; • A surface water drainage network based upon SuDS / nature-based solutions, including conveyance by grey infrastructure. • A perimeter flood protection from tidal and fluvial (river) flood risks, in accordance with the Drainage and Flood Levels Strategy, including a transition from the standard perimeter defence of 4.35m OD at the proposed Kent Station Bridge to the proposed flood protection levels at Albert Quay East, to be delivered as part of the Cork Docklands to City Centre Road Improvement Scheme. • Minimum ground (public realm and streets) level and building finished floor levels (FFLs) with proposed ground levels as close to existing ground levels as possible, while mitigating against pluvial (cloudburst-rainfall) flood risk. • Public strategic (regional) flood storage will need to be provided across a number of locations in the South Docks, as set out above. • Site acquisition is likely to be as required to deliver elements of this green storage infrastructure, which the strategy that are located in private ownership. A key location for the preferred additional storage location will be: The proposed public open space to the south of the Atlantic Pond and within the Ardfoyle Convent lands, which would form part of the Marina Park. • The Strategy indicates that there may be a requirement for a surface water pumping station in the vicinity of the proposed extension to the Atlantic Pond area in the future to ensure the necessary adaptation plans are in place to meet the challenge mitigate the risks presented by climate change., It is estimated that with a total site area of a total of c.250sqm being will be required to accommodate this pumping station infrastructure. The Strategy identifies a possible locations for this facility on the proposed extension to the Atlantic Pond area. However this is indicative only The suitability of these, or other locations, for the pumping station will need to be identified during the life of the Plan when required, in response to the prevailing climate change.
Paragraph 10.111	Chapter 10 paragraph 10.111 A perimeter flood defence will also need to be integrated into the design for the North Docks and included in the North Docks Masterplan, which is due to be prepared. This will be based on the same principles of using SUDS, public realm, embracing the river and developing amenity as part of the drainage and flood defence for the North Docks.
Paragraph 10.112	Minimum Ground Levels and Finished Floor Levels It is necessary to marginally increase localised ground (public realm and roads) levels at low points to between 0.85m OD and 1.0m OD to facilitate an effective gravity system and achievable storage volumes for scenarios flood events up to Medium-High End Risk Future Scenario (HEMRFS).
Paragraph 10.113	To ensure that the proposed buildings within the South Docks achieve the appropriate standard of protection from flooding are at acceptably low levels of risk of surface water flooding, it is proposed to set minimum finished floor levels (FFL) at least 300mm above the predicted 1 in 100 year relevant High-End Future Scenario flood event, taking account of two types of flooding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A pluvial flood event, where stormwater discharges from the South Docks are "tide locked"

Plan Ref.	Provision Where the Proposed Variation provides for: the addition of text, this is indicated in blue colour "like this"; and the deletion of text, this is indicated in strike through " like this ".
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tidal inundation from the River Lee in the event of a breach in the polder defence. <p>The standard of protection to be provided is summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pluvial and Fluvial flood protection designed to a standard of 1%AEP, assuming +40% rainfall intensity, due to climate change. • Tidal flood protection designed to a standard of 0.5%AEP, assuming +1.05m sea-level rise due to climate change. <p>pluvial flood level and the residual inundation risk, which varies across the docks, as shown in Figure 10.10. The recommended finished floor levels throughout the South Docks are summarised in Figure 10.10. Flood defence for the North Docks will be achieved through the setting of appropriate building finished floor levels for new developments, designed to withstand sea-level rise of up to 0.5m due to climate change, in accordance with OPW document The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines.</p>
Paragraph 10.114	<p>Finished floor levels within Figure 10.10 are recommendations only. It is recommended that this minimum level apply only to Water Compatible Development and Less Vulnerable Development as defined by the Flood Risk Planning Guidelines³, and subject to site specific flood risk assessment demonstrating appropriate flood mitigation strategy. Within the polder, finished floor levels for less vulnerable uses do not strictly need to be above the residual risk level but will need defences up to that level through building flood resilience measures. Planning applications for new development both within the South Docks and the North Docks will still need to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the OPW Guidelines by means of a Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment.</p>
Paragraph 10.115	<p>Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 10.114 above, wWithin the polder defended polder areas of South Docklands, a general minimum FFL the finished floor level for Highly Vulnerable Development shall be +1.9mOD. This is required to mitigate the residual flood risk arising from a breach of the polder defence during based on 1 in 200 year 0.5%AEP tidal flood level, including appropriate allowances for climate change, residual risk (breach and overtopping) and freeboard.</p>
Paragraph 10.116	<p>It is envisaged that minimum FFLs along the quayside would be set at or above the proposed polder defence level of +3.85m to +4.35m OD, except for the western end of Kennedy Quay which transitions from to Albert Quay East. At this location where a minimum FFL of +3.85m OD can will be accommodated due to constraints imposed by existing streetscapes.</p> <p>Proposed Minimum Finished Floor Levels are provided in Figure 10.10 and in the Character Area Guidance. The proposed ground levels as for streets and spaces are set out in the South Docks Drainage Strategy (see Map D in Volume 2: Mapped Objectives: Summary of Proposed Infrastructure Measures in the South Docks Drainage and Levels Strategy.</p>
Paragraph 10.117	<p>Development Management Controls SuDS and Site run-off</p> <p>It is proposed that all private developments, except waterfront developments, will provide on-site storage for surface water, to prevent overwhelming of the capacity of the proposed public system during extreme events and thus share the burden of providing the necessary surface water storage volume, which can be designed and provided through many storage mitigation techniques. Waterfront developments can discharge directly into the River Lee unattenuated. The gradual implementation of the private storage will incrementally reduce the pressure on the public drainage system, thus providing flexibility in the relative timing of the delivery of both public and private sector developments and infrastructure.</p>
Paragraph 10.118	<p>It is proposed that there will be a split shared responsibility for surface water storage between private and public lands by requiring all developments to limit discharges to the public system to an absolute maximum of 68l/s/ha (approximately 50% of design peak brownfield runoff rate for critical storm event) irrespective of tidal phase.</p>
Paragraph 10.119	<p>Development proposals will have to demonstrate site run-off flow rates of 50% of greenfield run-off rate to the public SuDS. Developments will be required to ameliorate the private 50% rainfall will be required to demonstrate how this discharge limit will be achieved, and include calculations for the volume of onsite storage to be provided. The proposals should seek to present storage solutions that are in line with on-site utilising Sustainable Urban Drainage System and Nature Based Solutions Principles (see Objective 9.4: Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems and para. 11.258).</p>
Paragraph 10.120	<p>Basements and Structural Design Strategies</p> <p>Based on the findings of the Hydrogeology Desk Study (November 2021) completed as part of the Strategy, maintaining the aquitard function provided by the existing alluvium soil layer has been identified as a key requirement of the proposed redevelopment of the South Docks. It is however recognised, that the nature of the ground conditions and anticipated type and height of the buildings will mean that piling, and potentially basements, will be required in many instances. Where it is necessary for such structures to penetrate the alluvium layer, the detailing of the foundations, basements and piling will need to ensure that no new flow paths are created and that an equivalent aquitard function is maintained post-development. Structural design strategies that do not penetrate the alluvium later will be the preference for structural design solutions and departure from this approach will require justification.</p>
Development Management Paragraph 11.216	<p>11.216 Development proposals should integrate green and blue infrastructure measures to offset peak flood flows including the following options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Nature-based solutions and "slow-the-flow" initiatives. (2) Incorporation of SUDS to limit runoff from existing and new development. (3) Wetland enhancement on floodplains. (4) Native tree planting and landscaping schemes. (5) Green roofs and green walls (6) Rainwater harvesting and rainwater boxes. (7) Natural banks, water dykes and water squares. (8) Natural flood management techniques.

Consideration of Proposed Variation No. 2 Land Use Zoning/Transport Infrastructure changes against Flood Zones

Proposed Variation No. 2 identifies a number of changes to the existing Plan's land use zoning/transport infrastructure. These changes are considered on the table below against the Flood Zones identified by the SFRA.

No.	Description	Map Reference	Existing Zoning	Proposed Zoning	Flood Zone(s) ¹⁸	Assessment
1	Extension to Sports Infrastructure and Facilities ZO 16 (Canal Walk Sports Complex)	Volume 2, Chapter A, Map 01.01	ZO 02 New Residential Neighbourhoods and ZO 07 District Centre	Extension to ZO 16 Sports Grounds and Facilities to accommodate multi-use playing pitches for team-based sports in an area where a deficit of sports facilities exist	Flood Zone A: 	Proposal is for water compatible development. No further consideration required.
2	Zoning of Utility Infrastructure	Volume 2, Chapter A, Map 01.02	ZO 02 New Residential Neighbourhoods	ZO 14 Public Infrastructure and Utilities to protect critical infrastructure	Flood Zones A and B: 	Proposal is for changing use from one highly vulnerable development to another. As this is a highly vulnerable development, further consideration is provided under "Consistency with Justification Test undertaken for the existing Development Plan" below.

¹⁸ In order to confirm Flood Zones at the sites where Proposed Variation No. 2 identifies changes to the existing Plan's land use zoning/transport infrastructure, the methodology followed by the existing SFRA was followed. The historical and predictive indicators identified within the main SFRA were reviewed and new indicators including the OPW's National Coastal Flood Hazard Mapping were taken into account.

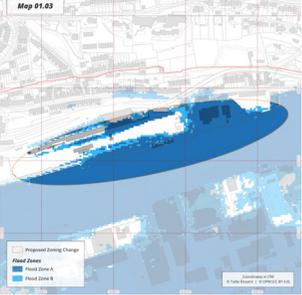
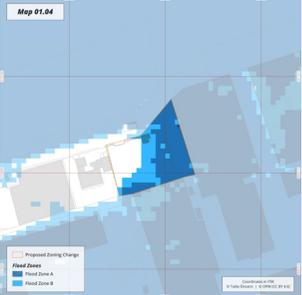
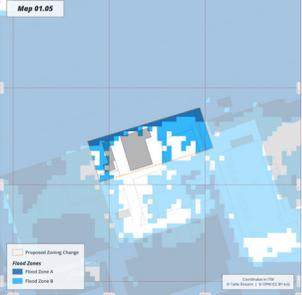
The OPW's National Coastal Flood Hazard Mapping provides updated national scale coastal flood extent and depth maps. Maps were produced for the 50% (equivalent to a one in two-year event), 20%, 10%, 5%, 2%, 1%, 0.5% and 0.1% (equivalent to a one in 1000-year event) Annual Exceedance Probabilities for the present-day scenario and for future climate change scenarios, which represent increases in sea level.

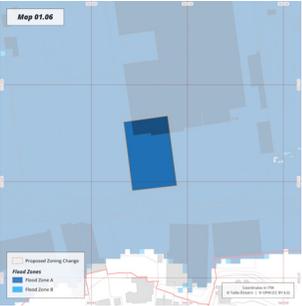
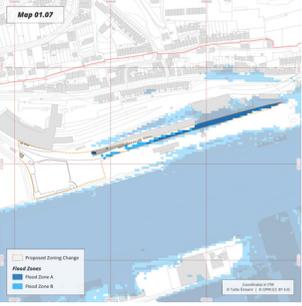
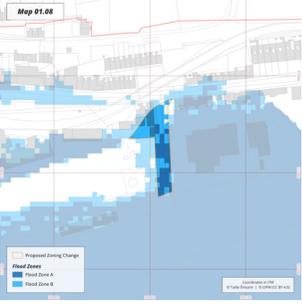
Although widely accepted methods have been used to prepare the maps, there is a range of inherent uncertainties within the process of preparing the flood extent and depth maps. These include:

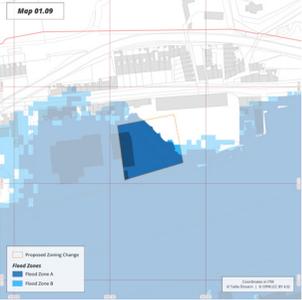
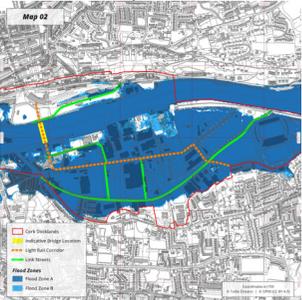
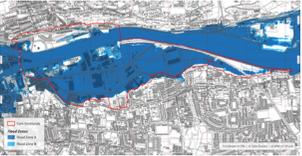
- Uncertainties in the estimated extreme water levels: This can arise due to uncertainties in topographic and other survey data, meteorological data, assumptions and / or approximations in the hydraulic / hydrodynamic models in representing physical reality, assumptions in the hydraulic / hydrodynamic modelling, datum conversions, etc.

- Uncertainties in the flood extents and depths: This can arise due to uncertainties in the estimated extreme water levels, topographic and other survey data, assumptions and / or approximations in the way that flooding spreads over a floodplain, etc.

Due to the various sources of potential inaccuracies in the flood extent and depth maps, a quantitative assessment of their accuracy has not been carried out. A qualitative assessment of the maps was carried out as part of the quality control process. The flood extent and depth maps are therefore suitable for the assessment of flood risk at a strategic scale only, and should not be used to assess the flood hazard and risk associated with individual properties or point locations, or to replace a detailed flood risk assessment. The potential for inaccuracy should be recognised if these flood maps are to be used for any purpose.

No.	Description	Map Reference	Existing Zoning	Proposed Zoning	Flood Zone(s) ¹⁸	Assessment
3	Extension to Walkways and cycleways	Volume 2, Chapter A, Map 01.03	ZO18 Quayside Amenity Area and ZO 02 New Residential Neighbourhoods	Addition of Walkways and Cycleways over primary land use zones to reflect the line of the proposed greenway	Flood Zones A, B and C: 	Proposal is for water compatible development. No further consideration required.
4	Extension to Quayside Amenity Area (@theFord Plaza)	Volume 2, Chapter A, Map 01.04	ZO 04 Mixed Use Development	ZO18 Quayside Amenity to provide a public plaza at a strategic location adjoining the historic Ford Factory complex	Flood Zones A, B and C: 	Proposal is for water compatible development. No further consideration required.
5	Extension to Quayside Amenity Area (Marina Plaza)	Volume 2, Chapter A, Map 01.05	ZO 02 New Residential Neighbourhoods	ZO18 Quayside Amenity to provide a public plaza at a strategic location at the landing of the Water Street Bridge	Flood Zones A, B and C: 	Proposal is for water compatible development. No further consideration required.

No.	Description	Map Reference	Existing Zoning	Proposed Zoning	Flood Zone(s) ¹⁸	Assessment
6	Extension to Public Open Space (Monahan Park)	Volume 2, Chapter A, Map 01.06	ZO 04 Mixed Use Development	Extension to ZO 15 Public Open Space to accommodate multi-use playing pitches for team-based sports and informal recreation in an area where a deficit of sports facilities exist	<p>Flood Zone A:</p> 	Proposal is for water compatible development. No further consideration required.
7	Change of Use to Development Plot (Horgan's Quay)	Volume 2, Chapter A, Map 01.07	ZO 02 New Residential Neighbourhoods and ZO 15 Public Open Space	ZO 14 Public Infrastructure and Utilities. The realignment of Horgan's Road results in a number of consequential zoning amendments to ZO 15 Public Open Space and ZO 14 Public Infrastructure and Utilities to accommodate a multi-modal transport interchange in association with the development of a signature tall building at the Waterfront.	<p>Flood Zones A, B and C:</p> 	Proposal includes changing use from one highly vulnerable development to another. As highly vulnerable developments are involved, further consideration is provided under "Consistency with Justification Test undertaken for the existing Development Plan" below.
8	Change of Use to Water Street	Volume 2, Chapter A, Map 01.08	Existing Water Street and ZO 14 Public Infrastructure and Utilities	ZO 18 Quayside Amenity arising from Horgan's Road realignment	<p>Flood Zones A, B and C:</p> 	Proposal is for water compatible development. No further consideration required.

No.	Description	Map Reference	Existing Zoning	Proposed Zoning	Flood Zone(s) ¹⁸	Assessment
9	Change of Use and extension to Public Open Space (Shipyards Plaza)	Volume 2 Map 01.09	ZO 15 Public Open Space and ZO 02 New Residential Neighbourhoods	ZO 18 Quayside Amenity. Extension of the Shipyards Plaza to the west to accommodate the bridge landing	Flood Zones A, B and C: 	Proposal is for water compatible development. No further consideration required.
10	Transport infrastructure changes	Volume 2 Map 02	* not land use zoning *	Proposed Mapping Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocation of Water Street Indicative Bridge Location to the east • Relocation of Pedestrian Cycle Streets (Blue Green Infrastructure Route) • New Indicative Link Streets and Indicative Light Rail Corridor 	Flood Zones A, B and C 	Proposal relates to highly vulnerable development. As this is a highly vulnerable development, further consideration is provided under "Consistency with Justification Test undertaken for the existing Development Plan" below.
11	Drainage infrastructure change	Volume 2, Chapter D	* not land use zoning *	Proposed Mapping Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update Drainage Map to illustrate integration of drainage with public open space strategy. 	Flood Zones A, B and C: 	Proposal is for water compatible development. No further consideration required.

