

Draft Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report

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**Brady Shipman
Martin**

**Built.
Environment.**

Environmental Assessment **Built Environment**

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1 Introduction

This is the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report for the Draft Dublin City Development Plan (CDP) (2022-2028) (hereafter 'Draft Plan'). The preparing of this SEA Environmental Report has been undertaken by Brady Shipman Martin, Environmental, Landscape and Planning Consultants of behalf of Dublin City Council (DCC). The purpose of this report is to provide a clear understanding of the likely environmental consequences of decisions regarding the adoption and implementation of the Plan.

Environmental assessment is a procedure that ensures that the environmental implications of decisions are taken into account before such decisions are made. Environmental Impact Assessment, is generally used for describing the process of environmental assessment for individual projects, while Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the term which has been given to the environmental assessment of plans and programmes, which help determine the nature and location of individual projects taking place.

SEA is a systematic process of predicting and evaluating the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a proposed plan or programme, in order to ensure that these effects are adequately addressed at the earliest appropriate stages of decision-making in tandem with economic, social and other considerations.

The SEA is being undertaken in accordance with Directive 2001/42/EC and associated implementing national legislation on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment¹ (known as the SEA Directive).

1.1 SEA Environmental Report

SEA identifies the likely significant environmental effects of implementing the Draft Plan. The findings of the SEA are reported in this SEA Environmental Report, which will accompany the Draft Plan on public display and identifies how environmental considerations were integrated into the Plan and how alternatives for the Plan were considered.

This report will be updated in order to take account of any changes which are made to the Draft Plan on foot of submissions / motions / material amendments. DCC must take into account the findings of this report and other related SEA output during their consideration of the Draft Plan

¹ EC (2001).

and before it is adopted. When the Plan is adopted, an SEA Statement will be prepared that summarises how environmental considerations have been integrated into the Plan.

2 Draft Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028

2.1 Introduction

The current Development Plan is the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022. Dublin City Council (DCC) has prepared the Draft Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 ('Draft Plan'). The Draft Plan will shape the future development of the city and will set out the strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development over the period 2022 to 2028.

DCC gave notice of its intention to review the existing Development Plan (2016-2022) and to prepare a new Plan for the period 2022-2028 in December 2020. A Strategic Issues Paper was prepared by DCC to help stimulate debate and identify the issues relevant to Dublin City. Refer to Section 2.4 of this report for full details on the pre-draft public consultation.

Once adopted, the Final Plan will provide a six year statutory framework for guiding development and will assist in ensuring that future development is appropriately managed and occurs in a sustainable manner.

The aim of this report is to provide a clear understanding of the likely environmental consequences of decisions regarding the adoption and implementation of the Plan.

2.1.1 Geographical Area of the Plan

Dublin City spans a geographic area of 115 sq.km and its spatial structure is shaped by both its natural setting and man-made features. The River Liffey, along with the canals, contains both the 'old' medieval city and the unique Georgian squares and streets. These features, coupled with the larger areas of Victorian and Edwardian architecture north and south of the canals, and the urban villages, underpin the city's strong character and identity, which is recognised internationally.

Dublin's character is derived from its historical layers, ranging from its medieval origins to substantial new contemporary interventions in the built environment in areas such as the Docklands. The basic building blocks of this unique urban character consist of individual buildings, streets, urban spaces, neighbourhoods and landscapes. The Development Plan aims to protect and enhance the unique character of the city, derived from both the natural and built environments.

2.2 The Draft Plan

The Draft Plan sets out the overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of Dublin City for the plan period and beyond. The Draft Plan relates to the whole functional area of DCC.

The Draft Plan builds on the strategies and objectives of the previous Plan 2016-2022 and reflects the current challenges and the opportunities facing Dublin City. The Draft Plan provides for, and controls, the physical, economic and social development of the city, in the interests of the overall common good and in compliance with environmental controls.

2.2.1 Content of the Draft Plan

The Draft Plan is set out in a series of volumes and comprises a written statement and development policies and objectives for the Plan.

The written statement includes a Core Strategy which shows that the objectives in the Draft Plan are consistent, as far as practicable, with national and regional development objectives set out in the National Planning Framework (NPF) and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Eastern and Midlands Region.

The preparation of the Draft Plan will have regard to key recent development trends and national, regional and local policy developments, in particular, the National Planning Framework (NPF) and National Development Plan, the Eastern Midlands Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) and the Dublin Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP).

The Draft Plan will also address a wide range of interrelated economic, social and environmental issues set within an overall framework of achieving sustainable development, social inclusion and adapting to climate change. The Draft Plan (2022-2028) consists of:

- **Written Statement** (Volume 1) - constitutes the main body of the document outlining the vision, Core Strategy, policies and objectives of the Plan for the proper planning and sustainable development of the city. It comprises the main policy document of the City Development Plan and includes 16 no. chapters.
- **Appendices** (Volume 2) - includes the Housing Strategy, Height Strategy, Housing Need and Demand Assessment, Conservation Objectives, Surface Water Management Guidance and Daylight / Sunlight Guidance, together with a number of other technical appendices.

- **Mapping** (Volume 3) - the zoning maps and other strategic maps give a graphic representation of the proposals in the plan, indicating land use and other objectives of the Plan.
- **Record of Protected Structures** (Volume 4).
- **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Report** (Volume 5).
- **Appropriate Assessment (AA) Report** (Volume 6).
- **Strategic Flood Risk Assessment** (Volume 7).

2.2.2 Core Strategy and Vision

The purpose of the **Core Strategy** is to guide the spatial direction of future development and regeneration in the city in line with the principles of compact growth. It accords with the Plan vision as set out in Chapter 1 of the Draft Plan.

The **Vision** for the city is that:

“Within the next 10 years, Dublin will have an established international reputation as one of Europe’s most sustainable, dynamic and resourceful city regions. Dublin, through the shared vision of its citizens and civic leaders, will be a beautiful, compact city, with a distinct character, a vibrant culture and a diverse, smart, green, innovation-based economy. It will be a socially inclusive city of urban neighbourhoods with excellent community and civic infrastructure based on the principles of the 15 minute city, all connected by an exemplary public transport, cycling and walking system and interwoven with a high quality bio-diverse, green space network. In short, the vision is for a capital city where people will seek to live, work, experience, invest and socialise, as a matter of choice.”

A summary of the main objectives in Volume 1 (Written Statement) of the Draft Plan are outlined in Table 2.1, as well as the additional volumes where they contain objectives which are of relevance to the assessment in this SEA Environmental Report.

All policies and objectives within the Draft Plan have been assessed and are outlined in Appendix A8.1 of this SEA report.

Table 2.1: Contents of the Draft Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028

Volume	Content & Main Strategic Objectives
Written Statement (Volume 1)	
<p>Chapter 1 Strategic Context & Vision</p>	<p>The Development Plan sets out the strategic approach to meet the needs and aspirations of citizens of Dublin and the country, not only for the 6-year life of the Plan, but for the long-term. The overarching strategic approach of the Plan is to develop a sustainable, climate resilient Dublin.</p>
<p>Chapter 2 Core Strategy</p>	<p>The purpose of the Core Strategy is to guide the spatial direction of future development and regeneration in the city in line with the principles of compact growth. It accords with the Development Plan vision as set out in Chapter 1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The key objective of the core strategy is to ensure that quantum and location of development is consistent with National and Regional policy. ▪ The key elements that comprise the Core Strategy including an assessment of the location and quantum of appropriately zoned lands available to accommodate the population and housing targets for the city.
<p>Chapter 3 Climate Action</p>	<p>The overall strategic approach to climate action is to integrate climate mitigation and adaptation principles across all chapters of the Plan in order to ensure that Dublin becomes a low carbon and climate resilient city. Having regard to the action areas identified in the NPF and RSES as well as those set out in the Dublin City Climate Action Plan 2019, the main strategic areas addressed in this chapter include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable Settlement Patterns; ▪ Built Environment; ▪ Energy; ▪ Waste; ▪ Sustainable Transport; ▪ Flood Resilience and Water; and ▪ Green Infrastructure and Ecosystem Services.
<p>Chapter 4 Shape and Structure of the City</p>	<p>This chapter sets out the overarching framework and strategy to guide the future sustainable development of the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The objective is to ensure that growth is directed to, and prioritised in, the right locations to enable continued targeted investment in infrastructure and services and the optimal use of public transport. ▪ The intent is to guide and manage the city’s evolution to ensure that it develops in a sustainable and climate resilient manner in accordance with national and regional policy.

Volume	Content & Main Strategic Objectives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High quality ‘placemaking’ will be required to ensure a compact city where people want to live and work.
<p>Chapter 5 Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods</p>	<p>This chapter details the Council’s strategy for creating and maintaining successful urban neighbourhoods to underpin sustainable communities. This requires the efficient use of land at densities which ensure the viability of a range of facilities, amenities, services and good public transport connections.</p> <p>The Council acknowledges that quality neighbourhoods are responsive to the needs of local communities, play an important role in quality of life factors and foster a wider sense of community and active citizenship.</p>
<p>Chapter 6 City Economy and Enterprise</p>	<p>Dublin is an international city and gateway to the European Union for many businesses. This chapter of the Plan details the strategic approach to the city economy and enterprise, and aligns with the overall goals of national, regional and local economic and planning policy. As a result, the strategic approach underpinning the policies and objectives contained in the following section of this chapter will seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ safeguard and enhance Dublin’s role as Ireland’s internationally competitive capital; ▪ promote strategic and targeted employment growth; ▪ support regeneration and tackle vacancy; ▪ underscore the importance of climate action, placemaking and quality of life; ▪ support key economic sectors; and ▪ support innovation and smart specialisation; ▪ foster local action, diversity, inclusiveness and openness.
<p>Chapter 7 City Centre, Urban Villages and Retail</p>	<p>This chapter details the strategic approach that will be taken to support and promote the city centre and the city’s urban villages and retail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Align the retail hierarchy for the city to the settlement hierarchy of the core strategy in order to enhance and consolidate the city centre and to create mixed use, lively and vibrant urban villages and neighbourhoods throughout the city. ▪ Place sustainability and climate resilience as the over-arching consideration in the development of the city centre and urban villages with a particular emphasis on healthy streets, active travel and public transport accessibility, building on the 15 minute city concept, the primacy of the city centre and the vitality and viability of existing and emerging centres. ▪ Provide a vibrant mix of shopping, leisure, office and residential uses and family friendly attractions in the city centre thereby, offering shoppers an experience and a depth of offer that attracts suburban shoppers / workers / tourist / students / residents to shop, socialise and spend time in the city centre.

Volume	Content & Main Strategic Objectives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote and consolidate the role of Key Urban Villages so that they provide for sustainable urban living, they serve the community / social / cultural / civic needs of the local communities in which they exist and a level of retail development commensurate to their catchment. ▪ Promote and consolidate the role of urban villages and neighbourhood centres so that they can provide convenient and attractive access by walking and cycling to local goods and services needed on a day-to-day basis. ▪ Place an emphasis on healthy place making in the city centre and in all urban centres with initiatives tailored towards making these centres better places to live and to visit.
<p>Chapter 8 Sustainable Movement and Transport</p>	<p>This chapter details the Council’s strategy to provide an effective and sustainable transport system which is accessible to all in the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Plan seeks to promote ease of movement within and around the city as well as playing a key role in safeguarding the environment and adapting to the impacts of climate change. ▪ In alignment with national and regional policy and the goal of achieving its compact growth objectives, the Plan will continue to present an integrated strategy for transport and mobility that supports and prioritises the use of sustainable modes of transport, promotes active travel and which presents a pro-active and collaborative approach to influencing travel behaviour.
<p>Chapter 9 Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure & Flood Risk</p>	<p>This chapter provides detail on the spatial framework and objectives for the planning and provision of infrastructure (including water, wastewater, waste management, telecommunications) in the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The policies and objectives in this chapter are intended to address a broad range of supporting infrastructure and services, providing for improvements in water quality and water services, sustainable waste management, greater energy security and efficiency, enhanced digital connectivity, and a more holistic and nature-based approach to flood risk and surface water management, all whilst safeguarding environmental quality and providing for climatic resilience. ▪ Another core challenge for Dublin is the need to address existing pressure on the city’s water supply and wastewater treatment infrastructure and to align the provision of critical water services with city growth targets, whilst also providing for environmental protection and climatic resilience.
<p>Chapter 10 Green Infrastructure & Recreation</p>	<p>This chapter outlines the policies and objectives to guide the spatial development of open space and recreation facilities in the city and to facilitate increased participation in physical and recreational activities. To achieve a healthy, green, connected city and more sustainable neighbourhoods in line with the core strategy of this plan, the following strategic approach will be pursued:</p>

Volume	Content & Main Strategic Objectives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creating a climate resilient city by deploying urban greening / nature based solutions to ensure the benefits of ecosystem services are realised within the city. ▪ Safeguarding environmentally sensitive sites i.e. of biodiversity value. ▪ Providing a network of multifunctional green spaces / urban green spaces which can secure a spectrum of environmental, social, and economic benefits for the city. ▪ Providing opportunities for people to get active and lead healthier lifestyles by increasing access to facilities and nature.
<p>Chapter 11 Built Heritage and Archaeology</p>	<p>This chapter outlines the policies and objectives to ensure the protection of the built and heritage of the city and provides the spatial framework for its protection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is recognised that the city’s heritage contributes significantly to the collective memory of its communities and to the richness and diversity of its urban fabric. It is key to the city’s character, identity and authenticity and is a vital social, cultural, and economic asset for the development of the city.
<p>Chapter 12 Culture</p>	<p>This chapter seeks to address the planning challenges facing the sector; and recognises that the protection and expansion of all types of cultural assets will always be achieved through both public and private investment, reflecting the diverse and wide ranging sector that it is. The policies and objectives outlined in this chapter aim to ensure that culture infrastructure is valued and protected as an integral part of the fabric of the City, in line with national and regional policy.</p>
<p>Chapter 13 Strategic Development Regeneration Areas</p>	<p>This chapter sets out the overarching framework and guiding principles for the designated Strategic Development Regeneration Areas (SDRAs). As outlined in the core strategy, a key element in the delivery of compact growth will be the sustainable development of the SDRAs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seventeen (17) SDRAs have been identified in the Plan and it is considered that these areas are capable of delivering significant quantities of homes and employment for the city, either through the development of greenfield lands or through the regeneration of the existing built city. ▪ The active land management measures and approach referred to under the core strategy will be pursued in the development and delivery of the SDRAs.
<p>Chapter 14 Land Use Zoning</p>	<p>This chapter sets out the general land-use and zoning policies and objectives of the plan and provides an explanation of the land-use categories and the zoning objectives which apply. The zoning policies and objectives have been derived from the core strategy. The overall zoning strategy is based on the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To ensure that land use zoning across the city spatially facilitates the aims of the core strategy and the objective to develop a compact, connected, low carbon and climatically resilient city.

Volume	Content & Main Strategic Objectives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To ensure that land is appropriately zoned in order to accommodate the expected growth needs of Dublin City within the lifetime of the plan and to ensure the protection of community and social infrastructure and critical ecosystems services through the application of appropriate land use zoning designations in order to provide adequate facilities and amenities to meet the growing needs of the city. ▪ To provide for balanced and sustainable development by promoting in particular, a mixed-use pattern of development with a move away from more traditional forms of single mono-use zoning. ▪ To ensure that the most efficient use is being made of the city’s land in line with the principles of the 15 minute city, and that the re-development of under-utilised and brownfield land is promoted in order to consolidate and add vitality to existing centres. ▪ To promote the intensification of development adjacent and close to public transport nodes and corridors in order to minimise trip generation and distribution and to promote sustainable compact urban form. ▪ To ensure that the city’s zoned enterprise and employment lands are integrated with key supporting infrastructure to provide for more intensive forms of employment.
<p>Chapter 15 Development Standards</p>	<p>This chapter details the guidance regarding the standards and criteria to be considered in in the development management process. Development proposals will be assessed both in terms of how they contribute to the achievement of the core strategy and related objectives, and how they are consistent with the qualitative and quantitative standards as set out in this chapter.</p>
<p>Chapter 16 Phasing and Implementation</p>	<p>DCC is fully committed to securing the successful implementation of the policies and objectives of the City Development Plan and the sections set out in this chapter is how this will be achieved.</p>

2.3 Monitoring and Progress

A Development Plan must be able to respond to changing circumstances within its lifetime. Regular monitoring of the relationship between the Plan and changes within a wider EU and national policy context, development pressures and varying local priorities are important if the policies and objectives are to remain effective and relevant throughout the lifetime of the plan. The impact of policies and specific objectives should wherever possible be quantified.

Monitoring will identify issues with objectives and allow suitable corrective action to be taken. It will also identify whether the Plan remains consistent with national and regional policy, and where changes occur at national and / or regional level, advise whether the Plan should be varied as necessary to ensure consistency with these higher level plans.

It is a requirement under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) for a report to be prepared, two years after the making of the plan, on the progress achieved in securing the objectives of the Development Plan. This progress report is necessary because, under the Act, it is the duty of the Planning Authority to “take such steps as are in its powers as may be necessary for achieving the objectives of the Development Plan”.

