

# Screening for Appropriate Assessment Determination

under  
Planning and Development Act 2024, as amended,  
for the

## Emerging Proposed Variation No. 3 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028, as varied

In order to comply with the requirements of Section 202 of Part 6 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (SI No. 34), as amended, and Article 6(3) of the European Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC), as amended, this determination is being made by Cork City Council relating to the potential for the emerging Proposed Variation No. 3 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028, as varied, to have likely significant effects on any European Site.

In making the determination that Appropriate Assessment (AA) is not required, the information on the likely significant effects, if unmitigated, on European Sites arising from the emerging Proposed Variation has been taken into account (this information will be placed on public display in Screening for AA Report alongside the Proposed Variation).

As is demonstrated and concluded in the Screening for AA Report:

- The source-pathway-receptor model was applied, i.e. the Proposed Variation was examined for sources for potential effects, alongside an examination of pathways for effects of any sources presented in the Proposed Variation to the Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests (i.e., receptors), in view of their Conservation Objectives, of each European site assessed. In applying this model, it was found that no potential sources for significant effects to any European site considered would arise from the implementation of the Proposed Variation that have not already been considered by the Stage 2 AA undertaken for the existing the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 (the findings of which are provided in the Natura Impact Report accompanying the Plan).
- As such, the risks to the safeguarding of the Conservation Objectives of the Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests of the European sites have been addressed through existing, already in-force policies and objectives within the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 - with which all lower tier plans/projects must comply. In addition, any future projects, plans etc. that may arise will themselves be subject to AA/screening for AA when further details of design and location are known.
- Therefore, it is concluded in this Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report, to inform the competent authority carrying out the AA Screening, that Proposed Variation No. 3 to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028, as varied, is not foreseen to have any likelihood for significant effects on any European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Therefore, any likelihood for significant effect to any European site and the Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests therein, as a result of the Proposed Variation, can be ruled out. Consequently, a Stage Two AA (Natura Impact Report) is not required.

The undersigned, having carefully considered the information referred to above agrees with and adopts the reasoning and conclusion presented above.

The undersigned hereby determines pursuant to Section 202 of Part 6 of the Planning and Development Act 2024, as amended, and for the purposes of Article 6(3) of the European Habitats Directive, as amended, that it can be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the emerging Proposed Variation, individually, or in combination with other plans and projects, does not have a likelihood for having any significant effect on any European site. Therefore, Stage 2 AA is not required.

Signatory:

  
Niall Ó Donnabháin, Director of Services, Planning & Integrated Development

Date:

13<sup>th</sup> April 2026