Consistency with Justification Test undertaken for the existing Development Plan

In order to meet the objectives of proper planning and sustainable development various uses are provided for in Flood Zones A and B. These uses have been subject to Justification Tests, as required by the Flood Guidelines, informed by the Council, which examine such proposals against various criteria - as detailed below.

The various uses provided across the North and South Docklands areas have already passed the Justification Test outlined in the Flood Risk Management Guidelines.

This section considers whether relevant changes to the existing Plan's land use zoning/transport infrastructure (see "Consideration of Proposed Variation No. 2 Land Use Zoning/Transport Infrastructure changes against Flood Zones" above) are consistent with this outcome for the North and South Docklands areas.

Reference No. and Description (see "Consideration of Proposed Variation No. 2 Land Use Zoning/Transport Infrastructure changes against Flood Zones" above)	Flood Zone	Justification Test (Fails, if one of the following fails; all must be passed for the test to be passed)						Overall Justification Test Result/Consistency with Justification Test undertaken for the existing Development Plan	
		Settlement targeted for growth under the NPF, RSES and/or CDP?	Is the zoning of the lands required to achieve the proper planning and sustainable development of the settlement and in particular has the required sub-criteria been satisfied ¹⁹ ?						Has flood risk assessment to an appropriate level of detail been carried out as part of the SEA as part of the plan preparation process, which demonstrates that flood risk to the development can be adequately managed and the use or development of the lands will not cause unacceptable adverse impact elsewhere?
			(i) – see footnote	(ii) – see footnote	(iii) – see footnote	(iv) – see footnote	(v) – see footnote		
No. 2 - Zoning of Utility Infrastructure	A and B	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<p>Yes. Future development will: be subject to site-specific flood risk assessments; comply with the flood risk management provisions of the Plan (see Section 4 of SFRA), including the structural and non-structural risk management measures outlined at Paragraph 11.269 and relevant measures contained in Chapter of the Plan, such as those related to drainage; and benefit from Flood Relief Scheme work being progressed by the OPW (see Section 3 of the main SFRA Report). This is in order to contribute towards not increasing flood hazard and risk to the area and to other adjoining locations or, if practicable, to reduce this hazard and risk.</p> <p>The potential conflict between zonings and <i>highly</i> and <i>less vulnerable</i> development will be avoided by applying the various measures that relate to flood risk, drainage and climate change that have been integrated into the Plan, including those at Development Management Paragraphs 11.261-11.267 and other Plan provisions repeated under "City Development Plan measures relating to land use zoning and flood risk management and drainage" in this Addendum.</p>	Pass – this is consistent with the outcome identified by the SFRA of the existing Development Plan for the North and South Docklands areas.

¹⁹ (i) Is essential to facilitate regeneration and/or expansion of the centre of the urban settlement; (ii) Comprises significant previously developed and/or under-utilised lands; (iii) Is within or adjoining the core of an established or designated urban settlement; (iv) Will be essential in achieving compact and sustainable urban growth; and (v) There are no suitable alternative lands for the particular use or development type, in areas at lower risk of flooding within or adjoining the core of the urban settlement.

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Reference No. and Description (see "Consideration of Proposed Variation No. 2 Land Use Zoning/Transport Infrastructure changes against Flood Zones" above)	Flood Zone	Justification Test (Fails, if one of the following fails; all must be passed for the test to be passed)						Overall Justification Test Result/Consistency with Justification Test undertaken for the existing Development Plan	
		Settlement targeted for growth under the NPF, RSES and/or CDP?	Is the zoning of the lands required to achieve the proper planning and sustainable development of the settlement and in particular has the required sub-criteria been satisfied ²⁰ ?						Has flood risk assessment to an appropriate level of detail been carried out as part of the SEA as part of the plan preparation process, which demonstrates that flood risk to the development can be adequately managed and the use or development of the lands will not cause unacceptable adverse impact elsewhere?
			(i) – see footnote	(ii) – see footnote	(iii) – see footnote	(iv) – see footnote	(v) – see footnote		
No. 7 - Change of Use to Development Plot (Horgan's Quay)	A, B and C	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes. Future development will: be subject to site-specific flood risk assessments; comply with the flood risk management provisions of the Plan (see Section 4 of SFRA), including the structural and non-structural risk management measures outlined at Paragraph 11.269 and relevant measures contained in Chapter of the Plan, such as those related to drainage; and benefit from Flood Relief Scheme work being progressed by the OPW (see Section 3 of the main SFRA Report). This is in order to contribute towards not increasing flood hazard and risk to the area and to other adjoining locations or, if practicable, to reduce this hazard and risk. The potential conflict between zonings and <i>highly</i> and <i>less vulnerable</i> development will be avoided by applying the various measures that relate to flood risk, drainage and climate change that have been integrated into the Plan, including those at Development Management Paragraphs 11.261-11.267 and other Plan provisions repeated under "City Development Plan measures relating to land use zoning and flood risk management and drainage" in this Addendum.	Pass – this is consistent with the outcome identified by the SFRA of the existing Development Plan for the North and South Docklands areas.

²⁰ (i) Is essential to facilitate regeneration and/or expansion of the centre of the urban settlement; (ii) Comprises significant previously developed and/or under-utilised lands; (iii) Is within or adjoining the core of an established or designated urban settlement; (iv) Will be essential in achieving compact and sustainable urban growth; and (v) There are no suitable alternative lands for the particular use or development type, in areas at lower risk of flooding within or adjoining the core of the urban settlement.

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Reference No. and Description (see "Consideration of Proposed Variation No. 2 Land Use Zoning/Transport Infrastructure changes against Flood Zones" above)	Flood Zone	Justification Test (Fails, if one of the following fails; all must be passed for the test to be passed)					Overall Justification Test Result/Consistency with Justification Test undertaken for the existing Development Plan	
		Settlement targeted for growth under the NPF, RSES and/or CDP?	Is the zoning of the lands required to achieve the proper planning and sustainable development of the settlement and in particular has the required sub-criteria been satisfied ²¹ ?					
			(i) – see footnote	(ii) – see footnote	(iii) – see footnote	(iv) – see footnote		(v) – see footnote
No. 10 - Transport infrastructure changes (Map 02)	A, B and C	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<p>Yes. Future development will: be subject to site-specific flood risk assessments; comply with the flood risk management provisions of the Plan (see Section 4 of SFRA), including the structural and non-structural risk management measures outlined at Paragraph 11.269 and relevant measures contained in Chapter of the Plan, such as those related to drainage; and benefit from Flood Relief Scheme work being progressed by the OPW (see Section 3 of the main SFRA Report). This is in order to contribute towards not increasing flood hazard and risk to the area and to other adjoining locations or, if practicable, to reduce this hazard and risk.</p> <p>The potential conflict between zonings and <i>highly</i> and <i>less vulnerable</i> development will be avoided by applying the various measures that relate to flood risk, drainage and climate change that have been integrated into the Plan, including those at Development Management Paragraphs 11.261-11.267 and other Plan provisions repeated under "City Development Plan measures relating to land use zoning and flood risk management and drainage" in this Addendum.</p> <p>It is noted that the Water Street Indicative Bridge Location continues to be indicative. Furthermore, with respect to all transport infrastructure, Objective 4.6 of the existing Development Plan "Corridor & Route Selection Process" is noted, "Policies and Objectives relating to new roads and other transport infrastructure projects (including greenways, walkways, cycleways and blueways) that are not already provided for by existing plans / programmes or are not already permitted, are subject to the undertaking of feasibility assessment having regard to normal planning considerations and environmental sensitivities as identified in the SEA Environmental Report and the objectives of the Plan relating to sustainable mobility."</p>	<p>Pass – this is consistent with the outcome identified by the SFRA of the existing Development Plan for the North and South Docklands areas.</p>

²¹ (i) Is essential to facilitate regeneration and/or expansion of the centre of the urban settlement; (ii) Comprises significant previously developed and/or under-utilised lands; (iii) Is within or adjoining the core of an established or designated urban settlement; (iv) Will be essential in achieving compact and sustainable urban growth; and (v) There are no suitable alternative lands for the particular use or development type, in areas at lower risk of flooding within or adjoining the core of the urban settlement.

Conclusion

Taking into account the provisions integrated into the existing Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028, the SFRA undertaken to inform the City Plan, the changes included within Proposed Variation No. 2 and currently available information on flood risk indicators, this Stage 2 SFRA Addendum demonstrates that the Plan, as varied, will continue to be consistent with the Flood Risk Management Ministerial Guidelines.

Appendix II Relationship with Legislation and Other Plans and Programmes

This appendix is not intended to be a full and comprehensive review of EU Directives, the transposing regulations or the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. The information is not exhaustive and it is recommended to consult the relevant document to become familiar with the full details of each.