The SEA process through the recommendation of mitigation measures, by its nature requires environmental monitoring throughout the lifetime of the 6-year Development Plan.

To assist in the monitoring of this Plan, DCC will set up systems to monitor planning and development in the city to help measure the degree to which the objectives are being achieved. Monitoring mechanisms will be put in place to ensure effective sustainable delivery and also to allow for greater transparency on the progress made in the implementation of the plan (Chapter 16 - Phasing and Implementation).

2.4 Pre-draft Consultation Stage

DCC gave notice of its intention to review the existing Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 and to prepare a new City Development Plan (CDP) for the period 2022-2028 on Tuesday, 15 December 2020. A Strategic Issues Paper was prepared to help stimulate debate between the planning authority, key stakeholders, landowners and the general public around the issues relevant to Dublin City and how they may be addressed in the Draft Plan.

Pre-Draft public consultation was undertaken over an 8-week period from 15 December 2020 to 22 February 2021 and written submissions or observations were invited with regard to the review of the current Plan and the preparation of the new Draft Plan.

The Council encouraged members of the general public, businesses, residents' associations, community organisations, youth groups and children to have a say in influencing and helping to frame the general direction of the next Plan. Virtual Public Webinars were held on Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 January 2021.

A total of 752 no. submissions were received, in relation to the pre-draft Plan at that time. These submissions are summarised in the Chief Executive's Report on Pre-Draft Submissions (April 2021) and informed the SEA Scoping with the Environmental Authorities. The Pre-Draft Plan, SEA Environmental Report and Natura Impact Report (NIR) and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) were circulated to the Elected Representatives, who proposed further changes to the Pre-draft Plan. These changes were screened for SEA and AA and agreed with the Elected Representatives in November 2021 prior to completion of the Draft Plan.

The Draft Plan was issued to the Elected Representatives on 16 September 2021 with motions to be submitted by 1 October 2021. The Chief Executive's Report on the motions was issued to the Elected Representatives on the 29 October 2021 with associated screening of motions for SEA, AA and SFRA. A series of meetings were held with the Elected Representatives between 8 and 10 November 2021 to discuss and agree changes to the zonings, policies and objectives in the Draft Plan.

The Draft Plan, SEA Environmental Report, Natura Impact Report and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, incorporating changes agreed with Elected Representatives, will be on public display for ten weeks from 25 November 2021.

2.5 Pre-draft SEA Scoping Consultation

In April 2021, the SEA Scoping Report was issued to the specified Environmental Authorities, which includes the EPA, various governmental departments and surrounding local authorities. This was not a statutory Scoping procedure. Observations or submissions received as a result of the SEA Scoping stage are discussed in detail in Section 3.4.

2.6 Alternatives

The SEA process requires the consideration of ‘reasonable alternatives’ in terms of possible approaches available in the delivery of the Draft Plan. Alternatives should represent a range of different approaches within the statutory and operational requirements of the particular plan.

The Plan strategy options available to the local authority are discussed in the formulation of the Draft Plan and assessed against the SEA Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) in order to evaluate their overall potential environmental impact. A discussion of the merits or otherwise of each option is provided in the Environmental Report and the reasons for the chosen option is discussed.

Chapter 7 (Description of Alternatives) of this report provides full details on the alternatives and their assessment.

3 Methodology

3.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

SEA is a process for evaluating, at the earliest appropriate stage, the environmental quality and consequences of Plans or Programmes (P/Ps). The purpose is to ensure that the environmental consequences of P/Ps are assessed both during their preparation and prior to their adoption. The SEA process also gives specified environmental authorities, interested parties and the general public, an opportunity to comment on the environmental impacts of the proposed P/P and to be kept informed during the decision-making process.

SEA derives from European Communities Directive 2001/42/EC - Assessment of Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment² (commonly referred to as the 'SEA Directive'). Article 1 of the Directive states that:

“The objective of this directive is to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.”

The SEA Directive was transposed into national legislation by the:

- European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (Statutory Instrument (S.I.) No. 435 of 2004), as amended by European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations 2011, (S.I. No. 200 of 2011); and
- Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004), as amended by the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2011, (S.I. No. 201 of 2011).

² EC (2001).

The former regulations relate to SEA as it applies to plans or programmes prepared for “agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications and tourism.”³

The latter regulations relate to SEA as it applies to plans or programmes where the context requires, “**a development plan**, a variation of a development plan, a local area plan (or an amendment thereto), regional planning guidelines or a planning scheme.”⁴

Therefore, as the development plan, the subject of this report, is the Draft Dublin City Development Plan, the latter Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004), as amended by Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations (S.I. No. 201 of 2011), apply.

3.2 SEA Stages and Process

The key focus of SEA is to take environmental issues, and in particular ‘likely significant environmental effects’ of a P/P, into consideration during the plan or programme making process. The key stages in the SEA process as outlined in the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) SEA Process Checklist and as they relate to the Draft Plan are outlined in Figure 3.1 and Table 3.1.

The preparation of the Draft Plan, Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Appropriate Assessment (AA) and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) have taken place concurrently and the findings of the SEA, AA and SFRA have informed the Plan.

The Draft Plan, SEA Environmental Report, AA and SFRA documents will be placed on public display as part of the required statutory public consultation.

Submissions, motions and material amendments made on the Draft Plan and associated documents, including the SEA and AA documents, may result in an update to the SEA Environmental Report, in order to take account of relevant recommendations contained in submissions and in order to take account of changes that may be made to the original, Draft Plan (placed on public display).

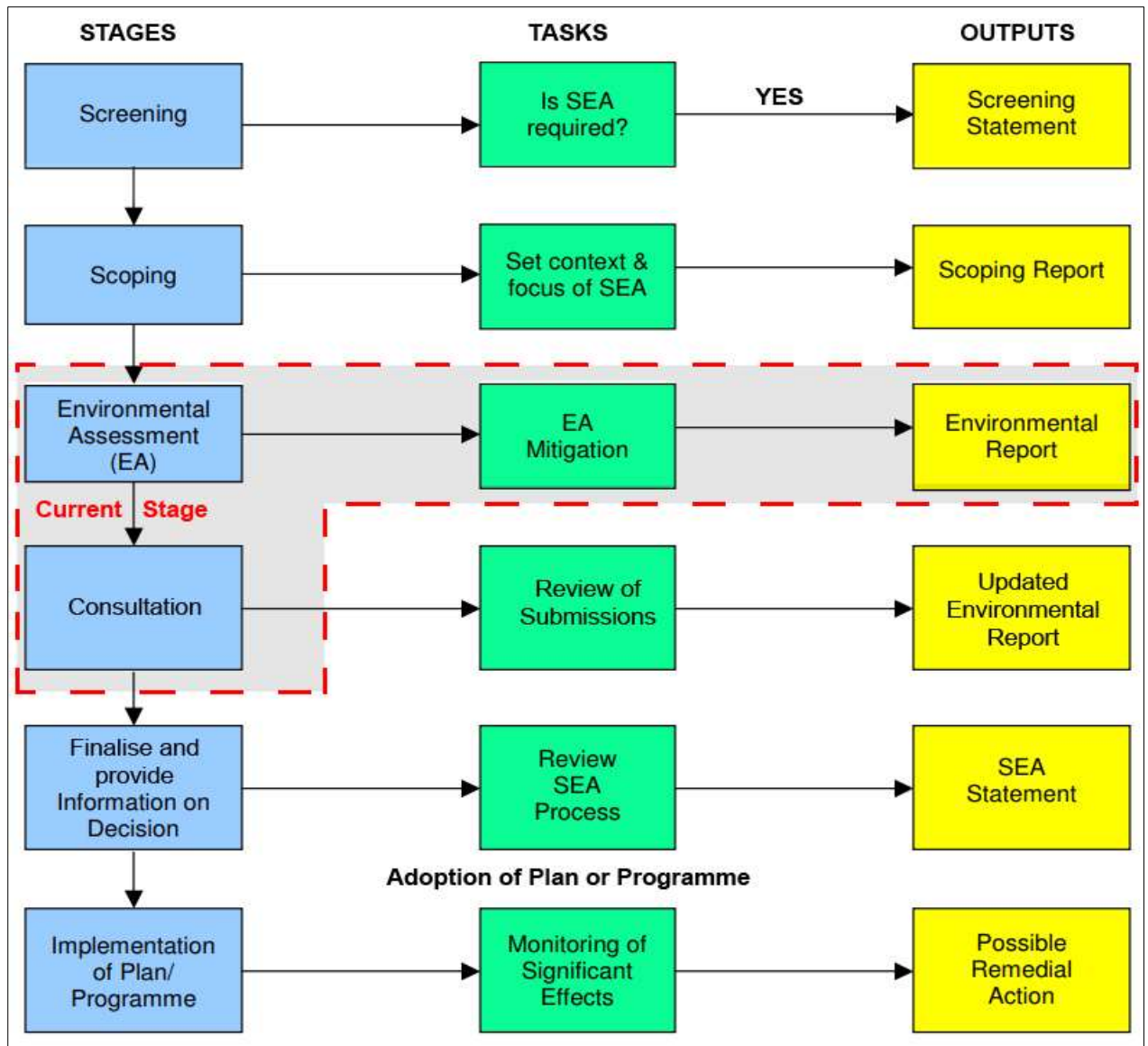
When the Plan is finalised, the SEA, AA and SFRA documents will be finalised and the final documents will include an SEA Statement, which will include information on how environmental

³ Section 9(1)(a) of S.I. No. 435 of 2004 as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011

⁴ Section 5(c) of S.I. No. 436 of 2004 as amended by S.I. No. 201 of 2011



considerations were integrated into the Plan, and an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Conclusion Statement. The Plan will be implemented and environmental monitoring - as well as planning and project development and associated environmental assessments and administrative consent of projects - will be undertaken.

Figure 3.1: Overview of SEA Process (adapted from EPA SEA Process Checklist, 2008⁵)



⁵ EPA (2008).

Table 3.1: Outline of the SEA Process

Stage	Description	Status
<p>1. Screening</p>	<p>The requirement to undertake a SEA is mandatory for certain Plan/Programmes (P/Ps). Where SEA is not a mandatory requirement, the P/P is subject to a ‘Screening process’, to consider if it is likely to have significant effects on the environment, and therefore, if SEA is required.</p> <p>Screening of the P/P is carried out in accordance with Article 14A of the Planning and Development Regulations (PDR) 2001 as amended.</p> <p>It is noted that in accordance with Circular Letter SEA 1/08 & NPWS 1/08⁶, SEA for a P/P is also a mandatory requirement where the P/P requires Appropriate Assessment (AA) under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC⁷).</p>	<p>Completed</p> 
<p>2. Scoping</p>	<p>Preparation of a SEA Scoping Report highlighting that the Environmental Report is required to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ methods of assessment; ▪ contents and level of detail in the Plan/Programmes; ▪ the stage in the Plan or Programme-making process; and ▪ the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in the decision-making process in order to avoid duplication of environmental assessment. <p>Scoping provides for consultation with the Environmental Authorities specified in Article 13A of S.I. No. 436 of 2004, as amended by Regulations S.I. No. 201 of 2011, and the process allows for incorporation of the views of the Environmental Authorities within the P/P and the SEA Environmental Report.</p>	<p>Completed</p> 
<p>3. Environmental Report</p>	<p>Preparation of a systemic identification and evaluation of alternatives and assessment of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing the P/P.</p> <p>The findings of the assessment, which is carried out at various stages in the P/P making (e.g. Draft, Amended Draft etc.), are provided in the SEA Environmental Report in accordance with Article 13E of S.I. No. 436 of 2004, as amended by Regulations S.I. No. 201 of 2011.</p> <p>The output from this stage is an Environmental Report which accompanies the Draft P/P required on public display.</p>	<p>Current Stage</p>

⁶ DEHLG (2008).

⁷ EC (1998).

Stage	Description	Status
<p>4. SEA Statement</p>	<p>Completion/adoption of the Plan, taking account of likely significant environmental effects, any submissions or observations received from consultations and integration of mitigation and monitoring measures within the Plan.</p> <p>The Environmental Report is concluded and an SEA Statement is prepared in accordance with Article 13I of S.I. No. 436 of 2004, as amended by Regulations S.I. No. 201 of 2011, summarising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ how environmental considerations have been integrated into the Plan/Programme; ▪ how the environmental report, and any submissions or consultations have been taken into account in the preparation of the Plan/Programme; ▪ the reasons for choosing the Plan/Programme; and ▪ the measures decided for monitoring the significant environmental effects of implementation of the Plan / Programme. 	<p>Next Stage - To be completed</p>

3.3 Screening (Stage 1)

The Draft Plan was subject screening for the requirement for Appropriate Assessment (AA) (see Section 3.7) and to screening for the requirement for SEA in accordance with Article 13(B) of S.I. No. 436 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 201 of 2011, and the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Regulations. In accordance with Article 13(B)(a), SEA for the Draft Plan is mandatory as ‘the population or target population of the area of the planning authority is 10,000 persons or more’.

The Draft Plan is subject to SEA and a SEA Environmental Report (this report) has been prepared to accompany the Draft Plan and the Natura Impact Report (NIR) for Appropriate Assessment on public display.

3.4 Scoping (Stage 2)

SEA Scoping (Stage 2) allows for consideration of the range and level of detail of the information to be included in the SEA Environmental Report as set out in Article 13D of S.I. No. 436 of 2004, as amended and by Article 13D of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended (PDR 2001). This ensures that the SEA is focused on the relevant environmental issues and examines issues at the appropriate level of detail.

Article 13D (b) S.I. No. 436 of 2004, as amended states that the Environmental report is required to include information on:

- current knowledge and methods of assessment;
- contents and level of detail in the Plan;
- the stage of the Plan in the decision-making process; and
- the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in the decision-making process in order to avoid duplication of environmental assessment.

Section 3.16 of the Guidelines for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities⁸ recommends that ‘at the end of the scoping procedure, the plan-making authority should prepare a brief scoping report of its conclusions as to what information is to be included in the environmental report, taking account of any recommendations from the environmental authorities’.

⁸ DEHLG (2004).

Scoping also includes for consultation with the Environmental Authorities specified in Article 13A(4) of PDR 2001 and for incorporation of the views of the Environmental Authorities within the Plan or Programme and the SEA Environmental Report.

The SEA Scoping Report was issued to the Environmental Authorities specified in Article 13D(2) of PDR 2001, see Table 3.2 below.

Table 3.2: List of Consultees for the Scoping Stage

Prescribed Environmental Authorities*
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (formerly the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht)
Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (formerly the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment)
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (formerly the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government)
Dún Laoghaire - Rathdown County Council (DLRCC)
Fingal County Council (FCC)
South Dublin County Council (SDCC)

*For consultation under Article 13A(4) of Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended

3.4.1 SEA Scoping Submissions and Responses

Submissions from the SEA Scoping stage have been considered and incorporated into this SEA Environmental Report. In total three submissions were received on the SEA Scoping Report for the Draft Plan. The submissions provided information on sources of guidance, useful resources and suggestions for items to be addressed / monitored. Table 3.3 provides a summary of the submissions received from the Environmental Authorities:

- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); and
- Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) - under the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC); and
- Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (DTCAGSM).
(Development Applications Unit (DAU)).