Legislation, Plan, etc. European Level	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. Provide for a high level of protection of the environment by carrying out an environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out an environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive. Prepare an environmental report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives that consider the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme. Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission. Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects. Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme. Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive. Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. Aims to assess and implement avoidance or mitigation measures to eliminate environmental effects, before consent is given of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to a requirement for development consent and an assessment with regard to their effects. Those projects are defined in Article 4. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA. For projects listed in Annex II, a "screening procedure" is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account Annex III. The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor. Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of community interest. Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species. Establish a network of European sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, to enable the natural habitat types and the species' habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range. Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present. Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats. Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation. The species included in Annex I shall be the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1. Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas). Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones, re-establish destroyed biotopes and creation of biotopes. Measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I is required as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. The protection of wetlands and particularly wetlands of international importance. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
<p>EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)</p>	<p>It aims to reduce water pollution from nitrates used for agricultural purposes and prevent any further pollution. It forms an integral part of the water framework directive (Directive 2000/60/EC) of the European Union and is closely linked to other EU policies that address air quality, climate change and agriculture.</p>	<p>EU Member States must do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate as vulnerable zones all those draining into waters that are or could be affected by high nitrate levels and eutrophication. The designation is reviewed and possibly revised at least every 4 years to take account of any changes that have occurred. • Establish mandatory action programmes for these areas, taking into account available scientific and technical data and overall environmental conditions. • Monitor the effectiveness of the action programmes. • Test the nitrate concentration in fresh ground and surface water at sampling stations, at least monthly and more frequently during flooding. • Carry out a comprehensive monitoring programme and submit – every 4 years – a detailed report on the directive’s implementation. The report includes information on nitrate-vulnerable zones, results of water monitoring and a summary of the relevant aspects of codes of good agricultural practices and action programmes. • Draw up a code of good agricultural practices, which farmers apply on a voluntary basis. It sets out various good practices, such as when fertiliser use is inappropriate. • Provide training and information for farmers, where appropriate. <p>The European Commission provides a report every 4 years on the basis of the national information it has received.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>EU Environmental Quality Standards Directive (EQSD) (2008/105/EC)</p>	<p>It sets out environmental quality standards (EQSs) for the presence in surface water of certain substances or groups of substances identified as priority pollutants because of the significant risk they pose to or via the aquatic environment. These standards are in line with the strategy and objectives of the European Union (EU)’s water framework directive (Directive 2000/60/EC). It repeals Directives 82/176/EEC, 83/513/EEC, 84/156/EEC, 84/491/EEC and 86/280/EEC with effect from 22 December 2012.</p>	<p>The directive sets EQSs for priority substances and eight other pollutants. These substances include: the metals cadmium, lead, mercury and nickel, and their compounds; benzene; polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons; and several pesticides. Several of these priority substances are classed as hazardous.</p> <p>The EQSs in Directive 2008/105/EC are limits on the concentration of the priority substances and eight other pollutants in water (or biota), i.e. thresholds which must not be exceeded if a good chemical status is to be met. There are two types of water standard.</p> <p>A threshold for the average concentration of the substance concerned calculated from measurements over a 1-year period. The purpose of this standard is to ensure protection against long-term exposure to pollutants in the aquatic environment. A maximum allowable concentration of the substance concerned, i.e. the maximum for any single measurement. The purpose of this standard is to ensure protection against short-term exposure, i.e. pollution peaks.</p> <p>The EQSs are different for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inland surface waters (rivers and lakes); • other surface waters (transitional, coastal and territorial waters). • EU Member States must ensure compliance with the EQSs. They must also take measures to ensure that the concentrations of substances that tend to accumulate in sediment and/or biota do not increase significantly. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>EU Industrial Emissions (Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control) –IED Directive (2010/75/EU)</p>	<p>It is aimed at achieving significant benefits to the environment and human health by reducing harmful industrial emissions across the EU, in particular through better application of Best Available Techniques (BAT). The IED is based on the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an integrated approach (focusing on the installation being permitted rather than separately on different environmental media such as air, water or soil); • best available techniques; • flexibility; • inspections; • public participation. <p>The IED combines seven separate existing Directives related to industrial emissions:</p> <p>With effect from 7 January 2014:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directive 78/176/EEC of 20 February 1978 on waste from the titanium dioxide industry; • Directive 82/883/EEC on the surveillance and monitoring of titanium dioxide waste; • Directive 92/112/EEC on the reduction of titanium dioxide industrial waste; • Directive 1999/13/EC on reducing emissions of volatile organic compounds; • Directive 2000/76/EC on waste incineration (Waste Incineration Directive); • Directive 2008/1/EC concerning integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC Directive); <p>With effect from 1st January 2016:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directive 2001/80/EC on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants from large combustion plants (LCP Directive). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IED aspires to reduce and, as far as possible, eliminate pollution arising from industrial activities. It seeks to achieve this by providing a general framework for the control of the industries with the highest pollution potential in order to prevent the shifting of pollution from one environmental medium (or industry) to another. The overall intention is to provide an integrated approach to the prevention and control of emissions into the various environmental media such as, air, water and soil while striking a commercial balance for businesses. • The IED aims to increase the effectiveness of the legislation by supporting Member States in implementing BAT-based permitting. The IED aims to improve and clarify the concept and use of BAT and increases transparency by requiring that the use of flexibility must be justified and documented leading to a more coherent and EU-wide application of BAT. • The IED also strengthens existing minimum requirements in certain sectors (such as large combustion plants, waste incineration, etc.) so as to ensure the achievement of objectives of the Commission’s Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution. • The IED aims to further increase the effectiveness of the legislation by strengthening provisions on environmental improvement and enforcement, while stimulating innovation. The IED introduces minimum requirements as regards the environmental inspections of installations, the review and update of permits, and reporting on compliance. It also provides incentives for the development and promotion of environment-friendly technologies. • The IED aims to cut all identified unnecessary administrative burdens and simplify current legislation. The IED tackles the shortcomings of current EU legislation on industrial emissions by overhauling the seven existing pieces of legislation on industrial emissions. This has improved the clarity and coherence of the legislation and should reduce the administrative burden through combined requirements on granting permits and streamlined reporting. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
<p>EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC</p>	<p>The Directive applies to pesticides which are plant protection products. Regarding pesticide application equipment already in professional use, the Framework Directive introduces requirements for the inspection and maintenance to be carried out on such equipment.</p>	<p>This Directive is limited to the essential requirements with which machinery for pesticide application must comply before being placed on the market and/or put into service, while the European standardisation organisations are responsible for drawing up harmonised standards providing detailed specifications for the various categories of such machinery in order to enable manufacturers to comply with those requirements.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>EU Renewable Energy Directive (RED) 2023/2413 - amending Directive (EU) 2018/2001, Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 and Directive 98/70/EC as regards the promotion of energy from renewable sources, and repealing Council Directive (EU) 2015/652</p>	<p>The Renewable Energy Directive is the legal framework for the development of clean energy across all sectors of the EU economy, supporting cooperation between EU countries towards this goal. The revised Directive introduces stronger measures to ensure that all possibilities for the further development and uptake of renewables are fully utilised. This will be key to achieving the EU's objective of climate neutrality by 2050 and to strengthen Europe's security of energy supply. In addition to double the existing share of renewable energy sources, a strong policy framework will facilitate electrification in different sectors, with new increased sector-specific targets for renewables in heating and cooling, transport, industry, buildings and district heating/cooling, but also with a framework promoting electric vehicles and smart recharging.</p>	<p>The revised Directive sets an overall renewable energy target of at least 42.5% binding at EU level by 2030 - but aiming for 45%. The amended RED contains revised targets for renewable energy consumption in transport, of 29% energy share (known as the 'RES-T') or a 14.5% GHG reduction by 2030.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Indirect Land Use Change Directive (2012/0288 (COD))</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 3(4) of Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (3) requires Member States to ensure that the share of energy from renewable energy sources in all forms of transport in 2020 is at least 10 % of their final energy consumption. The blending of biofuels is one of the methods available for Member States to meet this target, and is expected to be the main contributor. Other methods available to meet the target are the reduction of energy consumption, which is imperative because a mandatory percentage target for energy from renewable sources is likely to become increasingly difficult to achieve sustainably if overall demand for energy for transport continues to rise, and the use of electricity from renewable energy sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit the contribution that conventional biofuels (with a risk of ILUC emissions) make towards attainment of the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive; Improve the greenhouse gas performance of biofuel production processes (reducing associated emissions) by raising the greenhouse gas saving threshold for new installations subject to protecting installations already in operation on 1st July 2014; Encourage a greater market penetration of advanced (low-ILUC) biofuels by allowing such fuels to contribute more to the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive than conventional biofuels; Improve the reporting of greenhouse gas emissions by obliging Member States and fuel suppliers to report the estimated indirect land-use change emissions of biofuels. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
<p>Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Regulation (AFIR) - (Regulation (EU) 2023/1804 on the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure, and repealing Directive 2014/94/EU)</p>	<p>The regulation sets mandatory national targets for European Union Member States to deploy publicly accessible alternative fuels infrastructure (in particular for electricity and hydrogen) for road vehicles, vessels moored at the quayside and stationary aircraft, with a specific focus on the trans-European networks. The regulation also includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • common rules for user information, data provision and payment requirements; • a mandate for the Commission to adopt delegated acts to ensure interoperability of infrastructure by mandating technical specifications on the basis of European standards; and • planning and reporting requirements for Member States. 	<p>Recharging infrastructure for electric cars and vans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member States must ensure that publicly accessible recharging stations are set up in proportion to the number of registered vehicles, as follows: • for each registered electric vehicle, a total power output of at least 1.3 kilowatts (kW); for each registered plug-in hybrid vehicle, a total power output of at least 0.80 kW. • Member States must also ensure the deployment of publicly accessible recharging stations along the trans-European transport network (TEN-T) road network. <p>Recharging infrastructure for electric heavy-duty vehicles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member States must ensure a minimum coverage of recharging points for heavy-duty electric vehicles. <p>Hydrogen infrastructure for road vehicles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 31 December 2030, Member States must ensure that publicly accessible hydrogen refuelling stations with a total capacity of at least 1 tonne per day are deployed at least every 200 km along the TEN-T core network. At least one refuelling station must be deployed in each urban node. <p>Liquefied methane for road transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Until 31 December 2024, Member States must ensure that an appropriate number of publicly accessible refuelling points for liquefied methane are set up, at least along the TEN-T core network, where there is demand, unless the costs are disproportionate to the benefits, including environmental benefits. <p>Electricity supply in maritime ports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 31 December 2029, there must be sufficient shoreside electricity for ships moored at the quayside at TEN-T core and TEN-T comprehensive maritime ports to serve at least 90% of all container and passenger vessels above 5,000 gross tonnage. <p>Electricity for stationary aircraft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 31 December 2024, all airports of the TEN-T core and comprehensive network must provide electricity to stationary aircraft used for commercial air transport operations at aircraft contact stands, and by 31 December 2029 at all remote stands. <p>Railway infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member States must assess the development of alternative fuel technologies and propulsion systems (including hydrogen and battery power) for rail infrastructure that cannot be fully electrified for technical or cost-efficiency reasons. <p>Payment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Users of electric and hydrogen vehicles must be able to pay easily at recharging and hydrogen refuelling points (with payment cards and without subscriptions). Prices, including all of their components and specific to the recharging session, must be communicated clearly to end users before the start of a recharging session. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>EU Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes a set of binding measures to help the EU reach its 20% energy efficiency target by 2020. • Under the Directive, all EU countries are required to use energy more efficiently at all stages of the energy chain, from production to final consumption. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy distributors or retail energy sales companies have to achieve 1.5% energy savings per year through the implementation of energy efficiency measures • EU countries can opt to achieve the same level of savings through other means, such as improving the efficiency of heating systems, installing double glazed windows or insulating roofs • The public sector in EU countries should purchase energy efficient buildings, products and services • Every year, governments in EU countries must carry out energy efficient renovations on at least 3% (by floor area) of the buildings they own and occupy • Energy consumers should be empowered to better manage consumption. This includes easy and free access to data on consumption through individual metering • National incentives for SMEs to undergo energy audits • Large companies will make audits of their energy consumption to help them identify ways to reduce it • Monitoring efficiency levels in new energy generation capacities. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)</p>	<p>This Directive lays down rules for the prevention of major accidents which involve dangerous substances, and the limitation of their consequences for human health and the environment, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection throughout the Union in a consistent and effective manner.</p>	<p>The Seveso Directive is well integrated with other EU policies, thus avoiding double regulation or other administrative burden. This includes the following related policy areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals; • The Union's Civil Protection Mechanism; • The Security Union Agenda including CBRN-E and Protection of critical infrastructure; • Policy on environmental liability and on the protection of the environment through criminal law; • Safety of offshore oil and gas operations. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
EU Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR) 2018 (as amended in 2023)	The ESR establishes binding annual greenhouse gas emission targets for Member States from 2021 to 2030. It is part of a set of policies and measures to reduce the EU's emissions by at least 55% by 2030, compared to 1990 levels. This is a crucial milestone to deliver the European Green Deal and achieve climate neutrality by 2050. The ESR is also part of the Energy Union strategy and the EU's implementation of the Paris Agreement.	The national targets concern emissions from the following sectors: domestic transport (excluding aviation), buildings, agriculture, small industry, and waste. These sectors account for almost 60% of emissions in the EU. The ESR assigns each Member State with an emission reduction target for 2030, a set of annual emission allocations for each year from 2021 to 2030, and flexibilities to deal with annual fluctuations in greenhouse gas emissions due to weather or economic conditions. The amended legislation increases the emissions reduction target for the targeted sectors including transport, from 29% to 40% by 2030, compared to 2005 levels.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Energy Union Strategy (COM/2015/080) (2015) and the EU "Clean energy for all Europeans" package (2019)	<p>The Energy Union Strategy aims at building an energy union that gives EU consumers - households and businesses - secure, sustainable, competitive and affordable energy. Since its launch in 2015, the EC has published several packages of measures and regular progress reports, which monitor the implementation of this key priority, to ensure that the energy union strategy is achieved.</p> <p>The package aims to help to decarbonise EU's energy system in line with the European Green Deal objectives. The ESR transforms the targets of the Clean Energy Package into binding annual climate targets for each Member State for the period 2021–2030. The "Clean energy for all Europeans" package – marked a significant step towards implementing the Energy Union Strategy.</p>	<p>The Energy Union Strategy builds five closely related and mutually reinforcing dimensions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security, solidarity and trust - diversifying Europe's sources of energy and ensuring energy security through solidarity and cooperation between EU countries. • A fully integrated internal energy market - enabling the free flow of energy through the EU through adequate infrastructure and without technical or regulatory barriers. • Energy efficiency - improved energy efficiency will reduce dependence on energy imports, lower emissions, and drive jobs and growth. • Climate action, decarbonising the economy - the EU is committed to a quick ratification of the Paris Agreement and to retaining its leadership in the area of renewable energy. • Research, innovation and competitiveness - supporting breakthroughs in low-carbon and clean energy technologies by prioritising research and innovation to drive the energy transition and improve competitiveness. <p>Based on Commission proposals published in 2016, the Clean Energy package consists of 8 new laws. Following political agreement by the EU Council and the European Parliament (finalised in May 2019) and the entry into force of the different EU rules, EU countries have 1-2 years to convert the new directives into national law.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Directive on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe 2024/EC recast: Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe Directive 2008/50/EC and Fourth Daughter Directive 2004/107/EC	<p>This new directive simplifies EU rules on ambient air quality by merging the two existing EU directives into one. Its goal is to bring quality standards in line with the World Health Organization (WHO) recommendations.</p> <p>The new directive introduces stricter limits on key air pollutants, aligning EU standards more closely with World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines.</p>	<p>Air quality is assessed using common methods and criteria across the EU, and the revised directive brings further improvements to air quality monitoring and modelling. The revised directive will also ensure early action, with air quality roadmaps that need to be prepared ahead of 2030 if there is a risk that the new standards will not be attained by that date. The air quality standards will be reviewed regularly in line with latest scientific evidence to assess whether they continue to be appropriate.</p> <p>The revised directive prioritises the health of EU citizens: it sets new air quality standards for pollutants to be reached by 2030 which are more closely aligned with the WHO air quality guidelines. Those pollutants include, among others, particulate matter PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide, all known to cause respiratory problems. Member states may request that the 2030 deadline be postponed if specific conditions are met.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package	Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU.	The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030, and contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Emissions Ceilings (NEC) Directive 2016/2284/EU on the reduction of certain atmospheric pollutants	It aims to reduce the health risks and environmental impact of air pollution by establishing national emission reduction commitments. The Directive also aligns emission reduction commitments under EU law with international commitments (following the revision of the Gothenburg Protocol in 2012). The legislation was proposed as part of the EU's 2013 Clean Air Policy Package, which included a Clean Air Programme for Europe.	<p>The Directive covers 5 air pollutants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sulphur dioxide; • nitrogen oxides; • non-methane volatile organic compounds; • ammonia; and • fine particulate matter. <p>The Directive sets emission reduction commitments per pollutant for each EU country to be attained by 2020 and 2030. The emission reduction commitments for each pollutant that will apply each year from 2020 to 2029 are the same as those which the EU countries are already committed to under the revised Gothenburg protocol. New stricter reductions have been agreed from 2030 onwards.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (1979)	The first international treaty to deal with air pollution on a broad regional basis. The Convention entered into force in 1983, laying down the general principles of international cooperation for air pollution abatement and setting up an institutional framework which has since brought together research and policy.	The Convention has substantially contributed to the development of international environmental law and has created the essential framework for controlling and reducing the damage to human health and the environment caused by transboundary air pollution.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Directive on arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and PAH in ambient air (2004/107/EC), as amended	Directive 2004/107/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2004 relating to arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air.	The objective of this Directive is to establish a target value for the concentration of arsenic, cadmium, nickel and benzo(a)pyrene in ambient air so as to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects of arsenic, cadmium, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons on human health and the environment as a whole. It determines common methods and criteria for the assessment of concentrations of arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air as well as of the deposition of such substances.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Medium Combustion Plants (MCP) Directive (2015/2193)	Directive (EU) 2015/2193 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants.	This Directive lays down rules to control emissions of sulphur dioxide (SO ₂), nitrogen oxides (NOx) and dust into the air from medium combustion plants, as well as to monitor emissions of carbon monoxide (CO). The aim is to reduce emissions to air and the potential risks to human health and the environment from such emissions. As regards the scope, Article 2 identifies the types of combustion plants to which these rules apply. Emission limits values are set out in Annex II.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Energy Efficiency Directive 2023/1791 on energy efficiency and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/955 (recast)	The revised Energy Efficiency Directive significantly raises the EU's ambition on energy efficiency. It establishes 'energy efficiency first' as a fundamental principle of EU energy policy, giving it legal-standing for the first time. The Commission has published a series of recommendations, including guidelines for EU countries related to the revised directive, to help countries transpose its different elements into national law.	The revised Directive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • raises the EU energy efficiency target, making it binding for EU countries to collectively ensure an additional 11.7% reduction in energy consumption by 2030, compared to the projections of the EU reference scenario 2020; • more than doubles the annual energy savings obligation (Article 8) by 2028, this is one of the key policy instruments of the directive to meet the headline target and to drive energy savings in end-use sectors, such as buildings, industry and transport; • puts a stronger focus on alleviating energy poverty, it aims at empowering consumers through stronger requirements for EU countries to raise awareness and provide information on energy efficiency; • it includes improved regulations to identify and remove barriers related to split incentives for energy efficiency renovations between tenants and owners or among multiple owners; • introduces an obligation for the monitoring and reporting of the energy performance of data centres; • expands the scope of energy audit obligations to include all those companies, regardless of their size, which are consuming energy above a certain threshold; • mandates EU countries to report on energy efficiency investments, including energy performance contracts, as part of the Governance Regulation, ensuring transparency and accountability; • establishes project development assistance mechanisms at national, regional, and local levels to support energy efficiency investments and facilitate the attainment of the EU's ambitious energy efficiency targets. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	The Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source.	The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw up strategic noise maps for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators and use these maps to assess the number of people which may be impacted upon as a result of excessive noise levels; • Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and • Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise. The Directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess all water courses and coast lines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps outlining the extent or potential of flooding and assets and humans at risk in these areas at River Basin District level (Article 3(2) (b)) and areas covered by Article 5(1) and Article 13(1) (b) in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3. Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above. Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies to include inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater and their dependent wildlife and habitats. Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain “good status” of water bodies. Promote sustainable water usage. The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive Sampling Drinking Water Directive Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive Shellfish Directive Freshwater Fish Directive Groundwater (Dangerous Substances) Directive Dangerous Substances Directive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive. Achieve “good status” for all waters. Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts. Involve the public and streamline legislation. Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas. Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas. Recover costs for water services. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, control and conserve groundwater. Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater. Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive. Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve and maintain the quality of water intended for human consumption. Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set values applicable to water intended for human consumption for the parameters set out in Annex I. Set values for additional parameters not included in Annex I, where the protection of human health within national territory or part of it so requires. The values set should, as a minimum, satisfy the requirements of Article 4(1) (a). Implement all measures necessary to ensure that regular monitoring of the quality of water intended for human consumption is carried out, in order to check that the water available to consumers meets the requirements of this Directive and in particular the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5. Ensure that any failure to meet the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5 is immediately investigated in order to identify the cause. Ensure that the necessary remedial action is taken as soon as possible to restore its quality and shall give priority to their enforcement action. Undertake remedial action to restore the quality of the water where necessary to protect human health. Notify consumers when remedial action is being undertaken except where the competent authorities consider the non-compliance with the parametric value to be trivial. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors. The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban waste water entering collecting systems shall before discharge, be subject to secondary treatment. Annex II requires the designation of areas sensitive to eutrophication which receive water discharges. Establishes minimum requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems in specified agglomerations to include special requirements for sensitive areas and certain industrial sectors. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Water Reuse Regulation (2020/741)	The purpose of this Regulation is to facilitate the uptake of water reuse whenever it is appropriate and cost-efficient, thereby creating an enabling framework for those Member States who wish or need to practise water reuse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation (EU) 2020/741 of the European Parliament and of the Council on minimum requirements for water reuse. This Regulation lays down minimum requirements for water quality and monitoring and provisions on risk management, for the safe use of reclaimed water in the context of integrated water management. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC and Directive 2013/30/EU	The overall aim of the ELD is to prevent and fully remedy damaged natural resources and their services to the condition that would have existed if no damage had occurred.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent. Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures. Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7. The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive. The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator. The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met. The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing knowledge and new needs. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Sewage Sludge Directive (Council Directive 86/278/EEC of 12 June 1986 on the protection of the environment, and in particular of the soil, when sewage sludge is used in agriculture)	<p>The purpose of this Directive is to regulate the use of sewage sludge in agriculture in such a way as to prevent harmful effects on soil, vegetation, animals and man, thereby encouraging the correct use of such sewage sludge. Member States shall prohibit the use of sludge where the concentration of one or more heavy metals in the soil exceeds the limit values which they lay down in accordance with Annex I A and shall take the necessary steps to ensure that those limit values are not exceeded as a result of the use of sludge.</p> <p>The aims of the Sewage Sludge Directive are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to protect humans, animals, plants and the environment by ensuring that heavy metals in soil and sludge do not exceed set limits to increase the amount of sewage sludge used in agriculture 	<p>The Directive also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sets limits for the concentration of seven heavy metals in sewage sludge intended for agricultural use and in sludge-treated soils (cadmium, copper, nickel, lead, zinc, mercury, chromium) bans the use of sewage sludge that results in concentrations of these heavy metals in soil exceeding these limit values 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<p>Bathing Waters Directive</p> <p>(Directive 2006/7/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC)</p>	<p>With a view to preserving, protecting and improving human health and the environment, within the legal framework of Directive 2000/60/EC, the present Directive establishes provisions for: (a) the monitoring and classification of bathing water quality; (b) the management of bathing water quality; and (c) the provision of information to the public on bathing water quality. Member States are required to annually identify all bathing waters and define the length of the bathing season.</p> <p>The EU aims to protect the environment and the health of Europeans by attaining good bathing water quality throughout the EU. More specifically, it aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide better and earlier information to citizens about the quality of their bathing waters, including logos move from simple sampling and monitoring of bathing waters to bathing quality management integrate into other EU measures protecting the quality of all our waters (rivers, lakes, ground waters and coastal waters) through the Water Framework Directive 	<p>The Bathing Water Directive requires Member States to monitor and assess bathing water. It ensures timely information is given to the public during the bathing season and requires Member States to disseminate information on bathing water quality actively and promptly. In particular, notices banning or advising against bathing should be rapidly and easily identifiable. The Directive applies to all surface waters that can be used for bathing, except for swimming pools and spa pools, confined waters subject to treatment or used for therapeutic purposes and confined waters artificially separated from surface water and groundwater. Decision establishing a symbol for information to the public on bathing water classification and any bathing prohibition. View the symbols for informing the public on bathing water prohibition, advice against bathing and bathing water classification.</p> <p>The implementation of the Bathing Water Directive is supported by a broad EU framework of water legislation, including the Water Framework Directive, the Environmental Quality Standards Directive, the Groundwater Directive, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (2009/128/EC)</p> <p>Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the sustainable use of plant protection products and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2115</p>	<p>The Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (SUD) establishes a framework for European Community action to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides by setting minimum rules to reduce the risks to human health and the environment that are associated with pesticide use.</p> <p>The Directive aims to achieve a sustainable use of pesticides in the EU by reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment and promoting the use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and of alternative approaches or techniques, such as non-chemical alternatives to pesticides. EU countries have drawn up National Action Plans to implement the range of actions set out in the Directive.</p>	<p>The main actions relate to training of users, advisors and distributors of pesticides, inspection of pesticide application equipment, the prohibition of aerial spraying, limitation of pesticide use in sensitive areas, and information and awareness raising about pesticide risks. EU countries must also promote Integrated Pest Management, for which, general principles are laid down in Annex III to the Directive.</p> <p>The European Commission has adopted a proposal for a new Regulation on the Sustainable Use of Plant Protection Products, including EU wide targets to reduce by 50% the use and risk of chemical pesticides by 2030, in line with the EU's Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies. The proposal, adopted on 22 June 2022, is part of a package of measures to reduce the environmental footprint of the EU's food system and help mitigate the economic losses that we are already suffering due to climate change and biodiversity loss.</p> <p>The proposal transforms the existing Directive into a Regulation which will be directly binding and uniformly applicable to all Member States. It overhauls the existing rules on the Sustainable Use of Pesticides (see Directive 2009/128/EC) to bring them in line with the ambitions set in the EU Green Deal, Biodiversity and Farm to Fork strategies. The proposals must be approved by Member States in the Council and the European Parliament, under the normal legislative procedure.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) (1962)</p> <p>CAP 2023-2027</p>	<p>The CAP is a partnership between society and agriculture that ensures a stable supply of food, safeguards farmers' income, protects the environment and keeps rural areas vibrant. It aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> support farmers and improve agricultural productivity, ensuring a stable supply of affordable food; safeguard European Union farmers to make a reasonable living; help tackle climate change and the sustainable management of natural resources; maintain rural areas and landscapes across the EU; keep the rural economy alive by promoting jobs in farming, agri-food industries and associated sectors. 	<p>The CAP 2023-2027 entered into force on 1 January 2023. Support for farmers and rural stakeholders across the 27 EU countries is based on the CAP 2023-2027 legal framework and the choices detailed in the CAP Strategic Plans, approved by the Commission. The approved Plans are designed to make a significant contribution to the ambitions of the European Green Deal, Farm to Fork Strategy and Biodiversity Strategy.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006), as amended</p>	<p>The purpose of this Regulation is to ensure a high level of protection of human health and the environment, including the promotion of alternative methods for assessment of hazards of substances, as well as the free circulation of substances on the internal market while enhancing competitiveness and innovation.</p>	<p>This Regulation lays down provisions on hazardous substances and mixtures and specification of hazard classes; general obligations of manufacturers, importers and downstream users to classify, label and package the substances and mixtures; identification and examination of available information on substances and mixtures; evaluation of hazard information and decision on classification; establishment of a classification and labelling inventory in the form of a database; and the manufacture, placing on the market and use of chemical substances and preparations, pursuant to the precautionary principle.</p> <p>The Regulation sets forth the framework concerning the registration of such substances and preparations as well as the granting of authorizations. Furthermore, it sets up the European Chemicals Agency for the purposes of managing and carrying out the technical, scientific and administrative aspects of this Regulation. This Regulation sets out eight annexes attached. Annex I sets out the criteria for classification and labelling requirements for hazardous substances and mixtures. Annex II lays down special rules for labelling and packaging of certain classified substances and mixtures.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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UN Sustainable Development Goals	The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which reflect the need for all countries to urgently act as a global partnership.	Sustainable transport is mainstreamed across several SDGs and targets, especially those related to food security, health, energy, economic growth, infrastructure, and cities and human settlements.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Commission’s “Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change” (2021)	The Strategy sets out how the European Union can adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change and become climate resilient by 2050.	The Strategy has four principal objectives: to make adaptation smarter, swifter and more systemic, and to step up international action on adaptation to climate change.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Environment Agency’s European Climate Risk Assessment (2024)	This assessment identifies 36 climate risks with potentially severe consequences across Europe.	The risks are evaluated in the contexts of risk severity, policy horizon (lead time and decision horizon), policy readiness and risk ownership. It further identifies priorities for EU policy action, based on a structured risk assessment united with qualitative aspects, such as considering social justice.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN Kyoto Protocol (2nd Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement)	The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol. At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C and in line with recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) take steps “to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above preindustrial levels”.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II). EU member states implement measures to improve on or compliment the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP. <p>Under COP21, governments agreed to come together every 5 years to set more ambitious targets as required by science; report to each other and the public on how well they are doing to implement their targets; track progress towards the long-term goal through a robust transparency and accountability system.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Green Deal (2019) and “Fit for 55” legislation (2021)	The European Green Deal provides a roadmap for making the EU’s economy sustainable by turning climate and environmental challenges into opportunities across all policy areas and making the transition just and inclusive for all. The “Fit for 55” legislative package is a central part of the European Green Deal.	<p>The European Green Deal covers all sectors of the economy, notably transport, energy, agriculture, buildings, and industries such as steel, cement, ICT, textiles and chemicals. It outlines investments needed and financing tools available, and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition.</p> <p>The ‘Fit for 55’ package responds to the requirements in the EU Climate Law to reduce Europe’s net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030. It was updated when the Commission proposed increased ambition on renewable energy and energy efficiency in the REPowerEU plan to respond to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and boost Europe’s energy security. The final legislative package is expected to reduce EU net greenhouse gas emissions by 57% by 2030. For transport, the package is primarily focused on reducing fossil fuel dependency and increasing the availability of, and infrastructure for, renewable alternatives.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Leaders Pledge for Nature 2020	Political leaders (including Taoiseach Michael Martin) participating in the United Nations Summit on Biodiversity in September 2020, representing 75 countries from all regions and the European Union, have committed to reversing biodiversity loss by 2030.	As part of the UN Decade of Action to achieve sustainable development, the leaders commit to achieve the vision of Living in Harmony with Nature by 2050 by undertaking ten actions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putting biodiversity, climate, and the environment at the heart of COVID-19 recovery strategies and investments as well as national and international development and cooperation; • Developing and implementing an ambitious and transformational post-2020 global biodiversity framework for adoption at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Kunming, China, as a key instrument to reach the SDGs; • Raising ambition and aligning domestic climate policies with the Paris Agreement on climate change, with enhanced nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and long-term strategies consistent with the temperature goals of the Paris Agreement, and the objective of net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by mid-century, and strengthen climate resilience of economies and ecosystems; and • Mainstream biodiversity into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policies at all levels, including in food production, agriculture, fisheries and forestry, energy, tourism, infrastructure and extractive industries, and trade and supply chains, as well as into key international agreements and processes. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Europe 2020: European 2020 Strategy for Growth and Employment	The Europe 2020 Strategy aims to ensure that the economic revival of the European Union following the economic and financial crisis is supported by a series of reforms in order to build solid foundations for growth and job creation by 2020. While addressing the structural weaknesses of the EU's economy and economic and social issues, the strategy also takes account of the longer-term challenges of globalisation, pressure on resources and ageing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Europe 2020 Strategy should enable the EU to achieve growth that is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ smart, through the development of knowledge and innovation; ◦ sustainable, based on a greener, more resource efficient and more competitive economy; ◦ inclusive, aimed at strengthening employment and social and territorial cohesion. • The EU has set itself five major targets for this ambition to be achieved by 2020: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ increasing the employment rate of the population aged 20-64 to at least 75 %; ◦ investing 3 % of gross domestic product in research and development; ◦ reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20 %, increasing the share of renewable energies to 20 % and increasing energy efficiency by 20 %; ◦ reducing the school drop-out rate to less than 10 % and increasing the proportion of tertiary degrees to at least 40 %; ◦ reducing the number of people threatened by poverty or social exclusion by 20 million. • The Europe 2020 Strategy targets are also supported by 7 flagship initiatives at European level and in EU countries: the Innovation Union; Youth on the move; the Digital Agenda for Europe; a Resource-efficient Europe; an industrial policy for the globalisation era; the agenda for new skills and jobs; and the European Platform against Poverty. • At European level, the single market, the EU budget and the European external policy are additional levers in achieving the targets of the Europe 2020 strategy 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 - Bringing nature back into our lives (European Commission, 2020)	The EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030 is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan to protect nature and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. The strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030, and contains specific actions and commitments. Aims to build resilience to future threats such as the impacts of climate change, forest fires, food insecurity, disease outbreaks and protecting wildlife and fighting illegal wildlife trade.	The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea; • Launching an EU nature restoration plan; • Introducing measures to enable the necessary transformative stage; and • Introducing measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Green Infrastructure Strategy (2013)	Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas. • Supporting EU-level GI projects. • Improving access to finance for GI projects. • Improving information and promoting innovation. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta, 1992)	The aim of this (revised) Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study.	The Valletta Convention makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies. The Convention sets guidelines for the funding of excavation and research work and publication of research findings. It also deals with public access, in particular to archaeological sites, and educational actions to be undertaken to develop public awareness of the value of the archaeological heritage. It also constitutes an institutional framework for pan-European co-operation on the archaeological heritage, entailing a systematic exchange of experience and experts among the various States.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes ('Dublin Principles')	It is aimed to assist in the documentation, protection, conservation and appreciation of industrial heritage as part of the heritage of human societies around the World.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (I) Document and understand industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes and their values; • (II) Ensure effective protection and conservation of the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; • (III) Conserve and maintain the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; and • (IV) Present and communicate the heritage dimensions and values of industrial structures, sites, areas and landscapes to raise public and corporate awareness, and support training and research. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada, 1995)	The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It also affirms the need for European solidarity with regard to heritage conservation and is designed to foster practical co-operation among the Parties. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reinforcement and promotion of policies for protecting and enhancing the heritage within the territories of the parties. • The affirmation of European solidarity with regard to the protection of the heritage and the fostering of practical co-operation between states and regions. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro, 2005)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time. • A heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, to sustain and transmit to future generations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise that rights relating to cultural heritage are inherent in the right to participate in cultural life, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. • Recognise individual and collective responsibility towards cultural heritage. • Emphasise that the conservation of cultural heritage and its sustainable use have human development and quality of life as their goal. • Take the necessary steps to apply the provisions of this Convention concerning the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society. • Greater synergy of competencies among all the public, institutional and private actors concerned. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2000)	The European Landscape Convention introduced a Europe-wide concept centring on the quality of landscape protection, management and planning and covering the entire territory, not just outstanding landscapes. Through its ground-breaking approach and its broader scope, it complements the Council of Europe's and UNESCO's heritage conventions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. • Organise European co-operation on landscape issues. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Seventh Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community (2013-2020)	<p>It identifies three key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital • to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy • to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing 	<p>Four so called "enablers" will help Europe deliver on these objectives (goals):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better implementation of legislation. • Better information by improving the knowledge base. • More and wiser investment for environment and climate policy. • Full integration of environmental requirements and considerations into other policies. <p>Two additional horizontal priority objectives complete the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make the Union's cities more sustainable. • To help the Union address international environmental and climate challenges more effectively. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats) (1979)	The convention has three main aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats to promote cooperation between states to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species 	The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to ensure the conservation of nature in their countries, paying particular attention to planning and development policies and pollution control. Look at implementing the Bern Convention in central Eastern Europe and the Caucasus. Take account of the potential impact on natural heritage by other policies. Promote education and information of the public, ensuring the need to conserve species is understood and acted upon. Develop an extensive number of species action plans, codes of conducts, and guidelines, at their own initiative or in co-operation with other organisations. Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Bali Road Map (2007)	The Bali Road Map includes the Bali Action Plan, which charts the course for a new negotiating process designed to tackle climate change. The Bali Action Plan is a comprehensive process to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action, now, up to and beyond 2012, in order to reach an agreed outcome and adopt a decision.	The Bali Action Plan is divided into five main categories: shared vision, mitigation, adaptation, technology and financing. The shared vision refers to a long-term vision for action on climate change, including a long-term goal for emission reductions.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Cancun Agreements (2010)	Set of decisions taken at the COP 16 Conference in Cancun in 2010, which addresses a series of key issues in the fight against climate change. Cancun Agreements' main objectives cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigation Transparency of actions Technology Finance Adaptation Forests Capacity building 	Among the most prominent agreements is the establishment of a Green Climate Fund to transfer money from the developed to developing world to tackle the impacts of climate change.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Doha Climate Gateway (2012)	Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which pave the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015.	Among the many decisions taken, governments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened their resolve and set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015, which will come into effect in 2020. Streamlined the negotiations, completing the work under the Bali Action Plan to concentrate on the new work towards a 2015 agreement under a single negotiating stream in the Ad hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action. Emphasized the need to increase their ambition to cut greenhouse gases and to help vulnerable countries to adapt. Launched a new commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol, thereby ensuring that this treaty's important legal and accounting models remain in place and underlining the principle that developed countries lead mandated action to cut greenhouse gas emissions. Made further progress towards establishing the financial and technology support and new institutions to enable clean energy investments and sustainable growth in developing countries. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) (2001)	The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from chemicals that remain intact in the environment for long periods, become widely distributed geographically, accumulate in the fatty tissue of humans and wildlife, and have harmful impacts on human health or on the environment. The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit and/or eliminate the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex A to the Convention Restrict the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex B to the Convention Reduce or eliminate releases from unintentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex C to the Convention Ensure that stockpiles and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs are managed safely and in an environmentally sound manner Other provisions of the Convention relate to the development of implementation plans, information exchange, public information, awareness and education, research, development and monitoring, technical assistance, financial resources and mechanisms, reporting, effectiveness evaluation and non-compliance 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Ramsar Convention (1971)	The Convention's mission is <i>"the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world"</i> .	Under the "three pillars" of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work towards the wise use of all their wetlands; • Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") and ensure their effective management; • Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
OSPAR Convention (1992)	The mission of OSPAR is to conserve marine ecosystems and safeguard human health in the North-East Atlantic by preventing and eliminating pollution; by protecting the marine environment from the adverse effects of human activities; and by contributing to the sustainable use of the seas.	OSPAR's work is organised under six strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity and Ecosystem Strategy • Eutrophication Strategy • Hazardous Substances Strategy • Offshore Industry Strategy • Radioactive Substances Strategy • Strategy for the Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme These six strategies fit together to underpin the ecosystem approach. For each strategy a programme of work is designed and implemented annually.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Level			
The National Planning Framework (first revision 2025) and the National Development Plan (2018)	<p>The National Planning Framework is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of to the year 2040.</p> <p>The new 2025 Framework is revised and updated to take account of changes that have occurred since it was published in 2018 and to build on the framework that is in place. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for the people, and to protect and enhance the environment.</p> <p>The National Planning Framework and the National Development Plan published together in 2018 will continue to align and form a single vision for Ireland under Project Ireland 2040. The implementation of the National Planning Framework will continue to be fully supported by the Government's investment strategy for public capital investment and investment by the State sector in general, with the National Development Plan detailing key projects that will make our plans a reality.</p>	<p>The ambition is to create a single vision, a shared set of goals for every community across the country. These goals are expressed in the Framework as National Strategic Outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compact Growth 2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility 3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities 4. High-Quality International Connectivity 5. Sustainable Mobility 6. A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills 7. Enhanced Amenities and Heritage 8. Transition to a Carbon Neutral and Climate-Resilient Society 9. Sustainable Management of Environmental Resources 10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)	An Act to consolidate and revise the law relating to planning and development; to provide for proper planning and sustainable development in the interests of the common good; to provide for the licensing of events and control of funfairs; for those purposes to repeal and replace the Planning and Development Act 2000; to amend certain other enactments; and to provide for matters connected therewith.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development, with certain exceptions, is subject to development control under the Planning Acts and the local authorities grant or refuse planning permission for development, including ones within protected areas. • There are, however, a range of exemptions from the planning system. Use of land for agriculture, peat extraction and afforestation, subject to certain thresholds, is generally exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission. • Additionally, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for a range of classes and large-scale projects. • Under planning legislation, Development Plans must include mandatory objectives for the conservation of the natural heritage and for the conservation of European sites and any other sites which may be prescribed. There are also discretionary powers to set objectives for the conservation of a variety of other elements of the natural heritage. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
Planning and Development Act 2024	An Act to consolidate and revise the law relating to planning and development; to provide for proper planning and sustainable development in the interests of the common good; to provide for the licensing of events and control of funfairs; for those purposes to repeal and replace the Planning and Development Act 2000 and amend certain other enactments; for purposes unrelated to the foregoing, to amend the Residential Tenancies Act 2004, the Residential Tenancies (Amendment) Act 2019, the Land Development Agency Act 2021 and the National Asset Management Agency Act 2009; and to provide for matters connected therewith.	Key reforms included in the Act: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The introduction of statutory timelines for all consenting processes, to give confidence and certainty to applicants; A significant reorganisation of An Bord Pleanála, to be known as An Coimisiún Pleanála; Greater mandatory alignment of all tiers of planning, improving consistency; Improvements to the planning judicial review processes; Clearer, more consistent policies and guidance; Longer term, more strategic, ten-year plans for Local Authorities; More agile local implementation, through the introduction of Urban and Priority Area Plans, including new bespoke plans for Gaeltacht and Island communities; Creation of Urban Development Zones, which will facilitate a more plan-led approach to development, increasing certainty at the master-planning stage; Provisions to deter abuse of planning processes through spurious planning submissions and appeals, as well as a ban on requesting payment for not opposing development and; Ability to suspend the duration of a permission while subject to judicial review proceedings, so as not to lose any time available for completing the development. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011	The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning. These Regulations also amend certain provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to provide the statutory basis for the transposition of the Directive in respect of land-use planning. Transposition in respect of the land-use planning sector is contained in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004). 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011), as amended	These Regulations provide a new for the implementation in Ireland of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on habitats and protection of wild fauna and flora (as amended) and for the implementation of Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of wild birds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> They provide, among other things, for: the appointment and functions of authorized officers; identification, classification and other procedures relative to the designation of Community sites. The Regulations have been prepared to address several judgments of the CJEU against Ireland, notably cases C-418/04 and C-183/05, in respect of failure to transpose elements of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive into Irish law. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities Environmental Objectives (FPM) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 296 of 2009)	The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set environmental quality objectives for the habitats of the freshwater pearl mussel populations named in the First Schedule to these Regulations that are within the boundaries of a site notified in a candidate list of European sites, or designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 94/1997). Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of measures to achieve these objectives. Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. 9 of 2010), as amended	To amend the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) to make further provision to implement Commission Directive 2014/80/EU of 20 June 2014 amending Annex II to Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration.	The substances and threshold values set out in Schedule 5 to S.I. No. 9 of 2010 have been reviewed and amended where necessary, based on existing monitoring information and international guidelines on appropriate threshold values. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part A of Schedule 6 has been amended to include changes to the rules governing the determination of background levels for the purposes of establishing threshold values for groundwater pollutants and indicators of pollution. Part B of Schedule 6 has been amended to include nitrites and phosphorus (total) / phosphates among the minimum list of pollutants and their indicators which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must consider when establishing threshold values. Part C of Schedule 6 amends the information to be provided to the Minister by the EPA with regard to the pollutants and their indicators for which threshold values have been established. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
<p>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (S.I. 722 of 2003)</p> <p>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (S.I. 350 of 2014)</p> <p>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (S.I. 272 of 2009)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation. • Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water. • Identifies the competent authorities in charge of water policy (amended to Irish Water in 2013) and gives EPA and the CER the authority to regulate and supervise their actions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implements River basin districts and characterisation of RBDs and River Basin Management Plans. • Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on RBDs. • Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies. • Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body. • Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances. • Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater. • Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies. • Outlines surface water quality standards. • Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Water Pollution Acts 1977 to 1990</p>	<p>The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division.</p>	<p>The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosecute for water pollution offences. • Attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters. • Issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution. • issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remedying of any effects of the pollution in the manner and within the period specified in such notices; • Seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects. • Prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Water Services Act 2007 (No. 30 of 2007)</p> <p>Water Services Act 2013 (No. 6 of 2013)</p> <p>Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013 (No. 50 of 2013)</p> <p>Water Services Act 2017 (No. 29 of 2017)</p> <p>Water Services (Amendment) Act 2022 (No. 39 of 2022)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides the water services infrastructure. • Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services. • Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and waste water supply. <p>Irish Water was given the responsibility of the provision of water and waste water services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland.</p>	<p>Key strategic objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring Uisce Éireann delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector. • Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services in the gateways and hubs listed in the National Spatial Strategy, and in other locations where services need to be enhanced. • Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards • Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary waste water treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Waste water Treatment Directive. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Irish Water's Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and Capital Investment Plan 2020-2024</p>	<p>This Water Services Strategic Plan sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040. It details current and future challenges which affect the provision of water services and identifies the priorities to be tackled in the short and medium term.</p> <p>The Capital Investment Plan 2020-2024 is Uisce Éireann investment plan for water and wastewater assets and infrastructure for the next 5 years. The Capital Investment Plan sets out where to prioritise investment to deliver the most urgently needed improvements in drinking water quality, leakage reduction, water availability, wastewater compliance, efficiencies and customer service.</p>	<p>The Capital Investment Plan 2020-2024 is made up of investment in individual projects such as building new or upgrading existing water and wastewater treatment plants and upgrading existing networks, and national programmes where activities are being delivered in a consistent and efficient manner across the country. Some examples of these programmes are the Leakage Reduction Programme, the National Disinfection Programme, the Small Towns and Villages Growth Programme, and the National Certification Authorisation Programme.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023-2030 and associated Implementation Plan including the National Forestry Programme 2023-2027</p>	<p>The Implementation Plan will facilitate the initial steps in the implementation of the Strategy on the road to achieving the Shared Vision for 2050. The Implementation Plan includes the new Forestry Programme (2023 – 2027), which will be the primary implementation mechanism for the Forest Strategy. The Plan also includes a list of actions that will be funded and enabled by mechanisms outside of the Forestry Programme.</p>	<p>The Forestry Programme 2023-2027 was created in alignment with Ireland's Forest Strategy and is designed to provide lasting benefits for many key areas including climate change, biodiversity, wood production, and employment alongside enhancing societal benefits. The Forestry Programme will provide incentives for farmers and other landowners and will provide farm families with the opportunity to increase and diversify their income streams.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
Water Action Plan 2024: River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022-2027 (3rd Cycle) (2024)	The Water Action Plan 2024 is Ireland's third River Basin Management Plan and it outlines the measures the Government and other sectors are taking to improve water quality in Ireland's groundwater, rivers, lakes, estuarine and coastal waters, and provide sustainable management of our water resources (as specified under SDG 6). This Water Action Plan enhances and builds upon the work of the first and second-cycle plans. Where necessary, this plan addresses the shortcomings experienced during the implementation of previous plans.	The responses to shortcomings addressed include, for example, strengthen the incorporation of the integrated catchment management approach, improving the environmental ambition, improving the evidence base for 'targeting the right measures in the right place' and securing dedicated resources to deliver these, increasing environmental enforcement and compliance, and strengthening the governance structures.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ireland's National Water Quality Monitoring Programme 2022-2027	The main purpose of Ireland's National Water Quality Monitoring Programme 2022-2027 is to provide a comprehensive national overview of the ecological and chemical status of surface waters and the quantitative and chemical status of groundwaters. The information is used to track progress towards the achievement of the environmental objectives required by the Water Framework Directive, and those set out in the River Basin Management Plan.	The programme is comprised of 2,899 surface and groundwater bodies representing 60% of the total number of national water bodies, covering 2,429 river water bodies, 224 lakes, 80 transitional water bodies, 45 coastal waters, 16 canals and 121 groundwater bodies. The programme is operated by the Environmental Protection Agency, Marine Institute, Inland Fisheries Ireland, Waterways Ireland, National Parks and Wildlife Service and Local Authorities.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Water Resources Plan (NWRP) – Framework Plan (2021)	<p>The NWRP is a plan on how to provide a safe, secure and reliable water supply to customers for the next 25 years, without causing adverse impact on the environment. The objective of the NWRP is to set out how we intend to maintain the supply and demand for drinking water over the short, medium and long term whilst minimising the impact on the environment.</p> <p>The preparation of the plan has been divided into two distinct phases, the combination of which will become the final NWRP. Phase 1 was carried out in 2021 and the NWRP Framework has been adopted. In Phase 2 of the NWRP, Uisce Éireann summarised the needs across the 539 individual water supplies and identified the solutions to address these needs. Due to the large number of supplies in Ireland, Phase 2 was delivered as four Regional Water Resources Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Water Resources Plan: North West (RWRP NW) • Regional Water Resources Plan: South West (RWRP SW) • Regional Water Resources Plan: South East (RWRP SE) • Regional Water Resources Plan: Eastern and Midlands (RWRP EM) 	<p>The key objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account normal and extreme weather conditions • Assess the current and future water demand from homes, businesses, farms, and industry • Consider the impacts of climate change on Ireland's water resources • Develop a drought plan advising measures to be taken before and during drought events • Develop a plan detailing how we deal with the material that is produced as a result of treating drinking water • Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development 2030	The national plans are intended to inform investment priorities for aquaculture under Member States' operational programmes under the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund. They are also intended to identify measures to reduce the administrative burden on operators, to secure sustainable development and growth of aquaculture through coordinated spatial planning, to enhance the competitiveness of the aquaculture sector and to promote a level playing field for EU operators by exploiting their competitive advantages. Ireland's National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development was finalised following public consultation earlier in 2022. The Plan was adopted by the European Commission in 2022.	The National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development proposes 58 actions to be implemented over the period up to 2030.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Aquaculture Acts 1997 to 2006 (Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 (8/2006), s. 1(3)) Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997 (23/1997) Fisheries and Foreshore (Amendment) Act 1998 (54/1998), ss. 2, 3 and 4 Fisheries (Amendment) Act 2001 (40/2001) Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 (8/2006)	The Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division ensures the efficient and effective management of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing in respect of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities.	<p>The Strategic Objectives of the Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to develop and manage an efficient and effective regulatory framework in respect of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities; • to secure a fair financial return from the State's foreshore estate in the context of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing in respect of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities; • to progressively reduce arrears in the clearing of licence applications. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
Foreshore Acts 1933 to 2011	The Foreshore Acts require that a lease or licence must be obtained from the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government for the carrying out of works or placing structures or material on, or for the occupation of or removal of material from, State-owned foreshore, which represents the greater part of the foreshore. Construction of permanent structures on privately owned foreshore also required the prior permission of the Minister under the Foreshore Act.	Developments on the foreshore require planning permission in addition to a Foreshore Lease/Licence/Permission. All Foreshore Leases, Licences Permissions are without prejudice to the powers of the local planning authority. Applicants should, therefore, consult initially with the local planning authority regarding their proposal. In the case of developments on foreshore for, by or on behalf of a Local Authority where an EIS is required, applications should be made to An Bord Pleanála under Part XV, Planning and Development Act 2000.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF) (2024)	The NMPF details how marine activities will interact with each other in an ocean space that is under increasing spatial pressure, ensuring the sustainable use of Ireland's marine resources to 2040. The NMPF has been prepared with an ecosystem-based approach and informed by best available knowledge.	The National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF) brings together all marine-based human activities for the first time, outlining the Government's vision, objectives and marine planning policies for each marine activity. The NMPF is intended as the marine equivalent to the National Planning Framework. This approach will enable the Government to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • set a clear direction for managing our seas • clarify objectives and priorities • direct decision makers, users and stakeholders towards strategic, plan-led, and efficient use of our marine resources 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Seafood Development Programme 2021-2027	Based on the challenges identified for the seafood sector and coastal communities and the policy context, Ireland's Programme requires an ambitious vision to: "To support a resilient, climate smart, environmentally sustainable and profitable Irish seafood sector in order to maximise its contribution to jobs and growth and maintain the economic and social activities of our most vibrant and sustainable coastal communities"	The Programme details the vision and key missions to be achieved by the implementation of the programme. It also demonstrates how the strategic objectives of the EMFAF fund (specified in Regulation (EU) 2021/1139) will be employed in fulfilling the Programme.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth: An Integrated Marine Plan for Ireland 2012	Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth is an Integrated Marine Plan (IMP), setting out a roadmap for the Government's vision, high-level goals and integrated actions across policy, governance and business to enable our marine potential to be realised. Implementation of this Plan will see Ireland evolve an integrated system of policy and programme planning for our marine affairs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable economic growth of marine/ maritime sectors; • Increase the contribution to the national GDP; • Deliver a business friendly yet robust governance, policy and planning framework; • Protect and conserve our rich marine biodiversity and ecosystems; • Manage our living and non-living resources in harmony with the ecosystem; • Implement and comply with environmental legislation; • Building on our maritime heritage, strengthen our maritime identity; • Increase our awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits; and • Engagement and participation by all. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme	The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive.	CFRAM Studies have been undertaken for all River Basin Districts. The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. Flood Risk and Hazard mapping, including Flood Extent Mapping, was finalised in 2017. The final outputs from the studies are the CFRAM Plans, finalised in 2018. The Plans define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Raised Bog Special Areas of Conservation Management Plan 2017 – 2022 and a Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Area Network	The National Raised Bog Special Areas of Conservation Management Plan 2017 - 2022 sets out a roadmap for the long-term management, restoration and conservation of protected raised bogs in Ireland.	The Plan is part of the measures being implemented in response to the on-going infringement action against Ireland in relation to the implementation of the EU Habitats Directive, with regard to the regulation of turf cutting on the Special Areas of Conservation and on foot of the recommendation of Mr. Justice Quirke that a National Raised Bog SAC Management Plan be drawn up, arising from the Peatlands Forum (2012).	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