Table 3.3: SEA Scoping Submissions and Responses

No.	Stakeholder	Summary of Submission	Comment
1	EPA	<p>Submission noted the role of the EPA as one of the Environmental Authorities and provided a list of recommended guidance and resources including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SEA process guidance and checklists. ▪ Inventory of spatial datasets relevant to SEA. ▪ Topic specific SEA guidance (including Good practice guidance on Cumulative Effects Assessment (EPA, 2020), Guidance on SEA Statements and Monitoring (EPA, 2020), Integrating climatic factors into SEA (EPA, 2019), Developing and Assessing Alternatives in SEA (EPA, 2015), and Integrated Biodiversity Impact Assessment (EPA, 2012)). Available at: www.epa.ie/monitoringassessment/assessment/sea/ ▪ Environmental Sensitivity Mapping (ESM) Webtool. Available at: www.enviromap.ie ▪ EPA SEA Web GIS Tool. Available at: https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/SEA ▪ EPA WFD Application. Available at: https://wfd.edenireland.ie/ ▪ EPA AA Geo Tool. Available at: http://www.epa.ie/terminalfour/AppropAssess/index.jsp ▪ SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans - EPA Recommendations and Resources'. 2021 Version 1.12. ▪ Ireland's Environment - An Integrated Assessment 2020'. Identifies thirteen Key Messages for Ireland which align with many of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Delivering Ireland's long-term sustainable development and environmental protection goals will require a concerted effort by government departments to address these key actions. ▪ Sustainable Development Goals. UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. Relevant targets and actions in Ireland's SDG Implementation Plan (DCCAIE, 2018) should be integrated as appropriate into the Plan. ▪ Transition to a low carbon climate resilient economy and society. 	<p>Guidelines & resources are considered within the assessment.</p> <p>Specific comments are noted and addressed.</p> <p>Where information is available these aspects have been considered and incorporated into the Draft Plan and SEA Environmental Report as appropriate.</p>
2	Geological Survey Ireland (GSI)	<p>Geoheritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GSI welcomes the mention and listing of the 12 Geological Sites (CGSs) within the SEA scoping report under Table 5.4, Section 5.4.4 Geology. 	<p>Specific comments are noted and addressed.</p>

No.	Stakeholder	Summary of Submission	Comment
	<p>Under DECC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As a minimum, Geological Survey Ireland would like the Local Authority to include a policy objective like to protect from inappropriate development the scheduled list of geological heritage sites [Appendix X]." Or "to protect from inappropriate development the following list of County Geological Sites. ▪ Listing in the Plan provides protection of the sites against potentially damaging developments that normally require planning permission, such as building, quarrying, landfilling or forestry. ▪ National Heritage Plan - major strand of geological nature conservation. ▪ It would also be necessary to include a policy objective to protect geological NHAs as they become designated. <p>Geothermal Energy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Section 5.9.5.1 ‘Renewable Energy Potential’ of the Scoping Report. Geothermal maps, datasets and reports which will be of benefit to the Renewable Energy Potential section of the Plan. ▪ Ireland has widespread shallow geothermal resources. ▪ Geothermal Suitability maps could also be considered. ▪ Assessment of Geothermal Resources for District heating in Ireland. (GSI, 2020). ▪ Roadmap for a Policy and Regulatory Framework for Geothermal Energy (DECC, 2020), was launched at the Geoscience 2020 Conference in November 2020. <p>Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Note reference to coastal flooding in Section ‘Flooding’ in the SEA scoping report. ▪ Geological Survey Ireland is undertaking a new coastal vulnerability mapping initiative. The CVI data for Dublin is due to be published in 2021. <p>Database Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes. 	<p>Guidelines & resources are considered within the assessment.</p> <p>Where information is available these aspects have been considered and incorporated into the Draft Plan and SEA Environmental Report as appropriate.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Department of Tourism, Culture,</p>	<p>Outlined below are heritage-related observations / recommendations co-ordinated by the Development Applications Unit under the stated headings.</p>	<p>Specific comments are noted and addressed.</p>

No.	Stakeholder	Summary of Submission	Comment
	<p>Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (Development Applications Unit)</p>	<p>Nature Conservation</p> <p>When this data is fully compiled and set out in the SEA Environmental Report, it should allow the prediction, evaluation and mitigation of the environmental impacts of the Draft Development Plan.</p> <p>The SEA Draft Scoping Report which has been prepared therefore appears to provide a sound basis for the drawing up of a final SEA Scoping Report with regards to the content of SEA Environmental Report to accompany the Draft City Development Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In Section 5.2.2 Overview of Biodiversity, the Common Pipistrelle Bat is mentioned as one of the range of fauna occurring in the city. In fact seven other bat species have also been recorded within the DCC administrative area, these are: the Soprano Pipistrelle, Nathusius’s Pipistrelle, the Long-eared Bat, Leisler’s Bat, Natterer’s Bat, the Whiskered Bat and Daubenton’s Bat. See the distribution maps in Irish Bats in the 21st Century, Niamh Roche, Tina Aughney, Ferdia Marnell and Mathieu Lundy, Bat Conservation Ireland (2014). ▪ In Section 5.2.2 it is mentioned that (plant) species protected by the Flora Protection Order include Hairy St. John’s Wort which is found in in the Phoenix Park and Hairy Violet. Other plant species protected by the Plant (Protection) Order, 2015, (Statutory Instrument S.I. No. 356 of 2015) recently recorded from the DCC administrative area are the Opposite-leaved Pondweed, from the Grand and Royal Canals, Lesser Centaury from the North Bull Island, and the Threadmosses Bryum intermedium, B. uliginosum and B. warneum, and Petalwort, a liverwort, all also from the North Bull Island. ▪ In Section 5.2.13.4 Flora Protection Order the North Bull Island is mentioned as being listed under this order as a protected site for lesser centaury, hemp nettle and meadow meadow saxifrage. However, the Flora (Protection) Order, 2015, like previous similar orders, does not list protected sites for plants, but only the actual plant species protected under the order, which protects them and the sites where they occur at any location within the state (see above.) The Red Hemp-nettle, which is protected under the 2015 	<p>Where information is available these aspects have been considered and incorporated into the Draft Plan and SEA Environmental Report as appropriate.</p>

No.	Stakeholder	Summary of Submission	Comment
		<p>order has not recently been recoded from the North Bull Island, while the Meadow Saxifrage is not protected under this order.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In Section 5.9.4.1 Public Lighting there is a reference to how excessive light pollution can arise when external lighting is not properly designed or managed. As this service has previously commented concerning light pollution in relation to the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 Strategic Issues Paper, it should be noted that high artificial lighting levels can have detrimental impacts on the occurrence of bat species, particularly light sensitive species such as those species associated with woodland like the Long-eared and Whiskered Bats, or the Daubenton’s Bat, which forages over water bodies. In the case of any lighting proposals in the vicinity of woodlands or waterbodies their potential impacts on bat species should therefore always be carefully assessed. ▪ In Section 5.9.7.2 Cycling & Walking there is mention of the 7km section of the Royal Canal Greenway within the DCC area between Samuel Beckett Bridge and Ashtown. It should be noted that planning approval for the section of this greenway it is intended to build from Drumcondra west to Ashtown has not yet been applied for. In this area the section of the Royal Canal west from Cross Guns Bridge, Phibsborough, to Broome Bridge, is particularly important for flora and fauna, such as for instance the otter, a species afforded strict protection under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC). A thorough environmental assessment of the potential impacts of the extension of the greenway along this stretch of the Royal Canal will therefore be required. 	

3.5 SEA Environmental Report (Stage 3) Current Stage

Stage 3 of the SEA process provides for the main assessment and written output: the SEA Environmental Report. Submissions from Stage 2 SEA scoping and from pre-draft consultation have been considered in the Draft Plan and the assessment process.

This SEA Environmental Report predicts and evaluates the likely significant effects of the Draft Plan and the alternatives. This Environmental Report provides DCC, stakeholders and the public with a clear understanding of the likely environmental consequences of implementing the Draft Plan.

Stage 3 was undertaken in a number of phases, as set out in Table 3.4.

Table 3.4: SEA Assessment Stage

Assessment Stage	Description
Consultation & Baseline	Information gathered during the SEA Scoping Stage was collated and expanded upon. This included a review of the findings of the consultation submissions received during the Scoping stage.
Policies, Plans & Programmes Review	A review of relevant national and regional policies, plans and programmes was undertaken both to identify the key environmental issues, to ensure that the objectives set out in the Plan meet the requirements of all relevant plans and policies.
Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs)	The environmental objectives outlined in the Scoping Report were finalised.
Strategic Environmental Assessment	Using the environmental objectives, the assessment of the potential significant effects associated with the Plan (objectives, projects and alternatives to the Plan) was undertaken.
Mitigation Measures	Based on this assessment, and the potential environmental impacts, mitigation and recommendations have been proposed.
Monitoring	The final step is the development of the SEA monitoring framework.

3.5.1 Consultation on the Draft Plan and SEA Environmental Report

In line with SEA Regulations, the Draft Plan, together with this SEA Environmental Report and Natura Impact Report (NIR) is being made available to the public and the stakeholders. Submissions made on the Draft Plan will be responded to and the Plan will be updated as appropriate. The Plan will be finalised, and the SEA, NIR and SFRA documents will be finalised.

3.6 SEA Statement (Stage 4)

During the final stage of the SEA process (Stage 4), DCC will publish a SEA Statement alongside the final adopted Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028, (together with an updated SEA Environmental Report and NIR) setting out how the SEA and any consultation responses have influenced the Final Plan.

The SEA Statement will include how the SEA Environmental Report and consultations have been taken into account, summarising the key issues raised during the consultation process and in the Environmental Report indicating what / if action was taken.

The SEA Statement will also include the measures decided upon to monitor the significant environmental effects of implementing of the Plan.

3.7 Appropriate Assessment (AA)

In addition to compliance with the SEA Directive, the preparation and implementation of the Draft Plan must meet the provisions of Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) for the requirement for AA. An Appropriate Assessment (AA) is being undertaken in conjunction with the preparation the Draft Plan.

The Draft Plan has undergone AA screening during its preparation, in parallel with SEA. The outcome of the screening stage was that it was determined⁹ that due to the types of development that could arise as a result of implementing the Plan, that significant effects could not be ruled out and that the Plan would need further assessment during its preparation. At the time of screening the Plan, the detail of the development objectives and settlement plans were not known so the screening was undertaken in a precautionary and strategic manner.

The Draft Plan has been subject to “Stage 2 AA” as required by Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and a NIR has been prepared to accompany the Draft Plan and Draft SEA Environmental Report on public display.

The preparation of the Draft Plan, SEA and AA has taken place concurrently and the findings of the AA will inform both the Plan and the SEA.

⁹ Under Section 177U, Part XAB, Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

3.7.1 Integrated Biodiversity Impact Assessment

Elements of the Integrated Biodiversity Impact Assessment (IBIA) as detailed in the EPA's Practitioner's Manual¹⁰ have been aligned with in undertaking SEA for the Plan. These include:

- **Scoping** - biodiversity relevant issues were identified for consideration at scoping stage.
- **Baseline** - biodiversity data sources were identified and datasets collated / gathered. The biodiversity baseline addresses designated sites and other habitats and species of ecological value. AA information has been incorporated into the SEA baseline.
- **Alternatives** - impacts upon biodiversity are considered under each of the alternatives.
- **Impact assessment** - the effects on biodiversity are identified and assessed and the AA gives consideration to the interrelationship between biodiversity and potential effects on European Sites.
- **Mitigation and monitoring** - taking into account all measures contained within the Plan, all the proposed mitigation measures deriving from the various processes were generally consistent and compatible. Indicators and associated targets have been included in the SEA for monitoring European sites.
- **Reporting** - the Environmental Report addresses biodiversity related considerations relevant for this city / county level assessment. This report has been informed by the findings and conclusion of the AA.
- **Consultation and Communication** - submissions received during the Scoping stages have been taken on board. The Draft Plan, SEA Environmental Report and NIR will be placed on display as part of the consultation and communication process and observations or submissions will be considered and inform the finalisation of the plan-making, SEA and AA processes.

3.8 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)

The Draft Plan is subject to a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) in accordance with the requirements of The Planning System and Flood Risk Assessment Guidelines for Planning Authorities¹¹. The Planning Guidelines outline an integrated process for SEA and plan-making.

¹⁰ EPA (2013b).

¹¹ DEHLG (2009).

Chapter 3 of the Guidelines outlines the importance of the relationship between flooding and SEA and that the SEA process provides a good practice framework for scoping and considering a range of planning and environmental issues, including flooding in the plan-making process. When SEA is required, flood risk assessment should be undertaken as early as possible in the process so that the SEA is fully informed of the flood risks and impacts of the proposed zoning or development.

A SFRA has been undertaken in tandem with the drafting of the Plan and the environmental assessment. The SFRA addresses the issues of assessment and management of flood risk and surface water in the Plan area and assists DCC in making an informed strategic land-use planning decisions.

Land use zonings and provisions in the Draft Plan have taken into account the findings of the SFRA. The SFRA included undertaking justification tests, informing land use zoning and recommendations regarding requirements for further site-specific SFRA for development proposals at project level.

3.9 SEA Guidance

The SEA Environmental Report will reflect the requirements of Directive 2001/42/EC on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment (the SEA Directive) and the national implementing legislation, S.I. No. 436 of 2004, as amended by Regulations S.I. No. 201 of 2011, and the PDR 2001, as amended.

The preparation of the Environmental Report has had regard to the following principal sources of guidance, which has been informed through the SEA Scoping process:

- DHLGH (2021). Strategic Environmental Assessment – Draft Guidelines for Regional Assemblies and Planning Authorities.
- DECC (2021). Climate Action Plan 2021.
- DECLG (2013a). Circular Letter PSSP 6/2011: Further Transposition of EU Directive 2001/42/EC on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).
- DECLG (2013b). Circular Letter PL 9/2013: Article 8 (Decision Making) of EU Directives 2001/42/EC on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as amended.
- DECLG (2013c). Integrated Biodiversity Impact Assessment - Streamlining AA, SEA and EIA Processes: Practitioner’s Manual. Strive Report Series No. 106.

- DEHLG (2004). Implementation of SEA Directive (2001/42/EC): Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment.
- DEHLG (2008). Circular Letter SEA 1/08 & NPWS 1/08: Appropriate Assessment of Land Use Plans.
- DEHLG (2009). Guidelines for Planning Authorities. The Planning System and Flood Risk Management.
- EC (2000). Managing Natura 2000 Sites - The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC.
- EC (2001). Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment.
- EC (2002). Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites - Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.
- EC (2004). Guidance on Implementation of Directive 2001/42/EC.
- EC (2013). Guidance on Integrating Climate Change and Biodiversity into Strategic Environmental Assessment.
- EPA (2008). SEA Process Checklist.
- EPA (2013a). SEA Resource Manual for Local and Regional Planning Authorities (Updated 2015).
- EPA (2015). Developing and Assessing Alternatives in Strategic Environmental Assessment - Good Practice Guidance.
- EPA (2019a). Good Practice Note on Strategic Environmental Assessment on the Waste Sector.
- EPA (2019b). Integrating Climatic Factors into the Strategic Environmental Assessment Process in Ireland - A Guidance Note.
- EPA (2020a). Ireland's Environment - An Integrated Assessment 2020.
- EPA (2020b). Guidance on Strategic Environmental Assessment Statements and Monitoring.
- EPA (2020c). Good practice guidance on Cumulative Effects Assessment in SEA.
- EPA (2020d). Second Review of SEA Effectiveness in Ireland.
- EPA (2020e). SEA Pack. Updated 2020.

- EPA (2020f). Ireland's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Projections for 2020-2040.
- EPA (2021a). SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans - Recommendations and Resources. Updated 2021.
- EPA (2021b). Environmental Mapping / Geographical Information System (GIS) tools at: <http://gis.epa.ie/SeeMaps>
- EPA (2021c). EPA Spatial Information (Updated 2021.) Available at: <https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/sea-spatial-information-sources-inventory---april-2021.php>
- EPA (2021d). EPA SEA WebGIS Tool at: <https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/SEA>
- EPA (2021e). EPA WFD Application at: <https://wfd.edenireland.ie/>
- EPA (2021f). EPA AA GeoTool at: <http://www.epa.ie/terminalfour/ApproprAssess/index.jsp>
- EPA (2021g). EPA Water Quality Reports: <https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/freshwater--marine/>
- EPA (2021h). EPA Air Quality Reports: <https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/air/>
- EPA (2021i). Strategic Environmental Assessment. Available at: <https://www.epa.ie/monitoringassessment/assessment/sea/>
- GEOHIVE Environmental Sensitivity Mapping (2021). Available at: <https://airomaps.geohive.ie/ESM/>
- NPWS (2009). Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland.
- Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended.
- S.I. No. 201 of 2011 - Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2011.
- S.I. No. 436 of 2004 - Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004.

4 Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes

4.1 Planning Context

The Draft Dublin City Development Plan (2022-2028) ('Draft Plan') has been prepared in accordance with the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) which sets out the statutory requirements and content of a development plan. In accordance with the Planning and Development Act, the Plan is strategic in nature for the purposes of developing objectives to deliver an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the city and has taken account of the statutory obligations of the Council and the relevant policies or objectives of the Government or Ministers of the Government.

4.2 Planning Hierarchy

The Plan is framed within a hierarchy of strategic action including plans and programmes and therefore is subject to higher level planning and environmental policies and objectives. This hierarchy of plans, programmes, policies, etc. sets the legislative and policy framework by which the Plan must be formulated.

In this instance, the Plan must comply with the requirements of the EU and National Planning and Development-related legislation, as well as higher level plans including Project Ireland 2040: National Planning Framework (NPF); the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Eastern and Midlands Region and National Plans (refer to Tables 4.1 to 4.3). The objectives of the NPF is applied on a regional basis through statutory Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies. The RSES must accord with the NPF and in turn, local authority development plans which address further detailed local matters, must be in accordance with the RSES.

The Plan must also comply with wide range of theme related plans and programmes such as the River Basin Management Plans, Regional Waste Management Plans, Climate Action Plan, etc. (refer to Table 4.3).

Being a city / county-level plan, the Plan sets the framework for lower-level plans, such as local area plans and other city and lower level plans and programmes (refer to Table 4.4).

Both the NPF and RSES, as well as the majority of other and lower level plans have also been subject to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process.

4.3 Interaction with Other Relevant Plans and Programmes

There is a legislative framework for the protection of the environment and our natural resources. Where relevant these are referenced in the plan-making process for the Plan and the Draft Plan includes relevant objectives for integration with key aims and requirements.

Table 4.1 and Table 4.2 provides a list of the principal legislative and principal EU frameworks.

Table 4.1: Legislative Framework

Legislative Framework	
EU Level	
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (2001/42/EEC)	EU Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC)
Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2011/92/EU) as amended by (2014/52/EU)	Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC) as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/851
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)
Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) on the Conservation of Wild Birds, 1979	Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC)
Water Framework Directive (WFD) (2000/60/EC)	Air Quality Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)
Flood Directive (2007/60/EC)	Air Quality Clean Air For Europe (CAFÉ) Directive (2008/50/EC)
Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)	Directive 2009/28/EC (on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources)
Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)	Renewable Energy Directive 2018/2001/EU
Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)	Energy Performance of Buildings Directives 2010/31/EU and 2018/844
Urban Wastewater Directive (91/271/EEC)	Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU)
Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)	Sewage Sludge Directive (86/278/EEC)
Seveso III Directive (2012/18/EU)	
National Level	
Planning and Development Acts 2000, as amended	Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015
Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended	Climate Action Bill 2020

Legislative Framework	
European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats Regulations) 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011)	Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2020
Wildlife Act 1976, as amended	Roads Act 1993, as amended
Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 436/2004) as amended by S.I. 201 of 2011	Waste Management Act 1996 as amended
The Water Services Act (2007 & 2013)	The National Monuments Act 1930-2004

Table 4.2: EU Frameworks

EU Frameworks	
Renewable Energies in the 21st Century: Building a More Sustainable Future	A New Circular Economy Action Plan for a Cleaner More Competitive Europe (2020)
EU 2030 Climate and Energy Package	European Landscape Convention 2000
EU Energy Road Map 2050	EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030

Tables 4.3 and 4.4 provide a working list of some of the principal plans, programmes and guidelines influencing the formulation of the Plan policy, either directly or through European, National and / or county level.

Table 4.3: Relevant National and Regional Plans, Programmes and Guidelines

National & Regional Plans, Programme & Guidelines	
Project 2040:National Planning Framework	Draft Bioenergy Plan (2014)
Project 2040:National Development Plan 2021-2030	Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan (2018)
Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031 (RSES) for the Eastern and Midlands Region (EMR)	Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines (2019)
Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan for Dublin (MASP) (June 2019)	Draft Statutory Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the Transport Sector (2019)
Ireland's Environment - An Assessment (2020)	National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP) (2019)
National Mitigation Plan 2017	Draft National Clean Air Strategy
Local Area Plans - Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2013)	Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines (2014)

National & Regional Plans, Programme & Guidelines	
Our Sustainable Future - A Framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland (2012) and Progress Report 2015	Grid Development Strategy - Your Grid, Your Tomorrow. Eirgrid
National Adaptation Framework (2018)	Tomorrow's Energy Scenarios 2017: Planning our Energy Future
Delivering Homes, Sustaining Communities. Statement on Housing Policy (2007)	Transport 21, as superseded by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform document titled Infrastructure and Capital Investment (2012-2016)
Rebuilding Ireland - Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness (2016)	National Policy Framework for Alternative Fuel Infrastructure in Transport in Ireland (2017-2030)
Housing First National Implementation Plan 2018-2021	Integrated Implementation Plan (2019-2024) (Transport)
National Vacant Housing Reuse Strategy 2018-2021	NTA Transport Strategy for Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035
National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021	Draft Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2022-2042
Management Plans for Natura 2000 sites	Smarter Travel - A Sustainable Transport Future - Transport Policy for Ireland 2009-2020
All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020	The Greenway Strategy - Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018)
River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021	Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011)
National CFRAMS Programme (2011)	Heritage Ireland 2030
The Planning System and Flood Risk Management for Planning Authorities (2009)	Realising Our Rural Potential - Action Plan for Rural Development (2018)
Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Study (2011-2016)	Rural Development Programme (2014-2020)
Water Services Strategic Plan. A Plan for the Future of Water Services (2015) (Irish Water)	National Landscape Strategy 2015-2025
Irish Water Services Policy Statement 2018-2025	Irish Water National Water Resources Plan Framework Plan (2021)
National Marine Planning Framework	Eastern Midlands Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021

National & Regional Plans, Programme & Guidelines	
National Marine Research & Innovation Strategy 2017-2021	National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (2014)
National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (2014)	A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy - National Waste Policy for 2020-2025
National Climate Action Plan 2021	Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021
National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland #4 (2017-2020)	Food Harvest 2020 / FoodWise 2025
Ireland's National Renewable Energy Action Plan (2018)	National Broadband Plan (2019) and National Digital Strategy (2018)
National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030	Ready, Steady, Play: National Play Strategy Guidelines (2019)
National Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (2016)	Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2019-2025
Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2035	National Physical Activity Plan 2016
White Paper On Energy: Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030	Sport Ireland Participation Plan 2021-2024
Construction 2020: A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector	Housing for All
Section 28 Guidelines	
Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (2019)	Urban Development and Building Heights: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2020)
Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments (2020)	Guidelines for Local Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on Carrying Out Environmental Impact Assessments (2018)
Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000 - Guidelines (2017)	Interim Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Statutory Plans, Renewable Energy and Climate Change (2017)
Local Area Plans: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2013)	Development Contributions: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2013)
Retail Planning: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2012)	Architectural Heritage Protection: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011)
Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities (2009)	The Planning System and Flood Risk Management: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009)
Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas (Cities, Town and Villages): Guidelines	The Provision of Schools and the Planning System: A Code of Practice (2008)

National & Regional Plans, Programme & Guidelines	
for Planning Authorities (and the accompanying Urban Design Manual: a best practice guide) (2009)	
Development Management Guidelines (2020)	Draft Development Plan Guidelines (2021)
Wind Energy Development: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2006)	Implementation of the SEA Directive: Guidelines for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities (2004)
Quarries and Ancillary Activities: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2004)	Childcare Facilities: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2001)
Telecommunications Antennae Support Structures: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (1996)	Tree Preservation Guidelines (1994)

Table 4.4: Relevant Local Plans and Programmes

Local Plans and Programmes	
Dublin City Capital Programme 2019-2021	Dublin City Heritage Plan
Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021	The Geological Heritage of Dublin City: An audit of County Geological Sites in Dublin City 2014
Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan 2015 - 2020 (update due in 2021)	Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan 2018-2023. (Volume 1: DCC)
Dublin City Invasive Alien Species Action Plan (2016-2020)	The Heart of Dublin: City Centre Public Realm Masterplan 2016 - 2034 ¹²
Dublin City Parks Strategy 2019-2022	Dublin City Sport and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-2020
Dublin City Tree Strategy 2016-2020	STRIDE 2017-2020
Dublin Tree Canopy Study 2017	Draft Dublin City Play Strategy 'Pollinating Play!' 2020-2025
Dublin Port Masterplan 2012-2040	2012 Your City, Your Space; Dublin City Public Realm Strategy
Dublin City Climate Change Action Plan 2019 - 2024	Strategic Development Zones within Dublin city (Grangegorman, Poolbeg West, North Lotts and Grand Canal Dock)
Local Area Plans (LAP) within Dublin city	Docklands Public Realm Masterplan

¹² Note: The Public Realm programme is aligned over three Development Plans to 2034

Local Plans and Programmes	
The Heart of Dublin: City Centre Public Realm Masterplan	Dublin City Council Litter Management Plan 2020-2022
Local Environmental Improvement Plans	DHLGH (2021). Strategic Environmental Assessment – Draft Guidelines for Regional Assemblies and Planning Authorities
To be published in 2021	
New Invasive Alien Species Action Plan	New Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan 2021-2025

5 Environmental Baseline and Issues

5.1 Introduction

Baseline data assists in assessing the current state of the environment, facilitating the identification, evaluation and subsequent monitoring of the effects of the Plan. Thus, this information creates a platform whereby existing issues relevant to the Dublin City Development Plan area can be quantified, where possible, or qualified thereby ensuring that the implementation of the Plan does not exacerbate identifiable problems.

Baseline data was collected for the various environmental receptors described in the SEA Directive i.e. biodiversity, fauna, flora, population, human health, soil, water, air, climate factors, material assets, cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage, and landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. An overview of the various receptors and the issues of concern raised at the initial public consultation phase of the Plan's preparation were considered and influenced the preparation of the SEA Scoping Report.

An Issues Paper prepared by Dublin City Council (DCC) and outlining the relevant items for discussion prior to the formulation of the Plan also informs the issues to be considered in the Plan. This document was made available to the public during the initial consultation phase of the Plan's preparation, refer to Section 2.4. All submissions received were reviewed. Some of the issues raised are outlined here. Submissions made during the SEA Scoping Stage were considered and where appropriate influenced the scope of the assessment undertaken, the findings of which will be included in this SEA Environmental Report.

This is a first step in the process of evaluating the sensitivity of the environment. The SEA Directive requires that information is provided on 'any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the Plan or programme'. Information is therefore provided on existing environmental problems which are relevant to the Plan, thus helping to ensure that the Plan does not exacerbate any existing environmental problems in the study area.

The environmental aspects are described in line with the legislative requirements, under the following headings:

- Biodiversity (including Flora & Fauna);
- Population and Human Health;

- Land, Soils and Geology;
- Water Quality;
- Air, Noise and Climate;
- Cultural Heritage;
- Landscape;
- Material Assets;
- Interaction of the foregoing; and
- Cumulative Impacts.

5.1.1 Likely Evolution of the Environment in the Absence of a New Development Plan

In the absence of a new Plan it is unclear how permission for new development would be applied for and considered within the city. To date the current Plan (2016-2022) has contributed towards environmental protection and sustainable development within the DCC administrative area.

If the Plan expires and is not be replaced, this would potentially result in a deterioration of the city's planning and environmental protection framework. Although higher level environmental protection objectives (including the various EU Directives and transposing Irish Regulations) would still apply, the deterioration of this framework would mean that new development would be less coordinated and controlled. Such development could result in an increase in the occurrence of negative / adverse effects on all environmental components, especially those arising cumulatively. Cumulative effects occur as a result of the addition of many small impacts to create one larger, more significant impact.

Potentially negative / adverse effects from both the construction and operation of development and their associated infrastructure include:

- Loss of / damage / fragmentation to **biodiversity** in designated sites (i.e. European sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed specs, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna, due to the development of lands.
- Loss of / damage / fragmentation to existing **green infrastructure** and associated **ecosystem services**, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats.
- Loss of / damage / fragmentation to **biodiversity** and **flora and fauna** that help contribute to protecting natural capital and the environmental vectors of air, water and soil.

- Habitat disturbance (due to noise, lighting etc.) and displacement of **protected species**.
- Negative / adverse impacts to **human health** as a result of damage or loss to natural capital and environmental vectors including air and water.
- Loss / damage / degradation or loss of the **hydrogeological** and ecological function of soil resources.
- Negative / adverse impacts upon the status of **waterbodies** (including **groundwater, surface water, lakes and coastal waters**) arising from changes in quality, flow and / or morphology.
- Not adequately treating surface water run-off that is discharged to **waterbodies** and not providing appropriate wastewater treatment.
- Increases in the risk and extent of **flooding**.
- Failure to comply with **drinking water** regulations and serve new development with adequate drinking water (water services infrastructure and capacity is needed to ensure the mitigation of potential conflicts).
- Potential negative / adverse interactions between **waste, soil, water, biodiversity and human health**.
- Failure to reduce **carbon emissions** in line with, national and European environmental objectives.
- Potential effects on protected and unknown **archaeology** and protected **architecture** arising from the construction and operation of development.
- Negative / adverse visual impacts and / or conflicts with the appropriate protection of designations relating to the **landscape**.
- **Waste** levels would increase.

5.1.2 Ireland's Environment - An Integrated Assessment 2020

The seventh State of the Environment Report published by the EPA (2020) indicates that the overall quality of Ireland's environment is not what it should be, and the outlook is not optimistic unless we accelerate the implementation of solutions. The environmental challenges that Ireland cut across different environmental topics, such as climate, air, soil, water, biodiversity and waste, and across organisations and sectors, business and all levels of society.

Unspoilt areas are being squeezed out and Ireland is losing pristine waters and the habitats that provide vital spaces for biodiversity. Climate change is impacting the established economic, social and natural structures of our world.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a huge impact on Ireland’s economy, however, the degree to which this impact will impede national environmental policy ambitions, including the transition to a climate-neutral economy, will be seen in the future. The key environmental challenges or messages identified by the report are:

SOE¹³ 1: Environmental Policy Position	A national policy position for Ireland’s environment. There are many interlinkages and dependencies between environmental policies and legislation.
SOE 2: Full Implementation	Full implementation of, and compliance with, existing environmental directives and legislation is a must to protect the environment. A review of environmental governance is needed to develop structures to achieve full implementation.
SOE 3: Health and Wellbeing	Managing the environmental and radiological risks to health from chemicals and other pollutants is still a major part of environmental protection. Green and blue spaces as well as quiet areas also need to be protected as they provide social spaces for communities and enable a connection to nature, with evidence showing that spending time in such spaces is good for health.
SOE 4: Climate	Systemic change is required for Ireland to become the climate-neutral and climate resilient society and economy that it aspires to be. More urgency is needed to deliver actions on climate mitigation and adaptation and to ensure that Ireland meets its international obligations to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
SOE 5: Air Quality	Adoption of measures to meet the World Health Organization air quality guideline values should be the target to aim for in the Clean Air Strategy.
SOE 6: Nature	Nature and wild places are at risk in Ireland and need to be better safeguarded, both locally and in protected areas. The next Biodiversity Action Plan needs to be more ambitious and identify the pathway to transformative change for nature protection in Ireland.
SOE 7: Water Quality	The water quality in Ireland’s rivers, lakes and estuaries needs to be better protected through evidence-based measures, integrated water

¹³ State of Environment (SOE).

	catchment-based projects and initiatives and by reducing the amount of nutrients ending up in water courses.
SOE 8: Marine	As an island nation with an extensive marine area, Ireland needs to ensure that robust governance and legal frameworks are in place to protect the marine environment.
SOE 9: Clean Energy	The emissions from the combustion of mainly imported fossil fuels are damaging for our health and our environment and drive climate change. The transition from reliance on fossil energy to a clean energy future for heating, electricity and transport is essential for the protection of human health, the climate and the environment and has multiple benefits for sustainable development and energy security.
SOE 10: Environmentally sustainable Agriculture	A more holistic farm management and water catchment-level management approach, encompassing all environmental pressures, will be fundamental to progress towards a more environmentally sustainable and carbon-neutral food production system.
SOE 11: Water Services	Action is needed nationally to address the underlying causes for the delays in delivering improvements in drinking water and urban wastewater infrastructure. Addressing the legacy of under-investment and fixing the shortcomings highlighted in successive EPA reports on drinking water and urban wastewater need to be prioritised. The resilience of water-related infrastructure must also improve to guard against the impacts of weather events and climate extremes on water services and the water environment.
SOE 12: Circular Economy	Changing our behaviours on resource consumption, waste management and recycling are actions that everybody, from business to individuals, can take to protect the environment.
SOE 13: Land Use	The development of an integrated national approach to land mapping could support better decision-making on land use and management practices. It could contribute significantly to mapping land use change and managing competing pressures on the environment, such as agriculture, urbanisation, tourism and recreation, energy projects, carbon sinks, ecosystem services and space for nature.

5.1.3 UN Sustainable Development Goals

The Plan will contribute towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The 17 no. SDGs were adopted by all UN Member States in 2015, as part of the 2030 Agenda, which set out a 15-year plan to achieve the Goals. Implementation of the Plan will contribute to a number of these Sustainable Development Goals, such as:

Goal 3	Good health and wellbeing.
Goal 6	Clean water and sanitation.
Goal 7	Affordable and clean energy.
Goal 8	Decent work and economic growth.
Goal 11	Sustainable cities and communities.
Goal 13	Climate action.
Goal 15	Life on land.

5.2 Biodiversity

5.2.1 Introduction

Biodiversity plays a significant role in the provision of clean air, water, healthy soils and food as well as visually contributing to a plan area with its natural beauty and heritage. Ireland has a rich diversity of ecosystems and wildlife in its terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments. However, over the last few decades, human impacts on biodiversity have accelerated and resulted in increased damage and loss of habitats and species, the diversification of wildlife and the degradation of our environment¹⁴. On a global scale, biodiversity loss has been identified as one of the biggest threats facing humanity in the next decade.

Biodiversity is vulnerable to climate change as it accelerates the destruction of the natural world through droughts, flooding and wildfires, while the loss and unsustainable use of nature are in turn key drivers of climate change. However, biodiversity and nature are also vital in the fight against climate change.

¹⁴ DCHG (2017).

5.2.2 Overview of Biodiversity in Dublin City

Dublin City is a large urban environment, with an administrative footprint of 115 sq.km, which is partially built on reclaimed or in-filled lands.

Dublin City is shaped by its natural and man-made features and is endowed with a spectacular setting on Dublin Bay, and a wealth of amenities. The River Liffey, together with the areas between the canals, containing both the Old City and the Georgian squares, all help to convey the city's strong character and identity.

Dublin City has a rich diversity of ecosystems and wildlife in its terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments.