<p>National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)</p>	<p>This Strategy aims to provide a long-term framework within which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and economic contribution to the well-being of this and future generations.</p>	<p>Objectives of the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To give direction to Ireland’s approach to peatland management. To apply to all peatlands, including peat soils. To ensure that the relevant State authorities and state-owned companies that influence such decisions contribute to meeting cross-cutting objectives and obligations in their policies and actions. To ensure that Ireland’s peatlands are sustainably managed so that their benefits can be enjoyed responsibly. To inform appropriate regulatory systems to facilitate good decision making in support of responsible use. To inform the provision of appropriate incentives, financial supports and disincentives where required. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>European Union (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2022 (S.I. No. 113/2022)</p>	<p>The purpose of these Regulations is to give effect to Ireland’s Nitrates Action Programme pursuant to Council Directive 91/676/EEC concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural source.</p>	<p>Part 2 concerns farmyard management. The Part requires an occupier of a holding shall take all such steps, as far as is practicable for the purposes of minimising the amount of soiled water produced on the holding; livestock manure and other organic fertilisers, soiled water and effluents from dungsteeds, farmyard manure pits, silage pits or silage clamps arising or produced in a building or yard on a holding shall, prior to its application to land or other treatment, be collected and held in a manner that prevents the run-off or seepage, directly or indirectly, into groundwaters or surface waters of such substances. The Regulations provides for general obligations related to capacity of storage facilities and then distinguishes among requirements for storage facilities of: effluents and soiled water; pig manure; poultry manure; manure from deer, goats and sheep; manure from cattle.</p> <p>Part 3 concerns nutrient management.</p> <p>Part 4 is focused on the prevention of water pollution from fertilizers and certain activities; this includes the distances from a water body and other issues requirements as to manner of application of fertilizers, soiled water etc; periods when application of fertilizers is prohibited; limits on the amount of livestock manure to be applied.</p> <p>Part 5 regulates general duty of occupier, such as keeping of records, etc. Offences and related matters.</p> <p>Part 6 is functions of the public authorities: certificates, exemptions, etc.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-Fisheries) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 565 of 2014)</p>	<p>These Regulations the European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-fisheries) Regulations 2013 so as to apply them to the regulation of sea-fishing activity in so far as the regulation of that activity is necessary to secure compliance with the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 and the objectives of the Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation 3 provides for the submission of a Fisheries Natura Plan in relation to planned fisheries; Regulation 4 provides for a screening of a Fisheries Natura Plan to determine whether or not an appropriate assessment is required; Regulation 5 provides for an appropriate assessment of a Fisheries Natura Plan and also provides for public and statutory consultation; Regulation 6 provides for the Minister to make a determination to adopt a Fisheries Natura Plan. The Minister may amend, withdraw or revoke a plan; Regulation 7 provides for publication of the adopted Fisheries Natura Plan; Regulation 8 provides for a Risk Assessment of unplanned fisheries and also provides for public and statutory consultation on the assessment; Regulation 9 provides for the issue of a Natura Declaration to prohibit, restrict including restricting by permit, control, etc. of sea fishing activities; Regulation 10 provides for Natura Permits to be issued where required by Natura Declarations; and Regulations 11 to 31 deal with functions of authorised officers and related matters, offences, etc. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Wildlife Act of 1976 Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2023</p>	<p>The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna.</p> <p>The Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2023 introduced a new public sector duty on biodiversity. The legislation provides that every public body, as listed in the Act, is obliged to have regard to the objectives and targets in the National Biodiversity Action Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems Give statutory protection to NHAs Enhances wildlife species and their habitats Includes more species for protection 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030	Ireland's 4 th National Biodiversity Action Plan sets the national biodiversity agenda for the period 2023-2030 and aims to deliver the transformative changes required to the ways in which we value and protect nature.	This National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030 builds upon the achievements of the previous Plan. It will continue to implement actions within the framework of five strategic objectives, while addressing new and emerging issues: Objective 1 - Adopt a Whole of Government, Whole of Society Approach to Biodiversity Objective 2 - Meet Urgent Conservation and Restoration Needs Objective 3 - Secure Nature's Contribution to People Objective 4 - Enhance the Evidence Base for Action on Biodiversity Objective 5 - Strengthen Ireland's Contribution to International Biodiversity	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025	The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is an island-wide attempt to reverse declines in pollinating insects to ensure the sustainability of our food, avoid additional economic impacts on agriculture, and protect the health of the environment. The main objectives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making farmland, public land and private land in Ireland pollinator friendly; • Raising awareness of pollinators and how to protect them; • Managed pollinators – supporting beekeepers and growers; • Expanding our knowledge of pollinators and pollination service; and • Collecting evidence to track change and measure success. 	This voluntary Plan identified 81 actions, shared out between over 100 governmental and non-governmental organisations. A large focus of the Plan is to identify actions to improve the quality and amount of flower-rich habitat. Actions range from creating pollinator highways along our transport routes, to supporting pollinators on farmland, in gardens, businesses, and on public land.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 (as amended)	An Act to provide for the approval of plans by the Government in relation to climate change for the purpose of pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy.	When considering a plan or framework, for approval, the Government shall endeavour to achieve the national transition objective within the period to which the objective relates and shall, in endeavouring to achieve that objective, ensure that such objective is achieved by the implementation of measures that are cost effective and shall, for that purpose, have regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ultimate objective specified in Article 2 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change done at New York on 9 May 1992 and any mitigation commitment entered into by the European Union in response or otherwise in relation to that objective, • The policy of the Government on climate change, • Climate justice, • Any existing obligation of the State under the law of the European Union or any • international agreement referred to in section 2; and • The most recent national greenhouse gas emissions inventory and projection of future greenhouse gas emissions, prepared by the Agency. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Climate Action Plans	The National Climate Action Plan 2023 provided a detailed plan for taking decisive action to achieve a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and setting Ireland on a path to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Programme for Government and set out in the Climate Act 2021. The Climate Action Plan 2024 builds upon the 2023 Plan by refining and updating the measures and actions required to deliver the carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings. The Climate Action Plan 2025 is the third statutory annual update to the Climate Action Plan.	The Climate Action Plans list the actions needed to deliver on Ireland's climate targets and sets indicative ranges of emissions reductions for each sector of the economy. It will be updated periodically to ensure alignment with Ireland's legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral ceilings. Climate Action Plan 2025 lays out a roadmap of actions that are intended to lead to meeting the national climate objective of pursuing and achieving, by no later than the end of the year 2050, the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy. It aligns with legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings. Climate Action Plan 2025 builds upon the Climate Action Plan 2024 by refining and updating the measures and actions required to deliver the carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings and it should be read in conjunction with Climate Action Plan 2024. The Plan provides a roadmap for taking decisive action to halve Ireland's emissions by 2030 and achieve climate neutrality by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2024 and associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans	NAF specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities in their administrative areas in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptation under this Framework should seek to minimise costs and maximise the opportunities arising from climate change. • Adaptation actions range from building adaptive capacity (e.g. increasing awareness, sharing information and targeted training) through to policy and finance-based actions. • Adaptation actions must be risk based, informed by existing vulnerabilities of our society and systems and an understanding of projected climate change. • Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
National Climate Mitigation Plan 2017	The Plan represents an initial step to set Ireland on a pathway to achieve the deep decarbonisation required in Ireland by mid-century in line with the Government's policy objectives.	The National Mitigation Plan focuses on the following issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Action Policy Framework Decarbonising Electricity Generation Decarbonising the Built Environment Decarbonising Transport An Approach to Carbon Neutrality for Agriculture, Forest and Land Use Sectors 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Climate Adaptation Sectoral Adaptation Plans	The Climate Act sets out the requirements for the preparation of Sectoral Adaptation Plans. The 12 priority sectors identified in the 2018 NAF were grouped into 9 such Plans and clustered into four themes covering natural and cultural capital, critical infrastructure, water resource and flood risk management, and public health. This approach aims to provide a structured and systematic approach to sectoral developments.	To support key national sectors in planning for climate change adaptation and according to the requirements of the National Adaptation Framework (2018), sectoral planning guidelines were developed as part of the Irish Climate Information Platform, Climate Ireland project. The guidelines aim to ensure that a coherent and consistent approach to adaptation planning is adopted at national and local levels. Since the guidelines' publication in May 2018, they have been successfully implemented by relevant Departments to develop Sectoral Adaptation Plans.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Sustainable Mobility Policy (SMP) (2022)	It sets out a strategic framework to 2030 for active travel (walking and cycling) and public transport journeys to help Ireland meet its climate obligations. It is framed around three key principles that will guide the delivery of sustainable mobility policy over the coming decade. They are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe and green mobility; People focussed mobility; and Better integrated mobility. 	The SMP includes an Action Plan covering the period 2022-2025 with 91 actions, supporting behavioural change across a wide range of interventions including, among other things, public transport infrastructure and services, active travel promotion and supports, road safety initiatives, legislative measures, research, and public engagement. The Policy also supports the implementation of large-scale transport projects including MetroLink and DART+ in Dublin, BusConnects in the five cities, the Connecting Ireland scheme in rural areas, and an Active Travel Infrastructure Programme providing high-quality cycling infrastructure across the country.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy 2022-2025 and associated implementation plan	It sets out a pathway for the delivery of EV charge point infrastructure, including the rollout of EV infrastructure as required under the EU's Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulation (AFIR), where a 300% increase in the amount of public recharging infrastructure is targeted for delivery.	The strategy takes a people-first approach, focusing on the different transport needs across the country and is being informed by the piloting of different technologies and charging options in Ireland. An Implementation Plan has also been developed in conjunction with the strategy to provide an initial set of actions and deliverables to support the strategy's delivery. This includes the development the National Road Network EV Charging Plan and the Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Renewable Transport Fuel Policy 2023-2025	The Renewable Transport Fuel Policy, 2023 – 2025 sets out a pathway to incentivise the supply of renewable transport fuel through annual increases in the renewable transport fuel obligation rate to 2030.	The policy will underpin the shift to the Climate Action Plan 2023 (CAP 23) biofuel targets of at least B20 (biodiesel equivalent) in diesel and E10 (Ethanol) in petrol by 2030 (with an interim B12/E10 by 2025 target).	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Energy Security Framework (2022)	National Energy Security Framework provides an overarching and comprehensive response to Ireland's energy security needs in the context of the war in Ukraine. The Framework outlines the structures which are in place within Government to monitor and manage our energy supplies. It sets out the plans which are in place to deal with energy security emergencies should they arise, and outlines out how these plans will be tested in light of the war in Ukraine.	The Framework sets out the government's action in response to these issues across three key themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - managing the impact on consumers and businesses, with a specific focus on financially vulnerable residential consumers in the short-term - ensuring security of energy supply in the near term, with a focus on the period up to and including winter 2022/23 - reducing our dependency on imported fossil fuels, in the context of the phasing out of Russian energy imports across the EU 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
Ireland's National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) 2021-2030 (published in 2024)	National Energy and Climate Plans are the framework within which EU Member States must notify their climate and energy objectives, targets, policies, and measures to the European Commission and were established under Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action. Member States are required to develop NECPs on a ten-year rolling basis. The aim of the plans is to outline our energy and climate policies in detail for the period from 2021 to 2030 and provide projections and ambitions towards 2050. Under the Regulation, Member States are also required to update their initial plans after 5 years, this is the first update of the initial NECP which was published in 2019. The NECP covers five dimensions of the Energy Union: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decarbonisation - Energy Efficiency - Energy Security - Internal Energy Market - Research, Innovation and Competitiveness The NECP brings together the policies, targets, tools and associated material relating to our climate and energy obligations under various EU Regulations and Directives from across government bodies and departments into one document. It reflects our ambitions and provides certainty to investors and policymakers that we are committed to EU-wide targets and ambitions to move towards becoming a carbon-neutral society.	It outlines our department's energy and climate policies in detail for the period from 2021 to 2030 and looks onwards to 2050. The NECP collates the policies, measures and actions related to energy and climate outlined in a range of government plans: such as the Climate Action Plan, the National Development Plan, and Project Ireland 2040, into one cohesive document. It also presents modelling that illustrates Ireland's current trajectories toward its three main European targets. The NECP reflects the ambitions set out in Climate Action Plan 2024. The NECP will act to identify gaps and areas that Ireland can improve on, which should be reflected in updated policies and measures in subsequent Climate Action Plans. The policies outlined in the NECP reflect the ambition of Climate Action Plan 2024.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Implementation Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals 2022-2024	It is the second National Implementation Plan for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals reviews the progress made towards each of the 17 Goals.	The Plan sets out five strategic objectives and 51 actions, with 119 individual measures to increase Ireland's ambition and strengthen implementation structures to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It also incorporates 23 external actions from four other National Plans or Strategies which contribute to and are complementary to the objectives of this Plan and which have been included for coherence and reporting purposes. Strategic Objective 1: To embed the SDG framework into the work of Government Departments to achieve greater Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development Strategic Objective 2: To integrate the SDGs into Local Authority work to better support the localisation of the SDGs Strategic Objective 3: Greater partnerships for the Goals Strategic Objective 4: To further incorporate the principle of Leave No One Behind into Ireland's Agenda 2030 implementation and reporting mechanisms Strategic Objective 5: Strong reporting mechanisms	Implementation of the Strategy needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040	The PLUTO takes account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies.	The PLUTO seeks to: 1. Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term; 2. Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and, 3. Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) (2021)	The high-level strategic framework for prioritising future investment in the land transport network. This new framework is the Department of Transport's contribution to Project Ireland 2040, Government's long-term strategy for accommodating population growth in a sustainable manner and making Ireland a better country for all of its people. It has been developed to ensure that our transport sectoral strategy is underpinned by and supports the achievement of the spatial objectives and National Strategic Objectives set out in the National Planning Framework.	The framework establishes high-level investment priorities to efficiently and effectively address key transport challenges identified by the background analysis and to ensure that transport investment is aligned with and supports Government's overarching spatial and climate change objectives, as articulated in the National Planning Framework and Climate Action Plan.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Investing in our Future: A Strategic Framework for Investment in Land Transport (SFILT) – Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport	SFILT sets out a set of priorities to guide the allocation of the State's investment to best develop and manage Ireland's land transport network over the coming decades.	The three priorities stated in SFILT are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 1: Achieve steady state maintenance (meaning that the maintenance and renewal of the existing transport system is at a sufficient level to maintain the system in an adequate condition); • Priority 2: Address urban congestion; and • Priority 3: Maximise the value of the road network. In delivering on the steady state maintenance objective set out in SFILT, the Plan includes for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planned replacement programme for the bus fleet operated under Public Service Obligation ("PSO") contracts; • Tram refurbishment and asset renewal in the case of light rail; and • To the extent within the Authority' remit, support for the operation of the existing rail network within the GDA. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Infrastructure and Capital Investment Plan (2016-2021)	€27 billion multi-annual Exchequer Capital Investment Plan, which is supported by a programme of capital investment in the wider State sector, and which over the period 2016 to 2021 will help to lay the foundations for continued growth in Ireland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Capital Plan reflects the Government's commitment to supporting strong and sustainable economic growth and raising welfare and living standards for all. • It includes allocations for new projects across a number of key areas and funding to ensure that the present stock of national infrastructure is refreshed and maintained. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Energy Security in Ireland to 2030 ("Energy Security Package")	It outlines a new strategy to ensure energy security in Ireland for this decade, while ensuring a sustainable transition to a carbon neutral energy system by 2050.	The Energy Security Package includes a range of measures to implement this approach in the short and medium term by prioritising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced and Responsive Demand • A Renewables-Led System • More Resilient Systems • Robust Risk Governance 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012	A medium to long term framework for advancing sustainable development and the green economy in Ireland. It identifies spatial planning as a key challenge for sustainable development and sets a series of measures to address these challenges. It aims at improving synergies and identifying and tackling policy gaps, policy conflicts and trade-offs as part of a coherent, joined-up approach to policy making on sustainable development. Ireland's Framework for Sustainable Development timeframe is to 2020 to tie in with other national and international frameworks, but a longer-term horizon to 2050 is also taken where appropriate, to provide a framework for guiding and reporting on long-term broad development trends such as on climate change.	The objectives of the Framework are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and prioritise policy areas and mechanisms where a sustainable development approach will add value and enable progress towards the strategy aims. • Highlight and promote existing sustainable practices that, with the correct support, can underpin sustainable development more generally. • Strengthen policy integration, coherence and co-ordination and bring a long term perspective to decision making. • Set out governance mechanisms which ensure effective participation within government and across all stakeholders. • Set out clear measures, responsibilities and timelines in an implementation plan. • Set out how progress is to be measured and reported on through the use of indicators. • Incorporate adequate and effective monitoring, learning and improvement into the Framework process. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future – A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2020	Outlines a policy for how a sustainable travel and transport system can be achieved. Sets out five key goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce overall travel demand. • To maximise the efficiency of the transport network. • To reduce reliance on fossil fuels. • To reduce transport emissions. • To improve accessibility to transport. 	Others lower level aims include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce distance travelled by private car and encourage smarter travel, including focusing population growth in areas of employment and to encourage people to live in close proximity to places of employment • ensuring that alternatives to the car are more widely available, mainly through a radically improved public transport service and through investment in cycling and walking • improving the fuel efficiency of motorised transport through improved fleet structure, energy efficient driving and alternative technologies • strengthening institutional arrangements to deliver the targets 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 - 2020	The Draft Bioenergy Plan vision: Bioenergy resources contributing to economic development and sustainable growth, generating jobs for citizens, supported by coherent policy, planning and regulation, and managed in an integrated manner.	Three high-level goals, of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To harness the market opportunities presented by bioenergy in order to achieve economic development, growth and jobs. To increase awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits of developing bioenergy. To ensure that bioenergy developments do not adversely impact the environment and its living and non-living resources. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCA) 2016	Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2009/28/EC: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.	Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DITAS) 2017-2030	This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.	Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFV forecasts Electricity targets Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets Hydrogen targets Biofuels targets LPG targets Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Cycle Network Scoping Study 2010	Outlines objectives and actions aimed at developing a strong cycle network in Ireland. Sets out 19 specific objectives, and details the 109 actions, aimed at ensuring that a cycling culture is developed.	Sets a target where 10% of all journeys will be made by bike by 2020. Proposes the planning, infrastructure, communication, education and stakeholder participations measures required to implement the initiative.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Policy Framework for Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030	This National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport represents the first step in communicating our longer-term national vision for decarbonising transport by 2050, the cornerstone of which is our ambition that by 2030 all new cars and vans sold in Ireland will be zero-emissions capable. By 2030 it is envisaged that the movement in Ireland to electrically-fuelled cars and commuter rail will be well underway, with natural gas and biofuels developing as major alternatives in the freight and bus sectors.	This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce overall travel demand Maximise the efficiency of the transport network Reduce reliance on fossil fuels Reduce transport emissions Improve accessibility to transport These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland – The Energy Policy Framework 2007 – 2020 (2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> White paper setting out a framework for delivering a sustainable energy future in Ireland. Outlines strategic Goals for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Security of Supply Sustainability of Energy Competitiveness of Energy Supply 	The underpinning Strategic Goals are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that electricity supply consistently meets demand Ensuring the physical security and reliability of gas supplies to Ireland Enhancing the diversity of fuels used for power generation Delivering electricity and gas to homes and businesses over efficient, reliable and secure networks Creating a stable attractive environment for hydrocarbon exploration and production Being prepared for energy supply disruptions 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) (2010)	The National Renewable Energy Action Plan sets out the Government's strategic approach and concrete measures to deliver on Ireland's 16% target under Directive 2009/28/EC. National Renewable Energy Action Plan.	The areas of intervention identified by the NREAP are heat, transport and electricity. Section 4 provides an overview of all policies and measures to promote the use of energy from renewable resources, these are: Biofuels Mineral Oil Tax Relief (MOTR) Schemes to increase production and use of biofuel; Greener Homes Scheme, financial facilitates to wider deployment of renewable-energy heating technologies in the residential sector; Grant support for the planting of perennial biomass crops (willow and miscanthus) – contributes to biomass needs of renewable energy sector; a policy that facilitates renewables by providing for grid connections outside the gate process for certain small, renewable, low carbon generators; new local and central authorities; etc.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland (2017 – 2020)	Article 24 of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive requires Member States to submit a National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP) every three years. Ireland's 4th NEEAP was produced in early 2017.	It provides a comprehensive overview on the progress made towards the above targets the measures in place to ensure the targets are met the strategies and policies in place across the residential, commercial, transport and public sector.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Broadband Plan (2012)	The National Broadband Plan is the Government's initiative to deliver high speed broadband services to all premises in Ireland. This will be delivered through investment by commercial enterprises coupled with intervention by the State in those parts of the country where private companies have no plans to invest.	The Plan sets out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High-Speed Broadband. • Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high-speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered. • The strategy and interventions that will underpin the successful implementation of these targets. • A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Shaping Our Electricity Future 1.1 (EirGrid)	The main objective of the Shaping Our Electricity Future Roadmap Version 1.1 is to outline how we can make the grid ready so that 80% of Ireland's and Northern Ireland's electricity can come from renewable sources, like the wind and sun, by 2030. These targets, and new limits to carbon emissions, are the product of updates to climate change policy across the island in 2022.	Key goals include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the delivery of renewable electricity. • Find problems, gaps, opportunities, potential collaborations, or areas of duplication in the deployment of renewable electricity projects. • Help to find and resolve potential regulatory, administrative and/or legal barriers to the faster deployment of renewable electricity projects. • Increase alignment across the energy sector to support the delivery of renewable electricity generation projects. • Recommend appropriate investment conditions for electricity projects. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018)	The objective of this Strategy is to assist in the strategic development of nationally and regionally significant greenways in appropriate locations constructed to an appropriate standard in order to deliver a quality experience for all greenways users. It also aims to increase the number and geographical spread of greenways of scale and quality around the country over the next 10 years with a consequent significant increase in the number of people using greenways as a visitor experience and as a recreational amenity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strategic greenway network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and/or link with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure; • Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in activity tourism to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors, domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity; • Greenways that provide a substantially segregated off road experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; and • Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and • Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector	Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry. The Strategy aims both to increase the capacity of the sector to create and maintain jobs, and to deliver a sustainable sector, operating at an appropriate level. It seeks to learn the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated.	This Strategy therefore addresses issues including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A strategic approach to the provision of housing, based on real and measured needs, with mechanisms in place to detect and act when things are going wrong; Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements; The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects; Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms; Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety; Ensuring a fit for purpose sector supported by a highly skilled workforce achieving high quality and standards; and Ensuring opportunities are provided to unemployed former construction workers to contribute to the recovery of the sector. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland (1997)	The overall aim of this Strategy is to ensure that economy and society in Ireland can develop to their full potential within a well-protected environment, without compromising the quality of that environment, and with responsibility towards present and future generations and the wider international community.	The Strategy addresses all areas of Government policy, and of economic and societal activity, which impact on the environment. It seeks to re-orientate policies as necessary to ensure that the strong growth Ireland enjoys and seeks to maintain will be environmentally sustainable.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character Assessment (pending preparation)	The National Landscape Strategy will be used to ensure compliance with the European Landscape Convention and to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change. It will provide a high-level policy framework to achieve balance between the protection, management and planning of the landscape by way of supporting actions. Landscape Strategy Vision: <i>"Our landscape reflects and embodies our cultural values and our shared natural heritage and contributes to the well-being of our society, environment and economy. We have an obligation to ourselves and to future generations to promote its sustainable protection, management and planning."</i>	The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the European Landscape Convention by integrating landscape into the approach to sustainable development; Establish and embed a public process of gathering, sharing and interpreting scientific, technical and cultural information in order to carry out evidence-based identification and description of the character, resources and processes of the landscape; Provide a policy framework, which will put in place measures at national, sectoral - including agriculture, tourism, energy, transport and marine - and local level, together with civil society, to protect, manage and properly plan through high quality design for the sustainable stewardship of the landscape; Ensure that we take advantage of opportunities to implement policies relating to landscape use that are complementary and mutually reinforcing and that conflicting policy objectives are avoided in as far as possible. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Waste Management Act 1996 (as amended)	To make provision in relation to the prevention, management and control of waste; to give effect to provisions of certain acts adopted by institutions of the European communities in respect of those matters; to amend the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992, and to repeal certain enactments and to provide for related matters.	The Waste Management Act contains a number of key legal obligations, including requirements for waste management planning, waste collection and movement, the authorisation of waste facilities, measures to reduce the production of waste and/or promote its recovery.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2021-2027	The EPA's National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (NWHMP) covers a six-year period from 2021 to 2027. This is the fourth National Hazardous Waste Management Plan and is made under Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996. It sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the prevention and management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous revised plan, and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous revised plan was published. The purpose of this plan is to protect the environment and human health in Ireland through best-practice management of hazardous wastes.	The Plan's objectives are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Support and drive priority prevention actions by industry and the public to reduce the generation of hazardous waste; Support the identification of adequate and appropriate collection infrastructure for all hazardous wastes with a view to mitigating environmental and health impacts; Endorse the proximity principle such that hazardous wastes are treated as close to the point of production as possible – including within Ireland, taking into account the need for specialised installations for certain types of waste. Support effective regulation of the movement and management of hazardous wastes in line with national policy priorities; Promotion of safe reuse and recycling pathways in support of the circular economy. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy (2024)	The Regional Waste Management Planning Offices, under the auspices of the County and City Management Association National Oversight Group, have co-ordinated the preparation of this plan which is the first National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy. This Plan sets out a framework for the prevention and management of waste in Ireland for the period 2024 to 2030.	The Plan seeks to influence sustainable consumption and prevent the generation of waste, improve the capture of materials to optimise circularity and enable compliance with policy and legislation.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines	The Department produces a range of guidelines designed to help planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála, developers and the general public and cover a wide range of issues amongst others, architectural heritage, child care facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density.	The Minister issues statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act which planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to in the performance of their planning functions.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Healthy Ireland Framework 2019-2025	The Healthy Ireland Framework 2019-2025 is a roadmap for building a healthier Ireland.	It is based around four key goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life • to reduce health inequalities • to protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing • to create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
S.I. 232/2018 - European Union (National Emission Ceilings) Regulations 2018	The Regulations require the Minister to ensure that emissions of the specified pollutants are limited in accordance with the ceilings set out in Schedule 2. Annex III part 2 includes a set of measures to reduce emissions from agriculture.	The Regulations provide that the Environment Protection Agency shall prepare an annual inventory report of emissions of 5 specified pollutants (sulphur dioxide (SO ₂), nitrogen oxides (NO _x), non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOC), ammonia (NH ₃), and fine particulate matter (PM _{2.5}), and in certain years a report on projections of emissions. The Regulations also require the preparation of a national air pollution control programme Referring, among other things, to the 1979 UNECE Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution), and the establishment of a network to monitor the negative impacts of air pollution upon ecosystems based on a network of monitoring sites that is representative of Ireland's freshwater, natural and semi-natural habitats and forest ecosystem types. The Programme shall contain elements on the use of nitrogen fertilizer and soil protection. In fulfilling the requirements of subparagraph (b) the Minister shall ensure coordination with other monitoring programmes established pursuant to Union legislation including Directive 2008/50/EC, Directive 2000/60/EC and Council Directive 92/43/EEC and, if appropriate, the LRTAP Convention and, where appropriate, make use of data collected under those programmes.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Clean Air Strategy 2023	The Clean Air Strategy provides the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having a National Strategy provides a policy framework by which Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation. • The Strategy should also help tackle climate change. • The Strategy considers a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture. • In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people's health is paramount and this is a theme of the Strategy. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Agri-Food Strategy 2030	The Food Vision 2030 Strategy is a new ten year Strategy for the Irish agri-food sector (taken to include primary agriculture, food and drink processing and manufacturing, fisheries, aquaculture and fish processing, forestry and forestry processing and the equine sector).	The Strategy consists of 22 Goals, grouped into four high-level "Missions" for the sector to work toward: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector • Viable and Resilient Primary Producers with Enhanced Well-Being • Food Which is Safe, Nutritious And Appealing, Trusted And Valued at Home and Abroad • An Innovative, Competitive and Resilient Agri-Food Sector, Driven by Technology And Talent 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Agricultural Schemes, including: Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS), Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS), Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS) and Results-based Environment-Agri Pilot Scheme (REAP)	Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection. The REPS evolved to AEOS 1, 2 and 3 and currently the Green Low Carbon Agri-Environment (GLAS) Scheme is in place. The recently introduced REAP scheme in Ireland is a two year scheme in place for 2021 and 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation. • Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats. • Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment. • Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans. • Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Rural Development Programme 2014-2022 (as amended)	The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas.	At a more detailed level, the programme also: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation; • Aims to improve the environment, biodiversity and the amenity value of the countryside by support for land management through funds such as Natura 2000 payments etc.; and • Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as non-agricultural activities 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Our Rural Future: Rural Development Policy 2021-2025	The vision of this policy is for a thriving rural Ireland which is integral to our national economic, social, cultural and environmental wellbeing and development. Our Rural Future represents the Irish Government's blueprint for a post-COVID-19 recovery and development of rural Ireland over the next 5 years. It provides the framework to achieve the vision of transforming the quality of life and opportunity for people living in rural areas.	A set of policy measures aim to deliver wellbeing for all, and to support an aligned policy approach to rural development. It seeks to promote enhanced community participation, to prepare rural areas for technological, demographic and environmental change, and to address the diversity of challenges and opportunities facing rural areas, informed by analysis, data, and consultation.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Food Wise 2025 (DAFM)	Food Wise 2025 sets out a ten-year plan for the agri-food sector. It underlines the sector's unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further.	Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 85% increase in exports to €19 billion. • 70% increase in value added to €13 billion. • 60% increase in primary production to €10 billion. • The creation of 23,000 additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high-end value-added product development. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021	The Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021 sets out actions that the Tourism Leadership Group has identified as priorities to be progressed until 2021 in order to maintain sustainable growth in overseas tourism revenue and employment. Each action involves specific tourism stakeholders, both in the public and private sectors, all of whom we expect to proactively work towards the completion of actions within the specified timeframe.	The Plan contains 27 actions focusing on the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Context • Marketing Ireland as a Visitor Destination • Enhancing the Visitor Experience • Research in the Irish Tourism Sector • Supporting Local Communities in Tourism • Wider Government Policy • International Context • Co-ordination Structures 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025	<p>Growing Tourism to 2025 is a policy framework for the development of tourism within the Country.</p> <p>The main goal of this policy statement is to have a vibrant, attractive tourism sector that makes a significant contribution to employment across the country; is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable; helps promote a positive image of Ireland overseas, and is a sector in which people want to work.</p>	<p>The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overseas tourism revenue of €5 billion per year • net of inflation excluding carrier receipts; • 250,000 people employed in tourism; and • 10 million overseas visitors to Ireland per year. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan 2016-2020	<p>The Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan provides a strategic framework for the integration of built, natural and cultural heritage into the future management of waterways.</p> <p>The overarching aim of the Plan is to: <i>"Identify and protect the unique waterways heritage and promote its sustainable use for the enjoyment of this and future generations"</i>.</p>	<p>Four objectives of the Plan include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1: Fostering partnerships to continue building waterway heritage knowledge through storing information, undertaking research and developing best practice. • Objective 2: Promoting awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of our waterway heritage with a focus on community engagement. • Objective 3: Promoting the integrated management, conservation, protection and sustainable use of the inland navigable waterway asset. • Objective 4: To develop Waterways Ireland as a heritage organisation committed to achieving the aim of this plan. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Waterways Ireland "Reimagining Our Waterways" 10-Year Plan 2023	<p>10-Year Plan is a visionary roadmap for reimagining historical waterways, greenways and blueways.</p> <p>Waterways Ireland's Vision is to be recognised as having enabled the creation of inspirational inland navigations and waterways experiences, through conservation and sustainable development for the benefit of all.</p>	<p>At the core of our 10-year plan is set of six strategic priorities. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisation Development & Governance • Sustainable Funding Model • Asset Portfolio Management • Participation and Reputation • Sustainable Development • Climate Action, Environment and Heritage 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Tourism Development and Innovation – A Strategy for Investment 2016-2022, (Fáilte Ireland, 2016)	<p>This strategy sets out the framework and mechanism for the delivery of investment to cities, towns, villages, communities and businesses across the country. It identifies priorities to support innovation in the sector to retain and grow the country's competitiveness in the marketplace. Its ultimate aim is to strengthen the appeal of Ireland for international visitors.</p>	<p>The objectives of the Tourism Development and Innovation Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To successfully and consistently deliver a world class visitor experience; • To support a tourism sector that is profitable and achieves sustainable levels of growth and delivers jobs; • To facilitate communities to play an enhanced role in developing tourism in their locality, thereby strengthening and enriching local communities; and • To recognise, value and enhance Ireland's natural environment as the cornerstone of Irish tourism. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998	<p>The Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998 requires that each Housing Authority adopts a Traveller Accommodation Programme for its functional area.</p>	<p>This Act amended and extended the Housing Acts, 1966 to 1997, the Local Government (Planning and Development) Acts, 1963 to 1998, the Local Government Act, 1991, to make provision for the accommodation needs of travellers, to provide for the appointment of a national traveller accommodation consultative committee and local traveller accommodation consultative committees and to provide for related matters.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlement Guidelines (DHLGH, 2024)	<p>The Guidelines set out policy and guidance in relation to the planning and development of urban and rural settlements, with a focus on sustainable residential development and the creation of compact settlements. They are accompanied by a companion non-statutory Design Manual that illustrates best practice examples of how the policies and objectives of the Guidelines can be applied.</p>	<p>The Guidelines build on and update previous guidance to take account of current Government policy and economic, social and environmental considerations. There is a renewed focus in the Guidelines on the renewal of existing settlements and on the interaction between residential density, housing standards and quality urban design and placemaking to support sustainable and compact growth.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
Retail Planning Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2012)	<p>The Guidelines have five key policy objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that retail development is plan-led; • Promoting city/town centre vitality through a sequential approach to development; • Securing competitiveness in the retail sector by actively enabling good quality development proposals to come forward in suitable locations; • Facilitating a shift towards increased access to retailing by public transport, cycling and walking in accordance with the Smarter Travel strategy; and • Delivering quality urban design outcomes. 	<p>The aim of the Guidelines is to ensure that the planning system continues to play a key role in supporting competitiveness in the retail sector for the benefit of the consumer in accordance with proper planning and sustainable development. In addition, the planning system must promote and support the vitality and viability of city and town centres thereby contributing to a high standard of urban design and encouraging a greater use of sustainable transport.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Architectural Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011)	<p>Part 1 of these guidelines includes the criteria to be applied when selecting proposed protected structures for inclusion in the RPS. It also offers guidance to planning authorities on issuing a declaration on a protected structure and on determining planning applications in relation to a protected structure, a proposed protected structure or the exterior of a building within an ACA.</p>	<p>Part 2 contains supplementary detailed guidance to support planning authorities in their role to protect the architectural heritage when a protected structure, a proposed protected structure or the exterior of a building within an ACA is the subject of development proposals and when a declaration is sought in relation to a protected structure.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027	<p>The primary objective of the strategy which is to facilitate disabled people to live independently with the appropriate choices and control over where, how and with whom they live, promoting their inclusion in the community.</p>	<p>This Strategy will build on the progress made under the previous strategy, The National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability (NHSPWD) 2011 – 2016 (extended to 2021). The Strategy promotes a whole of community approach to housing for disabled people when planning the provision of housing, including infrastructure, transport, education, and employment.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Derelict Sites Act (1990)	<p>An Act to make provision with respect to land to prevent it being or becoming a derelict site, to enable Local Authorities to require the taking of measures on derelict sites by the owners or occupiers and, in certain circumstances, to acquire derelict sites compulsorily, to establish registers of derelict sites, to enable the minister to give directions in relation to derelict sites, to provide for a derelict sites levy and to provide for other matters connected with the aforesaid and to repeal the Derelict Sites Act 1961.</p>	<p>Under the Act, local authorities can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosecute owners who do not comply with notices served • Make compulsory land purchases • Carry out necessary work themselves and charge the owners for the cost <p>All local authorities must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain derelict sites register • Make the register available for public inspection - It can remove an entry from the Register when it is satisfied that improvement works have been carried out on the derelict site. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 (as amended)	<p>An Act to make provision with respect to land in areas in which housing is required and in areas which are in need of renewal to prevent it lying idle or remaining vacant, to establish a register of vacant sites in those areas, to provide for vacant sites levy, to amend the Derelict Sites Act 1990, to amend Parts II, III and V of the Planning and Development Act 2000, to amend the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009 and to provide for related matters.</p>	<p>This Revised Act is an administrative consolidation of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015. It is prepared by the Law Reform Commission in accordance with its function under the Law Reform Commission Act 1975 (3/1975) to keep the law under review and to undertake revision and consolidation of statute law.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Housing for All - a New Housing Plan for Ireland	<p>The government's overall objective is that every citizen in the State should have access to good quality homes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to purchase or rent at an affordable price • built to a high standard and in the right place • offering a high quality of life 	<p>The policy has four pathways to achieving housing for all:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting home ownership and increasing affordability • eradicating homelessness, increasing social housing delivery and supporting social inclusion • increasing new housing supply • addressing vacancy and efficient use of existing stock 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