The city's natural assets include parks, open spaces, landscapes, watercourses, public squares, coastline and urban tree canopy (tree lined streets), some of which have international importance for biodiversity and provide crucial ecosystem services, including flood defences and carbon sequestration.

The biodiversity of Dublin City is outlined in the Biodiversity Action Plan 2015-2020 (See Section 5.2.3.1) and includes the wildlife and habitats found at North Bull Island and along the City's coastline; the Phoenix Park and all public parks; the rivers, canals, and their riparian zones which traverse the City; open spaces linked to historic, educational and other public buildings; roadsides, railway tracks and footpaths; residential 'greens', private gardens, walls and buildings.

Dublin City has c. 70km of inland waterways (rivers and canals) and 23km of coastline¹⁵ Dublin City's waterways and their riparian zones (river banks and towpaths) and the city's coastline are important wildlife habitats, supporting fish, rare plants, river birds, mammals, and invertebrates, in addition to their function as corridors for connecting wildlife throughout the city. Dublin's rivers, canals and coastlines also provide significant recreational amenities for the city.

Dublin Bay is a natural harbour at the confluence of several river basins and contains a variety of ecosystems that are biologically diverse and of international and national importance for the species which inhabit them.

¹⁵ DCC (2015).

Dublin City supports a range of flora and fauna, which is afforded legal protection under Irish and European legislation. Some of the species include the Common Pipistrelle Bat, the Light-Bellied Brent Goose and the Kingfisher.

Species legally-protected by the Flora Protection Order include Hairy St. John's-wort which is found in the Phoenix Park and the Hairy Violet. Other plant species protected by the Plant (Protection) Order, 2015, (Statutory Instrument S.I. No. 356 of 2015) recently recorded from the DCC administrative area are the Opposite-leaved Pondweed, from the Grand and Royal Canals, Lesser Centaury from the North Bull Island, and the Thread mosses *Bryum intermedium*, *Bryum uliginosum* and *Bryum warneum*, and Petalwort, a liverwort, all also from the North Bull Island.

Key ecological sensitivities within DCC administrative area include those relating to:

- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPAs), which are designated within / adjacent to the Plan area.
- Proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs).
- Ecological networks and connectivity.
- Aquatic and riverine ecology associated with various rivers and their tributaries and riparian buffer zones. Canals, wetlands and hedgerows.
- Land cover mapping - CORINE.
- UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.
- Certain entries to the Water Framework Directive Register of Protected Areas.
- Designated Shellfish Waters.
- Salmonid Waters.
- RAMSAR Sites.
- Wildfowl Sanctuaries.
- Nature Reserves.
- Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs).
- Other sites of high biodiversity value or ecological importance.

5.2.3 Biodiversity Action Plan

The National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) for Ireland provides a framework for government, civil society and private sectors to track and assess progress towards Ireland's Vision for Biodiversity over a five-year timeframe from 2017 to 2021. The NBAP notes that a significant

proportion of Ireland's biodiversity is in a vulnerable state. The main threats and pressures to biodiversity in Ireland are from agriculture, forestry and fisheries, natural system modifications (including drainage), mining and quarrying (including peat extraction), climate change, pollution, and invasive species¹⁶.

In preparing the Plan, measures have been considered to enhance ecological biodiversity as outlined in the NBAP 2017-2021. NBAP targets relevant to the Plan are:

- enhance appreciation of the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services;
- optimise opportunities to benefit biodiversity;
- aim to reduce principal pollutant pressures on terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity;
- optimise benefits for biodiversity in Flood Risk Management Planning and drainage schemes;
- promote the control of non-native invasive species; and
- promote sustainability in the aquaculture industry.

5.2.3.1 Biodiversity Action Plan for Dublin City 2015

Developed by DCC, the main aim of the Biodiversity Action Plan for Dublin City is the conservation of biodiversity. The four themes within the plan are outlined as follows:

- Strengthen the knowledge base for the conservation and management of biodiversity, and protect species and habitats of conservation value within Dublin City.
- Strengthen the effectiveness of regional collaboration for biodiversity conservation in the greater Dublin region.
- Enhance opportunities for biodiversity conservation through green infrastructure, and promote ecosystem services in appropriate locations throughout the city.
- Develop greater awareness and understanding of biodiversity, and identify opportunities for engagement with communities and interest groups.

The Draft Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan 2021-2025 seeks to address biodiversity loss through targeted actions with measurable outcomes to maintain, restore and supplement nature in the city.

¹⁶ DCHG (2017).

5.2.4 Ecological Networks, Connectivity and Habitat Mapping

Article 10 of the Habitats Directive recognises the importance of ecological networks as corridors and stepping stones for wildlife, including for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of species of flora and fauna. The Directive requires that ecological connectivity and areas of ecological value outside the Natura 2000 network of designated ecological sites are maintained and it recognises the need for the management of these areas through land use planning and development policies.

The networks are considered imperative in connecting areas of biodiversity within the city / county to each other, thus avoiding the creation of isolated islands of habitat. These corridors are particularly important for mammals, small birds and bats. Ecological networks are composed of linear features, such as treelines, hedgerows and rivers / streams which provide corridors or stepping stones for wildlife species moving within their normal range.

There is a distinct urban component within Dublin City's biodiversity, most notably plant species. However, there are also non-urban, semi-natural components, such as North Bull Island, parts of Phoenix Park, and the city's rivers, canals, and larger public parks¹⁷.

Dublin City's ecological network is based on two main areas: Dublin Bay and Phoenix Park, which have sufficient size and scale to support natural and semi-natural habitats, which are connected to each other and to the ecological networks of neighbouring local authorities, by the city's waterways and associated public parks and open spaces.

Dublin City has a number of undeveloped or protected corridors of land, which act as links from the surrounding countryside into the city, from South Dublin, Fingal and Dún Laoghaire - Rathdown. These ecological networks and important corridors include:

- Liffey Valley, connecting Wicklow, Kildare, South Dublin, Fingal and Dublin City.
- Grand Canal connects the River Shannon to Dublin City and River Liffey / Dublin Bay.
- Royal Canal connects the River Shannon to Dublin City and River Liffey / Dublin Bay.

Other corridors include:

- Rivers Tolka, Dodder, Camac, Poddle, Nanniken, Mayne and Santry.

¹⁷ DCC (2015).

5.2.4.1 Ecosystem Services

Ecosystem services are the benefits that natural environments supply to human beings either directly or indirectly. The National Biodiversity Plan has adopted four main categories of ecosystem services, namely provisioning services, regulating services, supporting services, and cultural services.

- **Provisioning services** refer to products obtained from ecosystems, such as food, fibre, fuel, clean water, medicines and genetic resources.
- **Regulating services** refer to the benefits of managing ecosystem processes, such as carbon sequestration, flood control, water purification, waste decomposition, and pest control.
- **Supporting services** are those which are necessary for the production of all other ecosystem services, and include soil fertility and crop pollination.
- **Cultural services** are the nonmaterial benefits people obtain from ecosystems through cognitive development, inspiration, recreation, and aesthetic experiences.

5.2.4.2 Dublin City Habitat Map

Dublin City Council has prepared a Dublin City Habitat Map (2020), based on a comprehensive database of the habitats of the entire city, to inform and monitor planning and development. This has identified what types of habitats are found in the city, their locations, connectivity and importance¹⁸.

5.2.5 Green and Blue Infrastructure

The European Green Infrastructure Strategy promotes the development of Green Infrastructure and guides its implementation at EU, regional, national and local levels.

Green infrastructure can be defined as an interconnected network of natural space that conserves natural ecosystem values and functions and provides associated benefits to human populations. In the Draft Plan the term Green infrastructure is used in two ways. It can describe a network of connected, high quality, multifunctional open spaces, corridors, and the links in between, that provide environmental services and multiple benefits for people and wildlife. It is also used to describe a broad range of design measures, techniques and materials that have a sustainable character and have a beneficial environmental impact such as solar panels, wind turbines etc.

¹⁸ Chapter 10 of the Draft Plan.

Blue infrastructure refers to waterways and waterbodies such as rivers, canals and the sea. Blue infrastructure refers to waterways and waterbodies such as rivers, canals and Dublin Bay.

Green and blue infrastructure plays an essential role in creating a more healthy and liveable city. These natural assets provide a platform for community activities, social interaction, recreation and physical activity, providing sustainable drainage solutions, facilitating biodiversity and wildlife habitats, carbon capture and creating connectivity.

5.2.5.1 Dublin City's Existing Green and Blue Infrastructure

Dublin City has the benefit of many natural assets including over 200 public parks forming 17% of the land area of Dublin City. The city's Strategic Green / Blue Network / systems are:

- **Core Areas** - Dublin Bay (and its associated terrestrial, estuarine and marine ecosystems) including all Natura 2000 sites and the Phoenix Park.
- **Hubs** - parks and open spaces - which buffer the core areas, and are made of the largest, least fragmented continuous natural and semi-natural spaces.
- **Corridors** (e.g. rivers, canals, streets and public realm) including:
 - River Mayne: Fr. Collins Park, River Mayne Linear Park flowing into Baldoyle National Nature Reserve and Natura 2000 sites.
 - River Santry / Nanniken: Oscar Traynor Road playing grounds, Springdale Road, Silloge Golf Course, Stardust Memorial Park, St. Anne's Park and flowing into Dublin Bay Natura 2000 sites.
 - River Tolka: Tolka Valley Park, National Botanic Gardens, Griffith Park, Fairview Park, flowing into Tolka Estuary Natura 2000 site.
 - River Liffey: Liffey Valley SAAO and NHA upstream, flowing into South Dublin Bay Natura 2000 sites, Liffey Valley Park, Islandbridge War Memorial Gardens.
 - River Dodder: beginning at Glenasmole Valley Natura 2000 site and NHA, flowing into River Liffey and Dublin Bay Natura 2000 sites.
 - River Poddle: Poddle Park, Mount Argus Park, flowing into River Liffey and Dublin Bay Natura 2000 sites.
 - River Camac: flowing into River Liffey and Dublin Bay Natura 2000 sites.
 - Royal Canal pNHA and Grand Canal pNHA.

These Core, Hubs and Corridors are connected to each other, and to the Green Infrastructure Networks of neighbouring local authorities, by the city’s waterways (Rivers Liffey, Dodder, Poddle, Santry, Tolka, Nanniken and Camac) associated public parks and open space areas.

Dublin City’s streets are also an important component of the city’s Green Infrastructure Network.

5.2.6 European Sites

Dublin City (including adjacent Plan areas), include a number of areas designated for protection under the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) which form part of a European network of important ecological sites known as the Natura 2000 network. These include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), which are legally protected under the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and are selected for the conservation of Annex I habitats and Annex II species, and Special Protection Areas (SPAs), which are protected under the European Union Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 2009/147/EC. In Ireland, SACs and SPAs are known as European sites.

There are four European sites that either lie within or directly abuts the Plan Area. Table 5.1 lists the European sites located within or directly abuts the Plan Area, as well as any European sites within 15km of the Plan Area, particularly where ecological links (source-pathway-receptors) exist between the area of the Plan and other European sites (refer to Figures 5.1 and 5.2).

Table 5.1: European Sites located in and within a 15km of the Plan Area¹⁹

European Sites located in and directly adjoining the Plan Area			
Site Code	Special Areas of Conservation	Site Code	Special Protection Areas
000206	North Dublin Bay	004006	North Bull Island
000210	South Dublin Bay (abuts the Plan Area)	004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary (abuts the Plan Area)
European Sites within a 15km buffer of the Plan Area			
Site Code	Special Areas of Conservation	Site Code	Special Protection Areas
000202	Howth Head	004113	Howth Head Coast
003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island	004172	Dalkey Islands
000199	Baldoyle Bay	004016	Baldoyle Bay
002193	Ireland's Eye	004117	Ireland's Eye
000205	Malahide Estuary	004025	Malahide Estuary

¹⁹ EPA AA Maps (2021).

European Sites located in and directly adjoining the Plan Area			
000208	Rogerstown Estuary	004015	Rogerstown Estuary
000204	Lambay Island	004069	Lambay Island
001398	Rye Water Valley / Carton	004040	Wicklow Mountains
001209	Glenasmole Valley	004022	Skerries Island
002122	Wicklow Mountains		
000725	Knocksink Wood		
000713	Ballyman Glen		

Any potential for adverse effects on European sites will be fully addressed in the Natura Impact Report (NIR) that will accompany the Draft Plan and will be on public display.

5.2.7 Natural Heritage Areas (NHA) and Proposed Natural Heritage Areas (PNHA)

Nationally Designated Sites include **Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs)** which are legally protected areas that are considered important for their habitats or which holds species of plants and animals whose habitat needs protection, including geological / geomorphological sites in need of protection through NHA designation. NHAs are designated under the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000²⁰. There are no NHAs within or adjoining the plan boundary.

Proposed NHAs (pNHAs) were published on a non-statutory basis in 1995, but have not since been statutorily proposed or designated. This network of NHAs and pNHAs provides supporting or stepping stone functions to the SAC and SPA network.

There are six proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) in and within the vicinity of the Plan Area, refer to Table 5.2.

Table 5.2: pNHAs in and within the vicinity of the Plan Area²¹

Proposed Natural Heritage Areas in and within the vicinity of the Plan Area		
Site Code	pNHA Site Name	Distance from the Draft Plan
000206	North Dublin Bay	Within the Plan Area
000210	South Dublin Bay	Abuts the Plan area
000201	'Dolphins' Dublin Docks near Pigeon House Harbour	Within the Plan Area
002103	Royal Canal	Within the Plan Area

²⁰ NPWS (2021b). *Protected Sites* online.

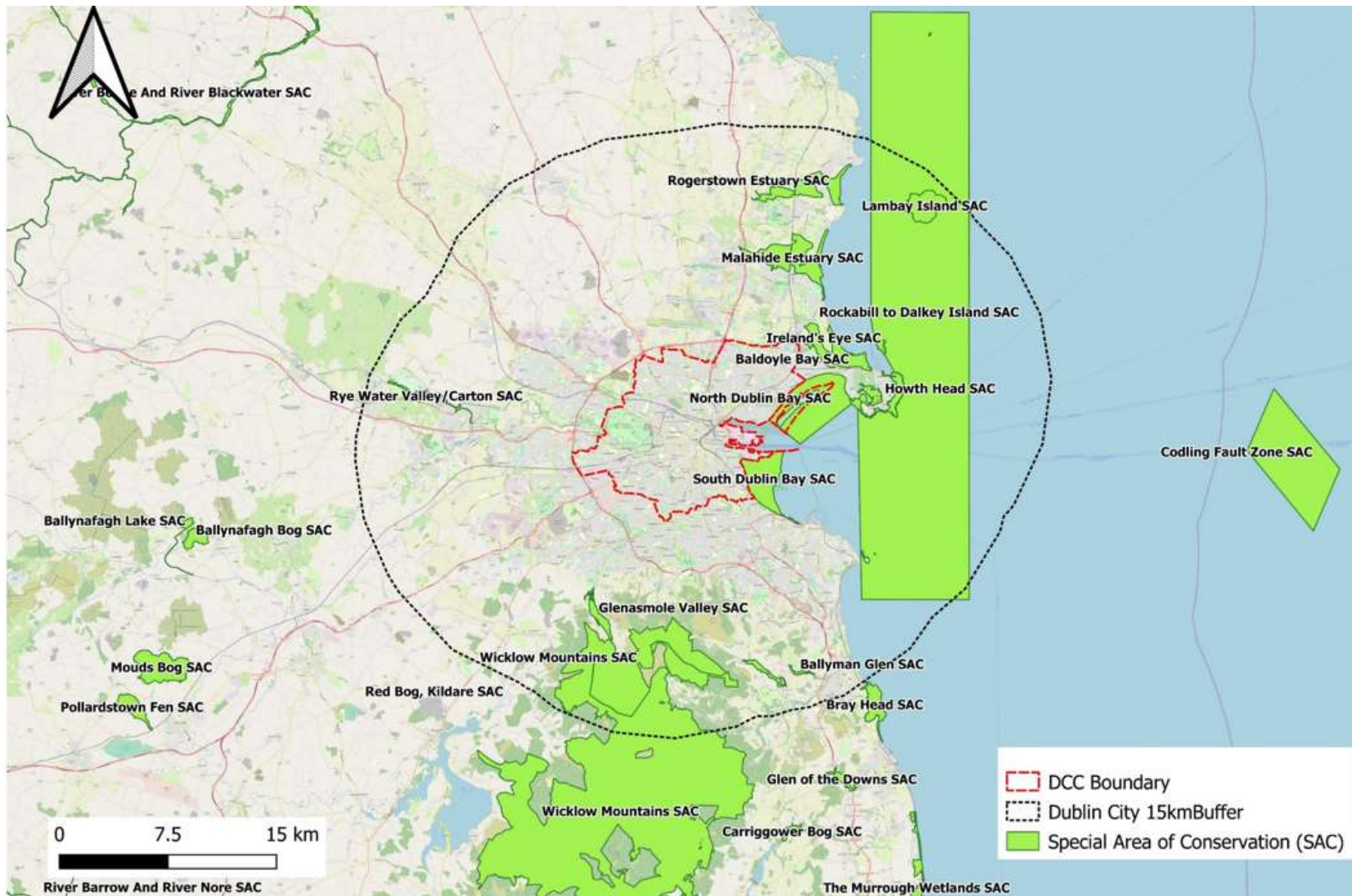
²¹ only those which don't overlap with European sites are listed