Town Centre First Policy (2022)	The Town Centre First Policy is a major cross-government policy that aims to tackle vacancy, combat dereliction and breathe new life into town centres. It advocates for a holistic, place-based approach to sustainable rural development. The Town Centre First policy aims to create town centres that function as viable, vibrant and attractive locations for people to live, work and visit, while also functioning as the business, service, social and. cultural.	The Policy contains 33 actions which will give towns the tools and resources they need to become more viable and attractive places in which to live, work, socialise and run a business. This will focus on charting the future direction of their towns, address issues of vacancy and dereliction and add vibrancy to the town centre.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
IDA's Adapt Intelligently: A Strategy for Sustainable Growth and Innovation 2025-29 and associated developments (including development of employment lands along the East Cork Rail corridor)	IDA Ireland's strategy 2025-29 is an ambitious and positive approach to a fast-changing world. Drawing on the opportunities for growth arising from the structural forces that are reshaping the global economy, it sets an ambition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Ireland to be a leading location for smart, sustainable manufacturing and intelligent, digitalised services • To increase the number of companies undertaking cutting-edge research and innovation and the scope, scale and ambition of their Research, Development and Innovation activity • To retain and enhance Ireland's position in key strategic value chains • To grow the level of investment in sustainable business practices and processes and in developing new sustainability and energy-efficient technologies • For Ireland to be a leading location for the world-class talent and skills needed to realise future growth opportunities. 	In pursuit of the strategic objectives and targets, IDA Ireland will win 1,000 investments to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure €7bn in new Research, Development and Innovation investment • Deliver 550 regional investments • Reduce IDA Ireland client carbon emissions by 35% • Create 75,000 jobs • Upskill 40,000 people. • This in turn will support IDA Ireland client spend in Ireland of €250bn over the lifetime of the strategy on wages, Irish goods and services, and capital investment, providing further opportunity and economic impact across local supply chains. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Regional/ County/Local Level			
Southern Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2020-2032	The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy provides a long-term strategic planning and economic framework for the Southern Region in order to support the implementation of the National Planning Framework.	The Southern Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy includes provisions for its 12 constituent local authorities: Waterford City and County Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Tipperary County Council, Wexford County Council, Kerry County Council, Clare County Council, Limerick City and County Council, Kilkenny County Council and Carlow County Council.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Integrated Implementation Plan 2019-2024	The Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035, which established an overall framework for transport investment over the next two decades and was subject to full SEA and Stage 2 AA, is a key policy shaping the six-year Integrated Infrastructure Plan. The priorities in the Integrated Infrastructure Plan align with the objectives and priorities set out in the Transport Strategy, focused on improving public and sustainable transport.	MASP reinforces Cork City's role as an international centre of scale to complement Dublin, targeting 50-60% population growth by 2040 to uniquely position Cork Metropolitan Area as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A principal complementary location to Dublin with a strong international role; • A primary driver of economic and population growth in the region; • A Metropolitan Area strengthening the vibrancy of its City Centre; • A compact metropolitan area with increased regional connectivity; and • A City Region focusing growth on the delivery of sustainable transport patterns. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Cork Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP)	MASP provides a guide for investment and sustainable development across the Cork Metropolitan Area up to 2031.	The strategy provides for dramatic interventions in how the City moves with new dedicated walking/cycling routes, a high frequency bus service (BusConnects), the development of a light rail network, the expansion of commuter rail and investment in local route improvements including new orbital routes.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (CMATS) 2040	CMATS sets out the delivery of a €3.5 billion investment in transport infrastructure.	The strategy provides for dramatic interventions in how the City moves with new dedicated walking/cycling routes, a high frequency bus service (BusConnects), the development of a light rail network, the expansion of commuter rail and investment in local route improvements including new orbital routes.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs	Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest To describe the site and its management To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation objectives for SACs and SPAs (i.e. sites within the Natura 2000 network) have to be set for the habitats and species for which the sites are selected. These objectives are used when carrying out appropriate assessments for plans and projects that might impact on these sites. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Groundwater Protection Schemes	A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.	A Groundwater Protection Scheme aims to maintain the quantity and quality of groundwater, and in some cases improve it, by applying a risk assessment-based approach to groundwater protection and sustainable development.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs), including Cork City LECP 2024-2029 and Cork County LECP 2024-2030	The overarching vision for each LECP is: “to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities.” This six-year plan will guide the local community and economic development of Cork City up to 2030. The aim of the LECP is to improve the quality of life for all those who live, work, study in, or visit Cork City. The LECP’s actions have a special focus on communities experiencing exclusion and disadvantage across the city.	The purpose of the LECP, as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development of the relevant local authority area, both by itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders. The Cork City LECP 2024-2029 contains a detailed, timebound action plan that will be closely monitored and updated every 2 years. The 122 actions contained within will be delivered by Cork City Council and many partner organisations across the city.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Land Use Plans, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those in force in Cork City (including the overarching Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 and associated Variation No. 1 Parking Standards); and Those in force and emerging in other adjoining planning authorities (including Cork County Development Plan 2022-2028 and local area plans). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline planning objectives for land use development. Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies. Set out the policies and proposals to guide development in the specific Local Authority area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify future infrastructure, development and zoning required. Protect and enhances amenities and environment. Guide planning authority in assessing proposals. Aim to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development. Aim to promote sustainable development. Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Cork City Landscape Study (2008) and Cork County Landscape Character Assessment	Characterise the geographical dimension of the landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area. Guide strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape. 	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report for Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
<p>Cork City Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2021-2026 and County Cork Biodiversity Action Plan 2009-2014</p>	<p>The aim of Cork City Heritage and Biodiversity Plan is: <i>"To protect, enhance, promote and restore the heritage and biodiversity of Cork City and to place the care of our heritage at the heart of the community."</i></p> <p>This five-year action plan and includes projects on archaeology, built heritage, cultural and natural heritage and sets out a series of realistic and practical actions to protect, conserve, restore and manage heritage.</p> <p>The overall aim of the County Cork Biodiversity Action Plan is: <i>"To conserve and to enhance biodiversity, and to ensure that every person in the county has the opportunity to appreciate and understand its importance in our lives."</i></p>	<p>The Cork City Heritage and Biodiversity Plan contains 73 actions. It will contribute to Cork City's economy, tourism sector, recreation facilities and the health and wellbeing of our communities.</p> <p>The Plan sets out four themes on heritage and biodiversity, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote best practice and encourage heritage and biodiversity conservation and management. 2. To be at the forefront of research and education, and support training in heritage and biodiversity related fields. 3. To raise awareness, appreciation, engagement with and enjoyment of heritage and biodiversity and communicate heritage message to a citizens and visitors alike. 4. To increase the level of social, economic and tourism activity for heritage and biodiversity in the city. <p>The County Cork Biodiversity Action Plan outlines 21 actions which are listed under six key objectives of the plan.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Cork Agglomeration Noise Action Plan 2024-2028</p>	<p>The Noise Action Plans is required under the Environmental Noise Directive ("END") (2002/49/EC) which was transported into Irish law through the European Communities (Environmental Noise) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 549/2018) and the European Communities (Environmental Noise) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 663/2021). The Regulations require Strategic Noise Maps and Noise Action Plans to be made or revised every five years.</p>	<p>Under the Regulations, Cork City Council and Cork County Council are designated as the Noise-Mapping Bodies (NMBs), for the purpose of making and approving strategic noise maps for the Agglomeration of Cork. These local authorities are also designated as Action Planning Authorities (APAs), responsible for preparing a Noise Action Plan for the Agglomeration. This is the fourth round of noise action planning for the Agglomerations, and this Noise Action Plan reports the findings of the strategic noise mapping prepared in consultation with Transport Infrastructure Ireland and Irish Rail (Iarnród Éireann), and the Environment Protection Agency, and in respect of the calendar year 2021 for noise from road traffic, rail traffic, airports and industrial activity sites, including ports. The plans do not, however, cover noise that is caused by the exposed person himself/herself, noise from domestic activities, neighbourhood noise, noise at workplaces or noise inside means of transport or due to military activities in military areas.</p> <p>This Noise Action Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Regulations and is aimed at strategic long-term management of environmental noise from transport systems, and is based on the results of the strategic noise maps which informed assessments of population exposure and harmful effects of noise.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Cork City Air Quality Strategy 2021-2026</p>	<p>The Air Quality Strategy outlines the actions that the Council will take to reduce the concentrations of air pollutants in the city area, thereby positively impacting on the quality of life of residents and visitors. The Air Quality Strategy also builds on significant work being conducted by Cork City Council to develop a high-level air quality monitoring system.</p>	<p>Strategy's actions include the expansion of walking and cycling routes, increasing access to public transport and developing green infrastructure and nature-based solutions. Various initiatives will be developed across numerous departments within the Council and they are an integral part of a larger objective, which is to make Cork City a healthy and accessible city for residents and visitors alike.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Cork City Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029</p> <p>Cork County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029</p>	<p>The Local Authority Climate Action Plan is a statutory requirement of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act of 2021.</p> <p>The Plan must set out 'specific, action-focused, time-bound and measurable actions' that contribute to the achievement of Ireland's legally binding climate ambition to 'transition to a resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy' by the end of 2050.</p>	<p>The Cork City Climate Action Plan sets out 129 citywide actions that will help us to achieving a vision of a climate neutral, resilient, just, healthy, and thriving city. To achieve this vision, it sets out h three goals: to achieve net-zero GHG emissions as soon as possible, to protect and enhance our natural and built environment for future generations and to establish best-practice governance to lead the city.</p> <p>The Cork County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 is aligned with the Government's national climate objectives and targets, which seek to transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy by 2050.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Cork City and Cork County Climate Action Charter 2019</p>	<p>The Climate Action Charter is a key action in the Plan and will ensure every local authority embeds decarbonisation, sustainable development and climate resilience into every aspect of the work they do. This Plan will ensure to meet local authority's 2030 climate commitments, on a trajectory to be net-zero emissions by 2050.</p>	<p>The Charter commits Local Authorities to several actions that will ensure that they play a key leadership role locally and nationally in delivering effective climate action.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
Cork City Council's Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP)	Cork City Council's Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan was prepared and adopted by the City Council in January 2018. It provides a baseline assessment of energy use and greenhouse gas emissions associated with energy use in Cork City (based on the year 2011 data and boundary).	The SECAP identifies ways to reduce energy related greenhouse gas emissions by 43.7% by 2030. The SECAP was prepared as part of the City's membership, with over 10,000 other cities of the Covenant of Mayors.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Area Action Plans: City Centre, South Parish, Blackpool Village, Coburg Street & St. Patrick's Hill, Bishopstown and Wilton, Blackrock Village, and Cornmarket Street	Non-statutory plans include Masterplans, Framework Plans and Area Action Plans (AAP). Such plans are not governed by a legislative process. These plans can vary in scope but typically provide a detailed framework for the area, identifying land uses, urban design principles, actions, physical and social infrastructure.	The Area Action Plans have been adopted by the City Council as a corporate policy documents. They include a specific set of actions in the implementation strategy, and otherwise provide a strategy for change and specific briefs to provide guidance on development and improvement of the area.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Cork City Centre Revitalisation Strategy (2014) and Action Plan (2019)	This Action Plan charts a course for land use and economic development in Cork city centre. It will build on the work and progress achieved in Cork city centre, which had been delivered since the first City Centre Strategy was published in 2014. Since 2014 there has been a shift in the national and regional policy direction with the NPF and RSES prioritising the compact growth of Ireland's urban centres, to create attractive cities in which to work.	This plan outlines actions, which will maintain the city centre as the vibrant heart of the region and continue to develop a city centre of high quality while ensuring that it aligns with, and supports, existing and emerging policy objectives.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Cork County and City Councils Joint Housing Strategy and Housing Need Demand Assessment 2022-2028	The purpose of the Joint Housing Strategy is to outline existing and future housing requirements across both local authority areas and to set out measures for the authorities to plan for and address these needs.	The Housing Strategy informed the policies and objectives of the City and County Development Plans, playing a key role in translating national and regional housing policies to the local level. This Strategy recognises that housing needs and housing markets cross local authority boundaries, particularly across the wider Cork city region, and this Joint Strategy assesses needs and markets accordingly.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tivoli Docs Urban Density and Building Height Strategy (2021)	Tivoli Docklands Urban Density & Building Height Strategy (UDBHS) as a supporting document to Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028. This strategy aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify where in Tivoli Docklands upper 'human scale' density is acceptable and where taller buildings can be integrated into the surrounding environment. • Specify density per hectare targets in line with population, homes and employment targets for Tivoli. • Develop a site specific methodology and framework for public realm, density and building height distribution across the future Tivoli Docklands development. 	Tivoli is a regeneration site of national importance and has been identified in the 'Project Ireland 2040 National Planning Framework' as a key growth enabler to deliver large scale regeneration in terms of employment, housing and supporting infrastructure.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Cork City Green and Blue Infrastructure Study (2022)	<p>The Study and supporting evidence base informed land use planning and policy in Cork City, including the existing Cork City Development Plan. The Study provides a vision and framework for Green and Blue Infrastructure in the city, establishing Green and Blue Infrastructure as of equal importance to 'grey' infrastructure and built environment in the city.</p> <p>The Study has already informed the existing Cork City Development Plan.</p>	<p>The Study is structured as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 2: provides an overview of national, regional and local policy and strategic context for the Study. Chapter 3: describes the benefits and value of Green and Blue Infrastructure to Cork City. Chapter 4: explores the key drivers and need for Green and Blue Infrastructure in Cork City. Chapter 5: sets out a framework and 'Vision' for Green and Blue Infrastructure in the City. Chapter 6 to 13: explores the Green and Blue Infrastructure 'assets' within Cork City, organised into eight 'themes' Chapter 14: Identifies the opportunities and priorities for Green and Blue Infrastructure in the Cork City. Chapter 15: sets out actions and a programme for the implementation and delivery of the study. 	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Cork County Council Recreation and Amenity Policy (2024)	<p>The purpose is to set out appropriate policy and strategy recommendations for the planning and provision of public open space/amenity space and outdoor type recreation facilities in County Cork. This policy has been prepared following a review of the 2006 Cork County Council Recreation and Amenity Policy. It has been prepared to take into account the latest Cork County Development Plan 2022 as well as other relevant national policy, guidelines and best practice which have been published since the 2006 policy.</p>	<p>The policy considers the advancement of and makes recommendations in relation to the strategic approach within the County (and at settlement level) and sets out a development level approach and standards for recreation and amenity provision. Policy and actions are set out as considered appropriate. The main focus of the policy is publicly owned and/or maintained land, or land which is capable of being taken in charge, the primary use of which is for outdoor recreation and amenity (both active and passive) but it also provides broader guidance and applicable standards for those seeking to carry out development.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Cork Area Commuter Programme	<p>The Cork Area Commuter Rail programme is the heavy rail element of CMATS and is a transformative rail improvement programme for the Cork Rail Network. Delivering increased train capacity and frequency, providing for more connected communities and a more sustainable transport network, the project represents the largest ever investment in the Cork Rail Network.</p>	<p>The programme involves developments and enhancements to the rail network from Mallow through Cork to Cobh and Midleton and will include the delivery of new rail infrastructure and electrification and re-signalling across the 3 main lines of Mallow, Cobh and Glounthaune to Midleton. The Cork Area Commuter Rail Programme is being progressed through a number of separate but interrelated projects which will be delivered in specific work packages. The Cork Area Commuter Rail Programme will include the provision of new stations and a new fleet depot along the East Cork Rail corridor.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Cork Cycle Network Plan (2017)	<p>Cork City Council and Cork County Council have prepared a Cycling Network Plan for the Cork City Metropolitan Area and surrounding towns. The objective of the project is to provide a clear plan for the future development of the cycling network within the Metropolitan Area to encourage greater use of cycling for trips to work, school, recreation and leisure. The vision for the Cork Metropolitan Area Cycle Network Plan is to provide a coherent, safe and attractive cycle network that will support a shift from the private car to cycling for employment and education trips as well as provide a strong basis for increasing leisure and tourist cycling.</p>	<p>The Cycle Network Plan for Cork has been developed having regard to various plans and policies that will affect the future development of the transport network.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
Cork Walking Strategy 2013-2018	<p>The Cork Walking Strategy 2013-2018 provides a clear vision and implementation plan for increasing the modal share of walking for commuting within Cork City's suburbs. Much of the focus areas for improvement identified in the Walking Strategy remain relevant and have been adapted for the purposes of the wider metropolitan area and the longer-term horizon of CMATS.</p>	<p>The Walking Strategy proposed the development of a walking network that connects neighbourhoods, origins and destinations, increases the permeability of the built environment, and creates an attractive, safe environment that prompts more people choosing to walk, resulting in a healthier population, a more liveable and sustainable city, and stronger communities.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<p>Fáilte Ireland Tourism plans and strategies, including those relating to the "Wild Atlantic Way"</p>	<p>Fáilte Ireland's work includes preparing various plans and strategies for brands and initiatives. These plans are subject to their own environmental assessment processes and any project arising is required to be consistent with and conform with the provisions of all adopted/approved Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes, including provisions for the protection and management of the environment.</p>	<p>Some of Fáilte Ireland's plans and strategies include various projects relating to land use and infrastructural development, including those relating to development of land or on land and the carrying out of land use activities. Many of these projects exist already while some are not currently in existence.</p> <p>The Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes that provide for different projects undergo a variety of environmental assessments. These assessments ensure that environmental effects are considered, including: those arising from new and intensified uses and activities; and those arising from various sectors such as tourism.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<p>Various existing, planned and emerging projects provided for by the above plans and programmes</p>	<p>These projects have been provided for by higher-level plans and programmes.</p>	<p>These projects will contribute towards the development of the area to which the Plan relates and/or wider area and will contribute towards environmental protection and management.</p>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>