Proposed Natural Heritage Areas in and within the vicinity of the Plan Area		
Site Code	pNHA Site Name	Distance from the Draft Plan
002104	Grand Canal	Within the Plan Area
000128	Liffey Valley	Within / abuts the Plan Area

5.2.8 CORINE Land Cover Mapping

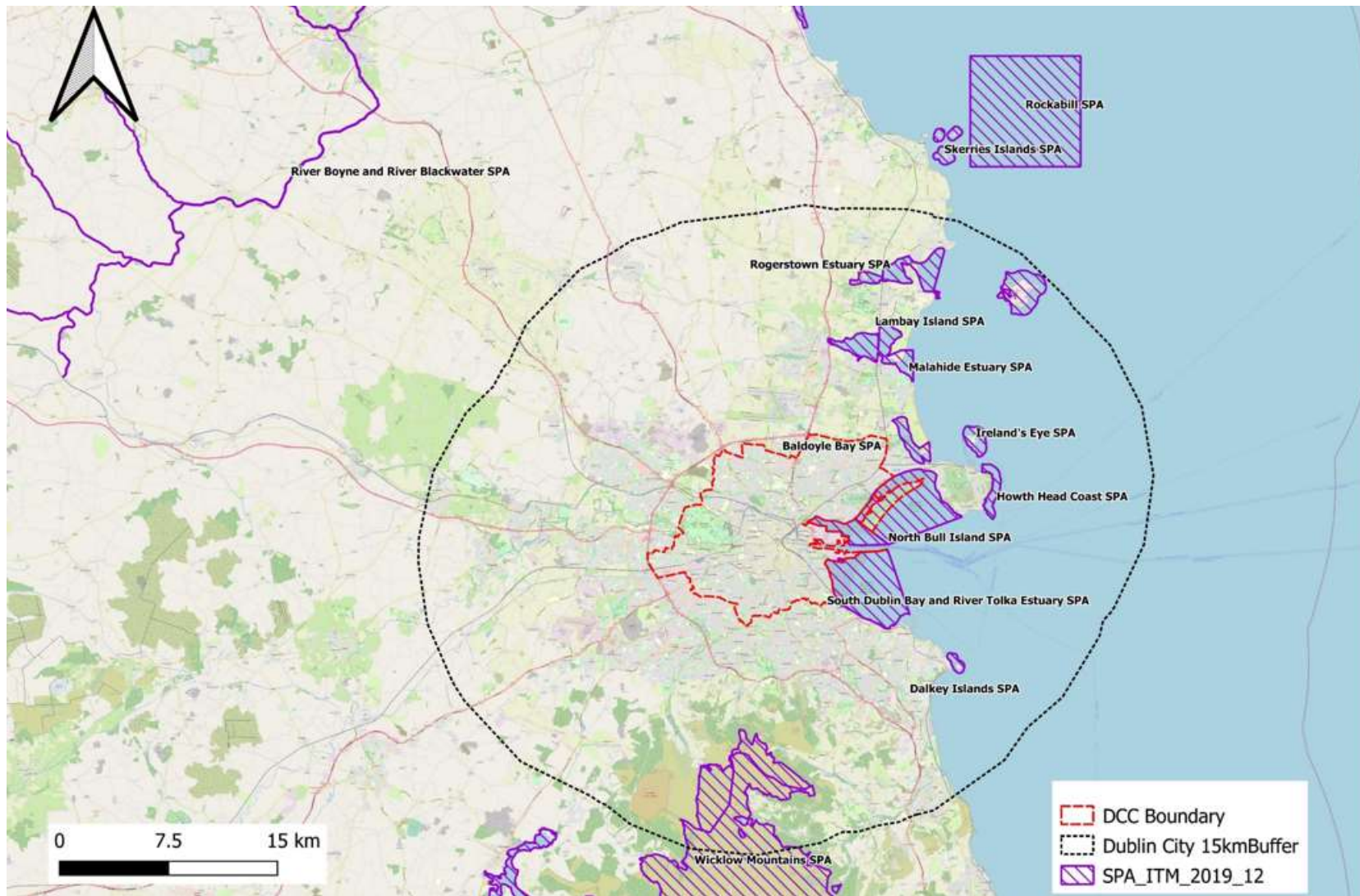
The CORINE land cover mapping (2018) for Dublin City classifies land cover under various headings as shown on Figure 5.3. The most common land covers within the Plan area are artificial surfaces / urban fabric, with artificial surfaces / Industrial and commercial units around Dublin Port and along the northern and western boundary. Artificial non-agricultural vegetated areas / green urban areas are located at the Phoenix Park and along coastal areas including Bull Island.

Figure 5.1: Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) within the vicinity of the Plan Area²²



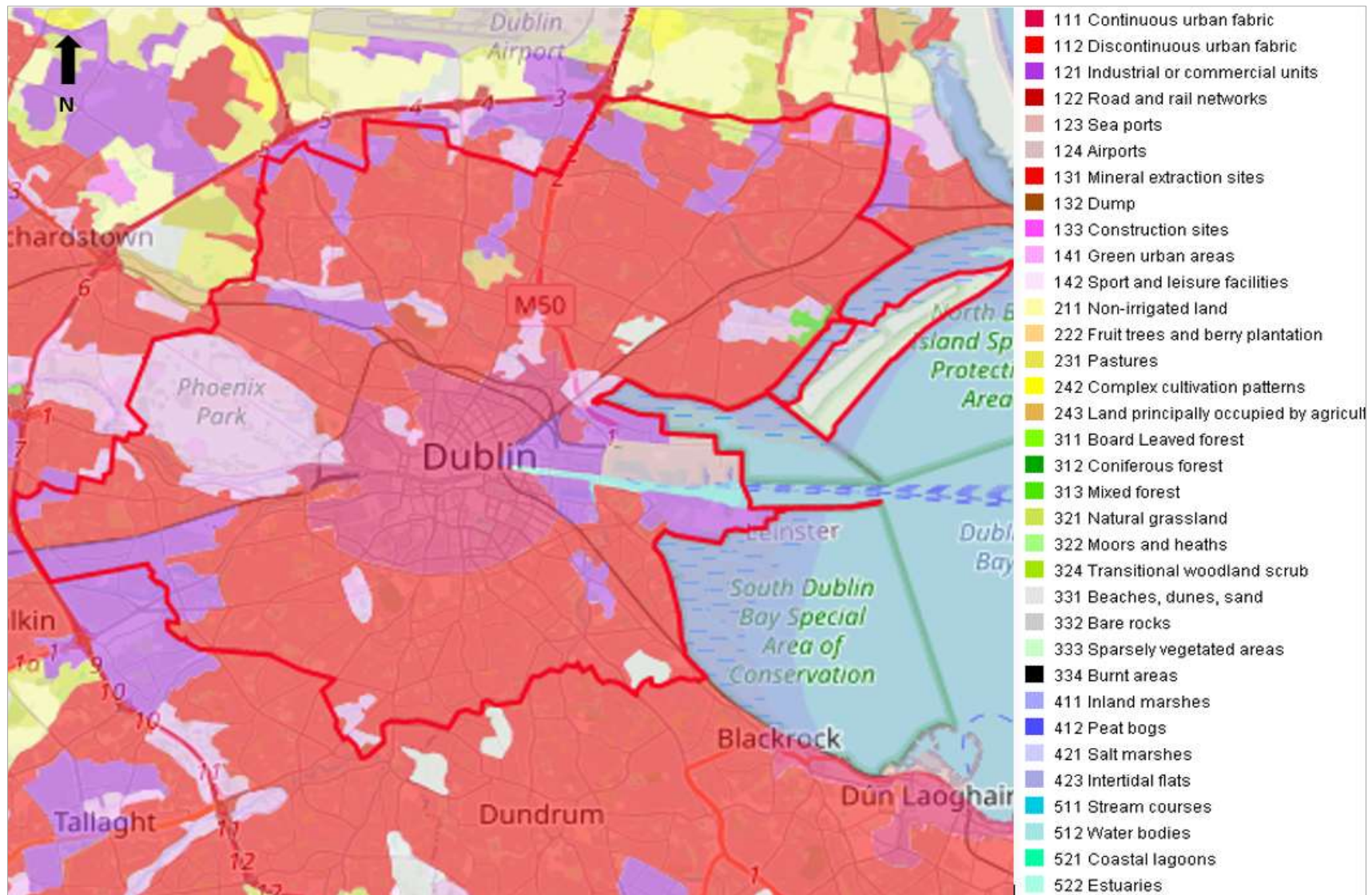
²² NIR for Draft Plan (Scott Cawley).

Figure 5.2: Special Protection Areas (SPAs) within the vicinity of the Plan Area²³



²³ NIR for Draft Plan (Scott Cawley).

Figure 5.3: CORINE Land Cover 2018²⁴



²⁴ EPA Maps (2021). Source OpenStreet Maps.

5.2.9 UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

In 1981, UNESCO recognised the importance of Dublin Bay by designating North Bull Island as a biosphere reserve because of its rare and internationally important habitats and species of wildlife (refer to Figure 5.4). In 2015 the designation was extended to the wider Dublin Bay reflecting the Bay's significant environmental, economic, cultural and tourism importance.

The biosphere reserve which now covers Dublin Bay, reflects its significant environmental, economic, cultural and tourism importance, and extends to over 300 sq.km. Over 300,000 people live within the newly enlarged biosphere reserve. It is the world's only biosphere reserve to include substantial areas of a capital city.

The biosphere reserve designation itself brings no new regulations; its aims are achieved by people working together within the existing national and international legislative framework. All biosphere reserves have three goals:

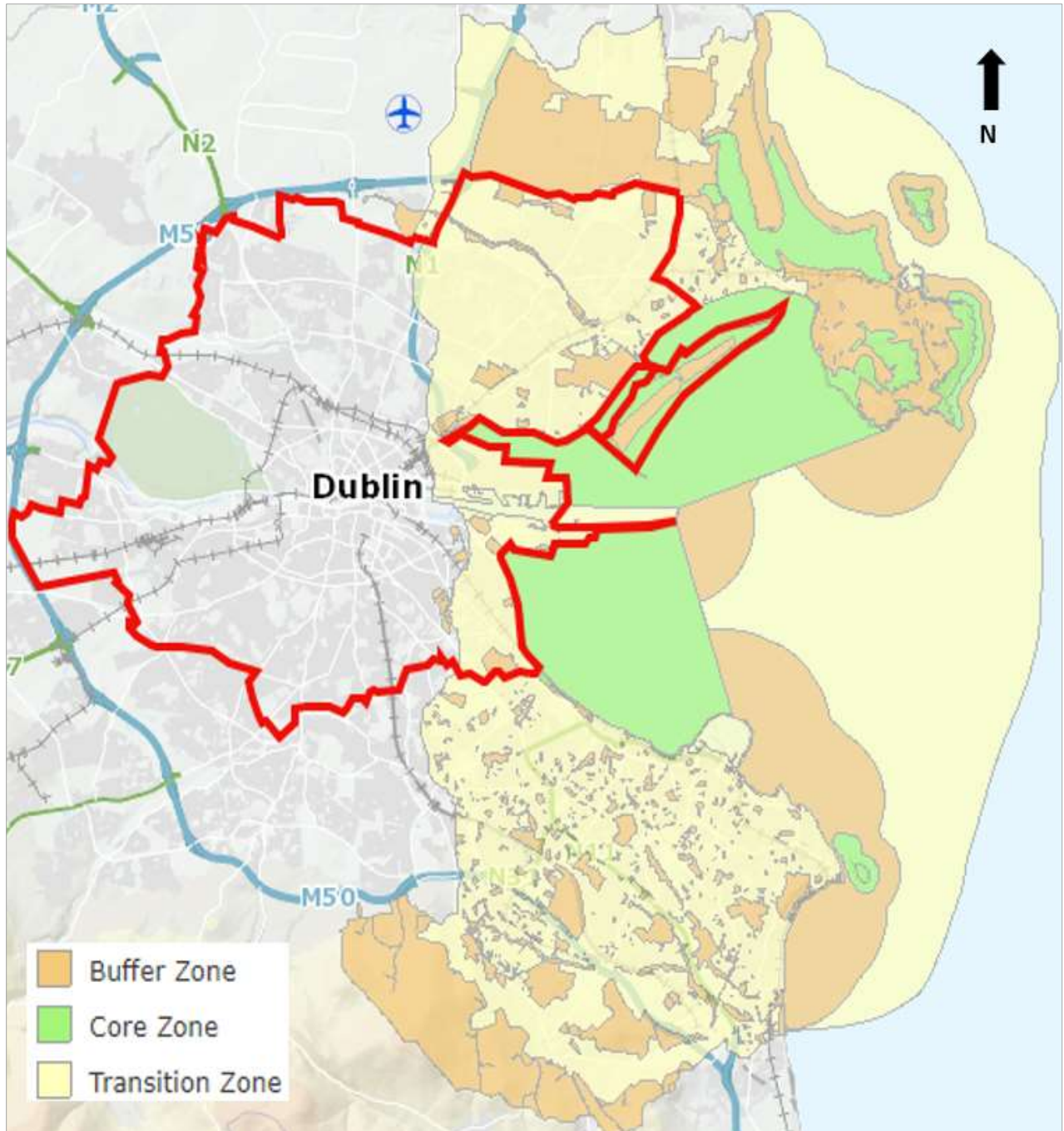
- **Conservation:** promoting the protection of landscapes, habitats, wildlife and cultural values.
- **Learning:** supporting education and research, for a better understanding of nature and global issues.
- **Development:** fostering a sustainable economy and society for people living and working in the area.

The biosphere reserve is divided into three distinct zones, which are managed in different ways:

- **The Core Zone:** This consists of protected areas, which are managed for the conservation of landscapes and biodiversity. It includes the Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) at North Bull Island, the Tolka Estuary, North Dublin Bay and South Dublin Bay, among others.
- **The Buffer Zone:** This surrounds the core and comprises 82 sq.km of public and private green spaces such as parks, greenbelts and golf courses, which surround and adjoin the core zones.
- **The Transition Zone:** This zone comprises 173 sq.km and forms the outer part of the biosphere reserve. It includes residential areas, harbours, ports and industrial and commercial areas. Dublin Port Company, is a member of the Dublin Bay Biosphere

Partnership and it maintains pontoons within the port to providing nesting spaces for Common and Arctic terns, which are protected species under the EU Birds Directive.

Figure 5.4: Dublin Bay UNESCO Biosphere Reserve²⁵



5.2.10 WFD Register of Protected Areas

Under the requirements of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) a number of waterbodies (or parts of) must have extra controls on their quality by virtue of how their waters are used by

²⁵ GEOHIVE Environmental Sensitivity Mapping (2021).

people and by wildlife have been listed on Registers of Protected Areas (RPAs). This register is split into five categories as outlined by the EPA:

- **Areas** designated for the **abstraction of water** intended for human consumption under Article 7;
- Areas designated for the **protection of economically significant aquatic species** (i.e. shellfish);
- Bodies of **water designated as recreational waters**, including areas designated as bathing waters under Directive 76/160/EEC;
- **Nutrient-sensitive areas**, including areas designated as vulnerable zones under Directive 91/676/EEC and areas designated as sensitive areas under Directive 91/271/EEC; and
- Areas designated for the **protection of habitats** or species where the maintenance or improvement of the status of water is an important factor in their protection, including relevant European sites (Natura 2000) designated under Directive 92/43/EEC and Directive 79/409/EEC.

A number of these protected areas are present within Dublin City and these are:

- **Bathing** locations (Dollymount, Merrion Strand and Sandymount).
- **Nutrient Sensitive Areas** (River Liffey, Liffey Estuary and Tolka Estuary); and
- There are also a number of **water dependent habitats** in the Plan Area which have been listed on RPAs – these relate to designated SACs and SPAs (see Section 5.2.6).

5.2.11 Designated Shellfish Waters

The EU Shellfish Waters Directive (2006/113/EC) aims to protect and improve shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth.

Pollution reduction programmes are in operation for these areas. The identified pressures on these designated waters include urban wastewater systems, on-site wastewater treatment systems and port activities.

The coastal waters provide an important resource, supporting and generating employment and recreational activities and must be protected.

Under Article 5 of the Shellfish Water Directive, Malahide Shellfish Area, located c. 3.2km to the north-east of Dublin City's boundary, has been designated as shellfish growing waters. A pollution-

reduction programme was established by the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to protect these waters and improve water quality.

5.2.12 Salmonid Waters

The Salmonid Regulations (S.I. No. 293 of 1988) designate the waters capable of supporting salmon (*Salmo salar*), trout (*Salmo trutta*), char (*Salvelinus*) and whitefish (*Coregonus*) as protected. Thirty-four rivers, tributaries and lakes are listed and protected under these Regulations that prescribe quality standards for salmonid waters, sampling programmes and methods of analysis and inspection to be used by local authorities to determine compliance with the standards.

The River's Liffey, Tolka and Dodder are highly significant regional salmonid catchments. There are three waterbodies within the Plan Area which support important fisheries, there are the Grand Canal, and the Rivers Liffey and Dodder. The latter two support Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*, Annex II of the Habitats Directive), and brown and sea trout. In addition some protected species such as White Clawed Crayfish are to be found in the Grand Canal. The canal also supports a large amount of coarse fish.

5.2.13 Other Designations

5.2.13.1 RAMSAR Sites

North Bull Island and Sandymount Strand are listed sites in Dublin City under the RAMSAR²⁶ Convention of 1971 (signed by Ireland in 1985) as wetlands of international importance, particularly for wildfowl habitats. It is a voluntary treaty of which Ireland is a signatory.

5.2.13.2 Wildfowl Sanctuaries

Wildfowl sanctuaries are areas that have been excluded from the 'Open Season Order' so that game birds can rest and feed undisturbed. There are 68 no. sanctuaries in the State²⁷. Shooting of game birds is not allowed in these sanctuaries. North Bull Island Wildfowl Sanctuary (WFS-19) is located within the Plan Area.

²⁶ The Convention on Wetlands, called the RAMSAR Convention, is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. <https://www.RAMSAR.org/>

²⁷ NPWS (2021c). *Wildfowl sanctuaries*.

5.2.13.3 Nature Reserves

A nature reserve is an area of importance to wildlife, which is protected under Ministerial Order. North Bull Island and Baldoyle Estuary are both designated national nature reserves under the terms of the Wildlife Act.

5.2.13.4 Flora Protection Order

The making of a Flora (Protection) Order under the Wildlife Act provides protection for nationally important sites for protected plants. North Bull Island is listed for lesser centaury, hemp nettle and meadow saxifrage. However, the Flora (Protection) Order (2015), like previous similar orders, does not list protected sites for plants, but only the actual plant species protected under the order, which protects them and the sites where they occur at any location within the state (see above.) The Red Hemp-nettle, which is protected under the 2015 order has not recently been recoded from the North Bull Island, while the meadow saxifrage is not protected under this order.

The Royal Canal is listed for opposite-leaved Pondweed.

5.2.14 Other Sites of Biodiversity / Special Amenity Value

Other sites of biodiversity value include a Special Amenity Area Order (SAAO) and Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs).

The objective of the Special Amenity Area Order (SAAO) is primarily to protect areas of outstanding natural beauty or special recreational value whilst having regard to any benefits for nature conservation. North Bull Island is a National Special Amenity Area, representing a landscape of national importance for its aesthetic and recreational value; Bull Island is one of three such designations in Ireland (the others being Howth and Liffey Valley west of the city) and was designated under Special Amenity Area Order (SAAO) in 1994 (S.I. No. 70/1995²⁸).

Tree Preservation Orders can be made in the interest of amenity or the environment and allow for the protection of individual or groups of trees, refer to Section 5.8.4.3.

5.2.15 Existing Biodiversity Issues

Ireland is currently experiencing a decline in floral and faunal populations. Implementation of measures to achieve the requirements of the Habitats Directive and the objectives of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) are likely to benefit protected sites in the future.

²⁸ Available at: <http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1995/si/70/made/en/print>

Developments and activities associated with urban developments, tourism and recreation, ports, coastal and fluvial flood defence schemes as well as a wide range of infrastructural works (including road works, water and wastewater disposal) that are located within, or close to, ecologically sensitive sites and species can give rise to significant environmental pressures.

Invasive species have been and to some extent still are a significant challenge in the city. DCC recognised this issue in 2016 when it adopted the Dublin City Invasive Species Action Plan 2016-2020. Actions proceeding from this plan have had considerable success with widespread treatment and removal of Japanese knotweed and Himalayan Balsam from DCC lands in parks and especially along the River Dodder. Control of invasive species is an on-going action.

Existing biodiversity issues / pressures and threats on Ireland's habitats and species, which are also relevant to the Dublin City administrative area, include²⁹:

- **Development** - construction and use of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (For example development on greenfield sites, the construction and development of the road network).
- **Transport systems** - development / operation of the transport systems (For example the construction and development of the road network, port / shipping activities and light and noise pollution).
- **Energy and infrastructure** – development of energy and infrastructure (For example construction of roads, gas, power, water and wastewater, etc.).
- **Biodiversity** - urban pressures, habitat loss, climate change, pollution, invasive species and human behaviour are some of the constant challenges to conserving and restoring biodiversity.
- **Green Infrastructure** - protecting the existing green infrastructure network from fragmentation and loss due to pressures of urban development within and adjoining the network
- **Ecosystem Services** - recognising and promoting the value of ecosystem services that the green infrastructure network provides to the city.
- **Climate Change** - for example the loss of wetlands and dunes, due to climate change events i.e. storms and flood events, deposition.

²⁹ DCHG (2019).

- **Human-induced changes in water regimes** - contamination arising through poor working practices, leakages or accidental spillage of materials. (For example, wastewater treatment systems in the vicinity of significant waterbodies and shellfish waters and un-checked surface water run-off leading to potential water contamination).
- **Mixed source pollution** - for example emissions from transport, heating homes, leachate from landfills, pollution from wastewater treatment systems, eutrophication and acidification.
- **Lighting** - high artificial lighting levels can have detrimental impacts on the occurrence of bat species, particularly light sensitive species such as those species associated with woodland like the Long-eared and Whiskered Bats, or the Daubenton's Bat, which forages over waterbodies.
- **Natural processes** - for example erosion of soft coastal areas (excluding catastrophes and processes induced by human activity).
- **Geological events, natural catastrophes** - for example flooding, storms / extreme weather events.
- **Awareness** - increasing awareness of biodiversity through enhanced interpretation on-site and through visitor facilities.
- **Land Management** - conversion of land / sites and sealing of soils can release CO₂ into the atmosphere and further reduce areas of 'carbon sinks'.
- **Invasive Species** - continued control and management of invasive species.
- **Alien and problematic species** - for example the loss of biodiversity as native species are shaded out, but also diseases and pathogens.

5.3 Population and Human Health

5.3.1 Introduction

Since the adoption of the current Plan, Dublin City has experienced significant population growth and economic development and is home to over half a million people. The city has seen strong performance in the technology and financial services sector and a major international technology hub has developed in Dublin Docklands. There has been a significant increase in housing delivery and employment floor space and the regeneration of a number of key sites across the city.

The RSES identifies that there are some challenges for the region, as there is a need to sustain economic growth whilst transitioning to a low carbon society and the requirement to align population growth with the location of homes, jobs and infrastructural investment whilst creating healthy attractive places and an enhanced quality of life.

5.3.2 Population

The National Planning Framework (NPF) outlines that by 2040 there will be roughly an extra one million people living in Ireland. The NPF identifies a target population of 1.4 million people in Dublin City and Suburbs (this extends beyond the DCC administrative boundary) for 2031, an increase of some 220,000 people, and a target of 1.65m in the Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP), an increase of some 250,000 (18%) people.

The provision of additional housing over the Draft Plan period will be dictated by the Core Strategy that guides where new development should be allocated in accordance with national and regional strategies and policies, including the NPF and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for Eastern and Midland Region.

With a total population of nearly 1.2 million people in 2016, Dublin City and Suburbs accounts for about half of the Eastern & Midland Region's population or a quarter of the national population, as well as being the largest economic contributor in the State³⁰. The metropolitan area of Dublin covers a wider area³¹ and is home to 1.4 million people or three out of five people living in the Region. Between 2006 and 2016 the metropolitan population increased by around 160,000 people or 13%, which was slightly higher than the State, but lower than the average growth rate in the Eastern and Midland Region, which grew by around 15% over the same period.

³⁰ Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly.

³¹ Swords, Malahide, Maynooth, Leixlip, Celbridge, Bray and Greystones.

Since the adoption of the 2016 Development Plan, Dublin City has experienced an upward trend in growth. The 2016 Census results showed that the population for Dublin City was population of 554,554 persons (Census 2016), an increase of 4.6% from the 2011 Census (527,612 persons). The National Planning Framework (NPF) acknowledges the critical role that Dublin City plays in the country's competitiveness and supports Dublin's growth in jobs and population, anticipating that the city and suburbs will accommodate an extra 235,000 to 293,000 people by 2040.

The 2020 CSO population estimate for the Dublin Region was 1,417,700 persons. Dublin City Council's share of the 2016 Census regional population figure for Dublin was approximately 42%. This is an estimated population figure of 595,434 for Dublin City Council in April 2020. This indicates an estimated 7.4 % rise in the population of Dublin City over a four year period from 2016 through to 2020³².

Population growth in the city however, was spatially uneven with the largest proportional increase occurring in Dublin Central (incorporating neighbourhoods such as North Wall, East Wall, Drumcondra and Ballybough) where the population rose by 5,673 (+7.8%). The lowest proportional increase was in Dublin South Central (+2.5%) which incorporates the neighbourhoods including Liberties, Inchicore, Chapelizod, Ballyfermot, Bluebell, Drimnagh, Rialto and Walkinstown. The population of the city is projected to increase (from 2016 census) by between c. 58,500 to 70,500 people up to 2026.

Based on the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2031³³, the 2016 Census, population projections published by the CSO in 2020, the population of Dublin City is expected to increase between 21,350-31,450 persons to an overall population target of between 625,750 and 640,000 by 2028.

³² DCC (2021). Housing Strategy – Draft Plan. Appendix 1.

³³ as amended July 2020

5.3.2.1 Socio-Economic Trends

According to the Census 2016 data, the socio-economic profile of Dublin City has a number of key characteristics. These trends will have implications for how the city grows and develops over the next Plan period:

- In Dublin City, the young dependency ratio was one of the lowest nationally at 20.9%, indicating a low ratio of young people aged up to 14 years to working age people. The total dependency ratio for Dublin City was 39%. This was one of the lowest dependency ratios nationally and notably lower than the State (53%) or neighbouring counties in the Eastern and Midlands Region.
- The proportion of persons over the age of 15 who were at work was 56.4%. In terms of Labour Force participation, rates in Dublin are relatively high at 64.7%. The largest socio-economic group in Dublin City in 2016 was 'Non-manual' which, accounted for 20% of the workforce. 'Own account workers' and 'Unskilled' made up 4% each and were the lowest proportion of all persons. 36.2% of Dublin City residents were classified as employers, managers or professionals in 2016 which was generally in line with South Dublin (36.3%) and the State (35.7%) but below that of Fingal (42.2%) and significantly below that of Dún Laoghaire - Rathdown (56%).
- According to CSO data, there were seven unemployment blackspots within the administrative area of Dublin City³⁴. This places Dublin City as having the third highest number of unemployment blackspots in the State. The average unemployment rate in those seven Dublin City black spots was just over 30% compared to the county unemployment rate of 12.9%.

5.3.3 Human Health

Human health has the potential to be impacted upon by environmental factors such as air, water or soil through which contaminants could accumulate and have potential to cause harm through contact with human beings. Hazards or nuisances to human health can arise due to exposure to these vectors, for example arising from incompatible adjacent land uses. The impact of development on human health is also influenced by the extent to which new development is accompanied by appropriate infrastructure and the maintenance of the quality of water, air and

³⁴ Blackspots are defined as 'Electoral Divisions whose labour force exceeded 200 persons and where the unemployment rate Calculated on a Principal Economic Status basis exceeded 27%.

soil. It is also appreciated that new development or environmental change can elevated stress and effect mental health of local populations.

There are strong links between income and health, as it is recognised that the sustainability of current and future economic activity is an important element in protecting and promoting population health and in reducing poverty and deprivation. However, emphasising economic growth without due regard for social and environmental consequences of such growth can have negative impacts on health both for the population as a whole and for groups within the population.

Access to multiple public transport modes and maximizing the movement of people via sustainable modes (including walking) is important for human health. A shift to using multiple public transport modes, which can incorporate walking, means less energy consumption, fewer emissions and more active, healthy and social communities.

There needs to be particular attention to the environmental issues and sustainability endeavours to protect human health as the local economy develops. While employment is generally good for health, there can be negative impacts, usually related to the quality of the working environment and nature of work undertaken.

External factors, e.g. coronavirus (COVID-19), can also have a major impact on human health - both physical and mental. In public mental health terms, the main psychological impact to date is elevated rates of stress or anxiety and its effects on many people's usual activities, routines or livelihoods³⁵ (i.e. quarantine / cocooning / lockdown, loss of employment, travel / movement restrictions, lack of physical contact with other family members, friends and colleagues and working from home / home-schooling children to mention a few). The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the value of parks as safe places for exercise and social interaction.

The Healthy Ireland, A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2019-2025, the National Physical Activity Plan 2016 and Sport Ireland Participation Plan 2021-2024 set out objectives to increase physical activity levels across the whole population through formal sport and through enabling people to access parks and to walk and cycle to their daily destinations.

³⁵ WHO (2020).

5.3.3.1 Infrastructure / Amenity and Human Health in Dublin City

In Dublin City, green and blue infrastructure alongside playgrounds and sports facilities provide residents, businesses and visitors with important social, physical and environmental benefits including promoting health and wellbeing for all age groups and abilities.

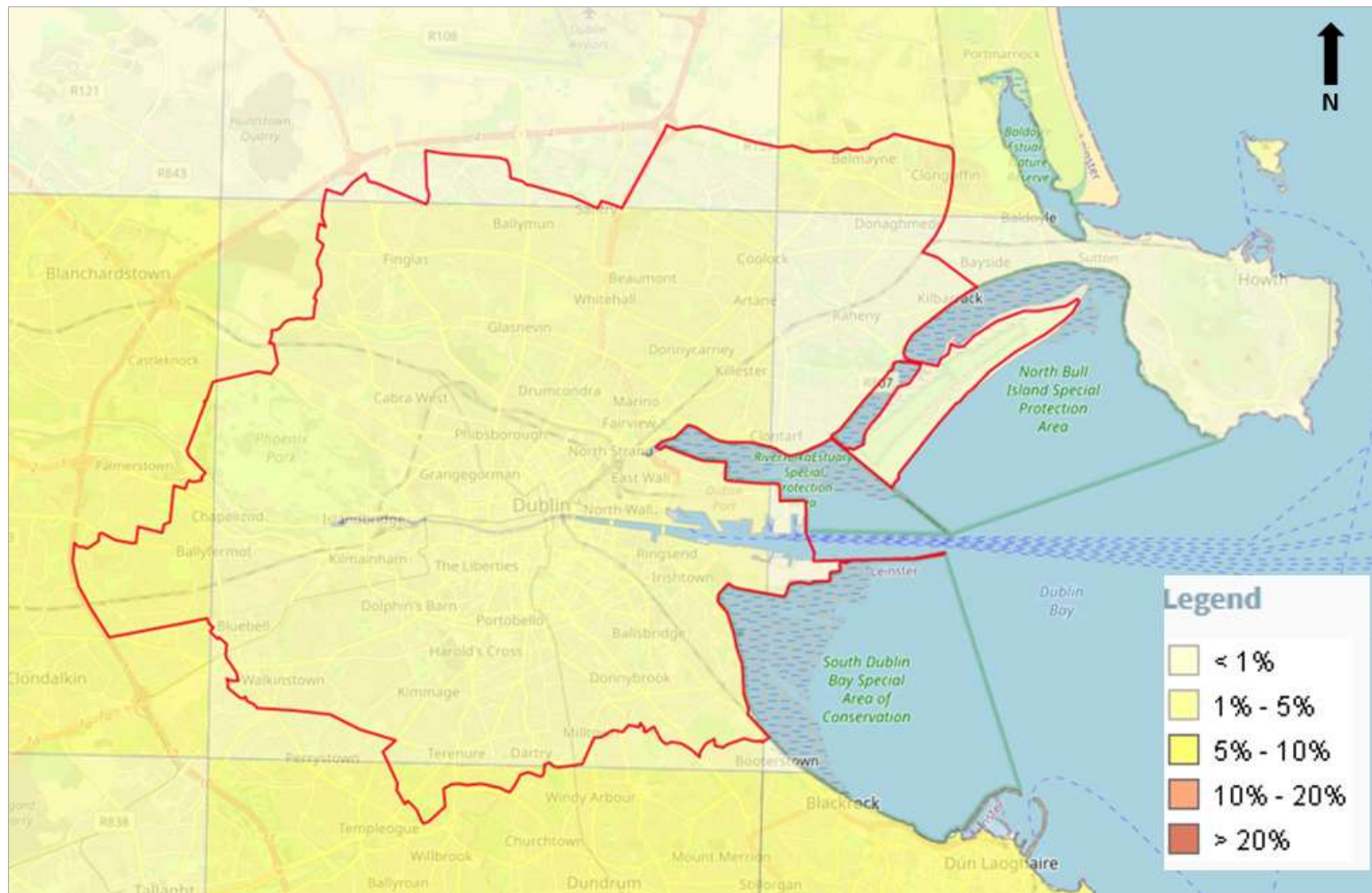
Across the city, DCC provides a wide range of sporting, leisure and community services that supports communities to stay active and exercise in a safe accessible manner. Achievements over the course of the current Plan include new / upgraded tennis courts at Bushy Park, St. Anne's Park, Herbert Park, Rockfield Park, Artane and Courtlands and Whitehall; all-weather pitches and / or astro training surfaces at St. Anne's Park, Bluebell, Kilbarrack, Rockfield Park, Clongriffin, Brickfields Park, Drimnagh, Donaghmede Park, Hertzog Park and Rathgar; new changing rooms have been provided / upgraded at Tolka River Valley Park, Finglas; Santry River Valley Park, Springdale; Poppintree Park, Ballymun, Markievicz Park and Ballyfermot.

DCC will continue to renew and develop sport and recreation facilities throughout the city and support their provision by community and private organisations.

5.3.3.2 Radon and Human Health

The greatest health risk from radiation in Ireland is caused by radon. Radon is a radioactive gas, which is naturally produced in the ground from the uranium present in small quantities in all rocks and soils. Tiny radioactive particles are produced by the gas which when inhaled can cause lung cancer. The risk of contracting lung cancer as a result of Radon depends on how much Radon a person has been exposed to over a period of time.

Figure 5.4: Radon Levels in Dublin City^{36 37}



³⁶ EPA Maps (2021). Source OpenStreet Maps.

³⁷ This map shows a prediction of the number of homes in a given grid square that exceed the national Reference Level. Grid squares in which the predicted percentage of homes is 10% or greater are called High Radon Areas.

5.3.4 Population and Human Health Issues

The EPA's latest report, Ireland's Environment - An Integrated Assessment 2020³⁸, reveals that the overall quality of Ireland's environment is not what it should be, and the outlook is not optimistic. Such challenges outlined in the report include the protection of health and wellbeing, but also the greater awareness about the positive benefits of a clean environment for health and wellbeing.

The COVID-19 crisis that began in March 2020, has highlighted the importance of the natural environment in our local areas. The limitations and social distancing requirements brought about as a result of COVID-19 have further highlighted the continuing need for the provision and access to these assets in our urban areas.

Existing population and human health issues / pressures on the population of the Dublin City administrative area, include:

- **Population / Households** - there is an increasing demand for housing units in the city.
- **Flooding** - Dublin City is vulnerable to fluvial and coastal flooding events which occur as a result of storm events, see Section 5.5.9 of this report.
- **Underutilised Lands** - large areas of the city that are well served by existing / proposed infrastructure and public transport remain undeveloped or underdeveloped. Concentrations of underutilised lands are evident in a number of areas of the city (Liberties, North-East Inner City³⁹).
- **Inner City** - ongoing issues of dereliction and urban decay particularly in the inner city.
- **Inner City** - ensuring that the inner city and suburbs are neighbourhoods that offer a choice of homes for a diverse mix of households and communities and aligning the provision of appropriate physical and social infrastructure, including green infrastructure, with future development and areas of consolidation and intensification.
- **Radon** - radon levels in the city have been collated from the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland and are shown in Figure 5.4.
- **Health and Well-being** - addressing deficits of green space due to the historic development of the city and retrofitting green infrastructure into existing built-up areas.

³⁸ EPA (2020a).

³⁹ DCC (2020f).

- **Access** - locating / developing access to lands presently not being used to facilitate community and allotment gardening in the city. The 'Access to and the use of Blue / Green Spaces in Ireland during a Pandemic' study highlighted significant differences between socio-economic groups in relation to the amount of time spent outdoors in blue / green spaces during the pandemic with the lowest income group reporting the lowest average number of days.
- **Climate Change** - potential impacts of climate change on human health from changes to local weather, including prolonged periods of hot or cold weather - which can lead to heat and cold stresses and their associated effects.
- **Climate Change** - ensuring the long-term resilience of the city centre to climate change and ensuring that it is as a place where people can and want to live and work.

5.4 Soils and Geology

5.4.1 Introduction

Land is the solid surface of the Earth that is not permanently covered by water, while soil is the ecosystem in the uppermost layer of the ground in which plants can grow. Soil is composed of mineral particles, organic matter, water, air and living organisms⁴⁰. Land degradation is a global problem, often caused by a combination of factors such as poor land management and unsustainable development. Land degradation may exacerbate the impacts of natural disasters⁴¹.

The upper most layer of the earth's surface is generally termed '**soil**'. It comprises for the most part organic matter, minerals and fine to course grained weathered rocks. The variability in the constituent parts and the percentage content of each in the soil matrix results in differing characteristics. This has implications for suitable land use and the appropriateness for differing land use practices.

Geology encompasses the understanding and study of the solid and liquid matter that constitutes the earth and the processes by which they are formed, moved and changed. Its understanding is necessary to fully appreciate the geological factors that shape and influence the world and its particular structure.

5.4.2 Legislation

Currently, there is no legislation which is specific to the protection of soil resources. In 2014, the proposal for a Soil Framework Directive was withdrawn. The importance of sustainable soil management was recognised in the Seventh Environment Action Programme, where sustainable land management is to be achieved by 2020.

The Pesticides Framework Directive (2009/128/EC) controls the storage, use and disposal of pesticides to minimise risk to health and environment from their usage.

5.4.3 Soils

Soil is a non-renewable resource that performs many vital functions: food, storage, filtration and transformation of many substances including water, carbon, and nitrogen.

⁴⁰ European Commission (2021).

⁴¹ European Commission (2021).

The soil cover in Dublin is derived from glacial till of Irish Sea origin, with limestone and shale and is largely comprised of 'grey-brown podzolics'⁴². Lighter-textured 'grey-brown podzolics' are good all-purpose soils, while heavier-textured members are highly suited to pasture production, responding well to manurial and management practices. The coast of Dublin has a layer of alluvium overlying the topsoil, which is a result of the low-lying status of the city. This sequence of soils remains only in undisturbed areas of the coast. As Dublin is a built-up city, much of the topsoil and alluvium has been removed.

However, inner city soils typically have higher levels of potentially harmful elements and organic pollutants than areas towards the outer city. This is due to the historical industrial activities as well as fossil fuel burning and use of leaded paints and fuels. Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are also present in the soil, reflecting historic coal burning and other historic industrial emissions, as well as more modern transport-related emissions. The presence of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) is likely associated with historic industrial activities and paint particles in the soil⁴³.

The majority of soils in Dublin City are characterised under the Soil Information System (SIS) as 'urban' soils, i.e., soils that have been disturbed, moved and manipulated by human activities, see Figure 5.5. Urban soils are generally overlain by a non-agricultural, man-made layer formed from mixing, infilling or contamination by industrial uses. At the fringes of the city, the soil is characterised as fine, loamy drift with limestones and siliceous stones, particularly underlying the Phoenix Park, with river and lake alluviums in the Tolka and Liffey valleys, see Figure 5.6.

The potential for disturbance of soils during infrastructural development can lead to the loss of soils along with compaction of soils due to operations of heavy machinery. Loss of soils and sediment to water courses can lead to sediment issues such as an increase in suspended solids, which can impact on water quality. Human activity is also a significant driver of soil degradation through poor or inappropriate land management practices.

5.4.3.1 Infilled / Reclaimed Land

A significant portion of Dublin City is built on infilled or reclaimed land. The reclamation began back in the eighteenth century.

⁴² Geological Survey, Ireland (GSI).

⁴³ DCC (2016).

- The North Docklands were reclaimed between 1717 and 1729.
- North Lotts and East Wall were reclaimed by the end of the 1750s.
- A bank was constructed along the present South Lotts Road by 1760. The area between these banks was gradually reclaimed together with adjoining areas of the Dodder Estuary.
- A 1km stretch of land between the City centre and the River Dodder was reclaimed between 1917 and 1927.
- The dry dock between the Grand Canal Dock and the Dodder was filled in 1918. Reclamation continued progressively in an easterly direction from the beginning of the nineteenth century.

Many of the city's parks were built over landfill sites, including Ringsend Park, Fairview Park and Tolka Valley Park.

5.4.3.2 Contaminated Soils

In the absence of mitigation, contaminated materials have the potential to adversely impact upon human health, water quality and biodiversity including habitats and species. Due to the mixture of historic industrial land uses and land reclamation in Dublin, there are some contaminated sites which can cause environmental problems.

Much of this contaminated land lies within the Docklands area where there is a range of potential contaminants within the fill material used in land reclamation, such as builders' rubble, ash and possibly hazardous waste. Contaminated land requires appropriate remediation of the site prior to any development, ensuring there is no migration of contaminated material during remediation or measures to handle landfill gases.

Disturbance of contaminated soils in urban areas like Dublin City, especially sites of historic contamination / or brownfield / industrial lands could result in potential for water pollution and further potential land contamination. Likewise potential exists for contamination to arise via leaks from ESB Networks Fluid Filled Underground Electricity Cables⁴⁴.

⁴⁴ EPA (2020j).

5.4.3.3 Extractive Industries

Extractive industries by their nature can give rise to detrimental environmental and residential amenity effects including traffic generation, vibration, dust, noise, water pollution, visual intrusion and loss of groundwater supplies.

There are no active extractive industries / quarries in Dublin City. There were a number of small quarries in the outer city suburbs that closed in the past 50-60 years as housing expanded. These include sites at: Cabra (Quarry Road), Crumlin (Sundrive Park), Kimmage Road Lower, Kilmainham and Artane. Rockfield Park in Artane was named by residents after old quarry excavations in the area.

5.4.3.4 Seveso Sites

The Seveso III Directive (European Directive 2012/18/EU) and the European Communities (Control of Major Accident Hazards Involving Dangerous Substances Regulations, 2000 (S.I. No. 476 of 2000) apply to companies where dangerous substances are present in quantities equal to or above specified thresholds.

COMAH (Seveso) establishments are recognised as posing an identified risk to public and environmental health and safety, and are regulated by the Health and Safety Authority (HSA). The HSA advise planning authorities on the consultation distance relating to each establishment in order to inform their forward planning and development management activities.

There are two thresholds, a lower one of 50 tonnes ('lower tier sites') and a higher one of 200 tonnes ('upper tier sites'). Lower tier sites are required to have a Major Accidents Prevention Policy and a Safe Work Systems Plan. Upper tier sites are required to carry out, in conjunction with the local competent authority (which includes the Health Service Executive (HSE), the Local Authority and An Garda Síochána) a Major Accidents External Emergency Plan.

In the DCC administrative area there are eight Upper Tier sites and six Lower Tier sites⁴⁵. A further three sites (one Upper and two Lower) are located outside the DCC administrative area, but are within the consultation zone distance of lands within the city, which is the area where planning applications must be referred to the Health & Safety Authority (HSA) and are within development distance of Dublin City. Refer to Table 5.3.

⁴⁵ HSA (2021).

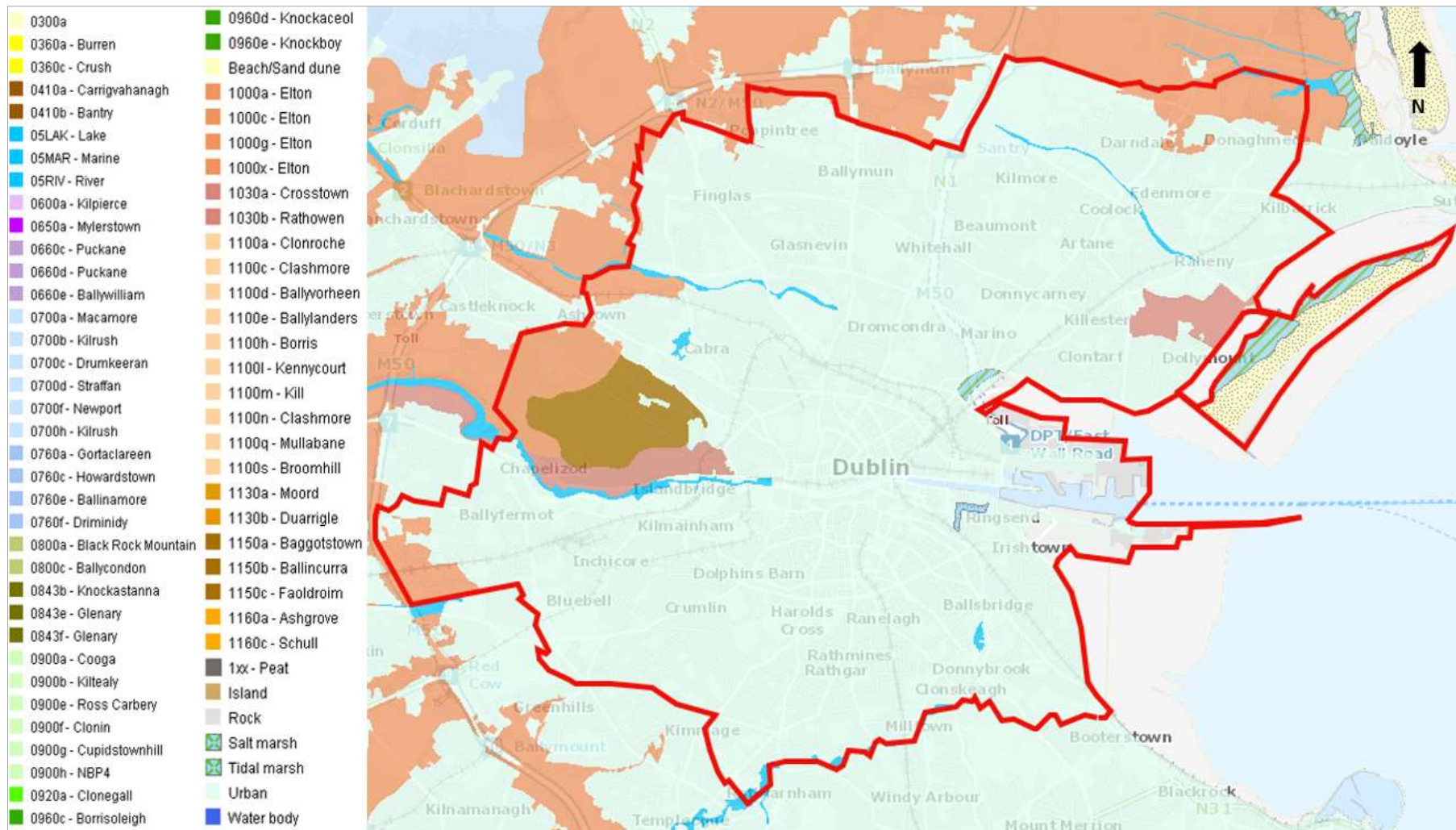
Table 5.3: Seveso Sites in Dublin City Administrative Area

Upper Tier Seveso Sites	
Site Name	Address
Calor Teoranta / Calor Gas	Tolka Quay, Dublin Port, Dublin 1
Fareplay Energy Ltd. / Circle K Energy Ltd.	Fareplay Terminal Dublin, Promenade Road, Dublin Port, Dublin 3
Indaver Ireland Ltd.	Tolka Quay Road, Dublin Port, Dublin 1
Tedcastles Oil Products	Yard 1, Promenade Road, Parish of St. Thomas, Dublin 3
Tedcastles Oil Products / TOP Oil	Yard 2, Tolka Quay Road, Dublin Port, Dublin 1
National Oil Reserves Agency Ltd. / NORA	Shellybanks Road, Ringsend, Dublin 4
National Oil Reserves Agency Ltd. / NORA	Poolbeg Tankfarm, Pigeon House Road, Dublin 4
Valero Energy Ireland Ltd.	Dublin Joint Fuels Terminal, Alexandra Road, Dublin Port, Dublin 1
Lower Tier Seveso Sites	
Circle K / Fareplay Energy Ltd.	Terminal 1, Alexandra Road, Dublin Port, Dublin 1
Circle K / Fareplay Energy Ltd.	Yard 3, Alexandra Road, Dublin Port, Dublin 1
Electricity Supply Board	North Wall Generating Station, Alexandra Road, Dublin 1
Synergen Ltd. t/a ESB Dublin Bay Power	Pigeon House Road, Ringsend, Dublin 4
Iarnród Éireann	Alexandra Road, Dublin Port, North Wall, Dublin 1
Iarnród Éireann	Iarnród Éireann Maintenance Works, Inchicore, Dublin 8
Sites Outside DCC Boundary but within Consultation Distance of DCC	
BOC Gases Ireland Ltd. (Upper Tier)	PO Box 201, Bluebell Industrial Estate, Dublin 12
Kayfoam Woolfson (Lower Tier)	Bluebell Industrial Estate, Bluebell Avenue, Naas Road, Dublin 12
Irish Distillers Ltd. / Pernod Ricard (Lower Tier)	Robinhood Road, Fox & Geese, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

5.4.3.5 Landslides

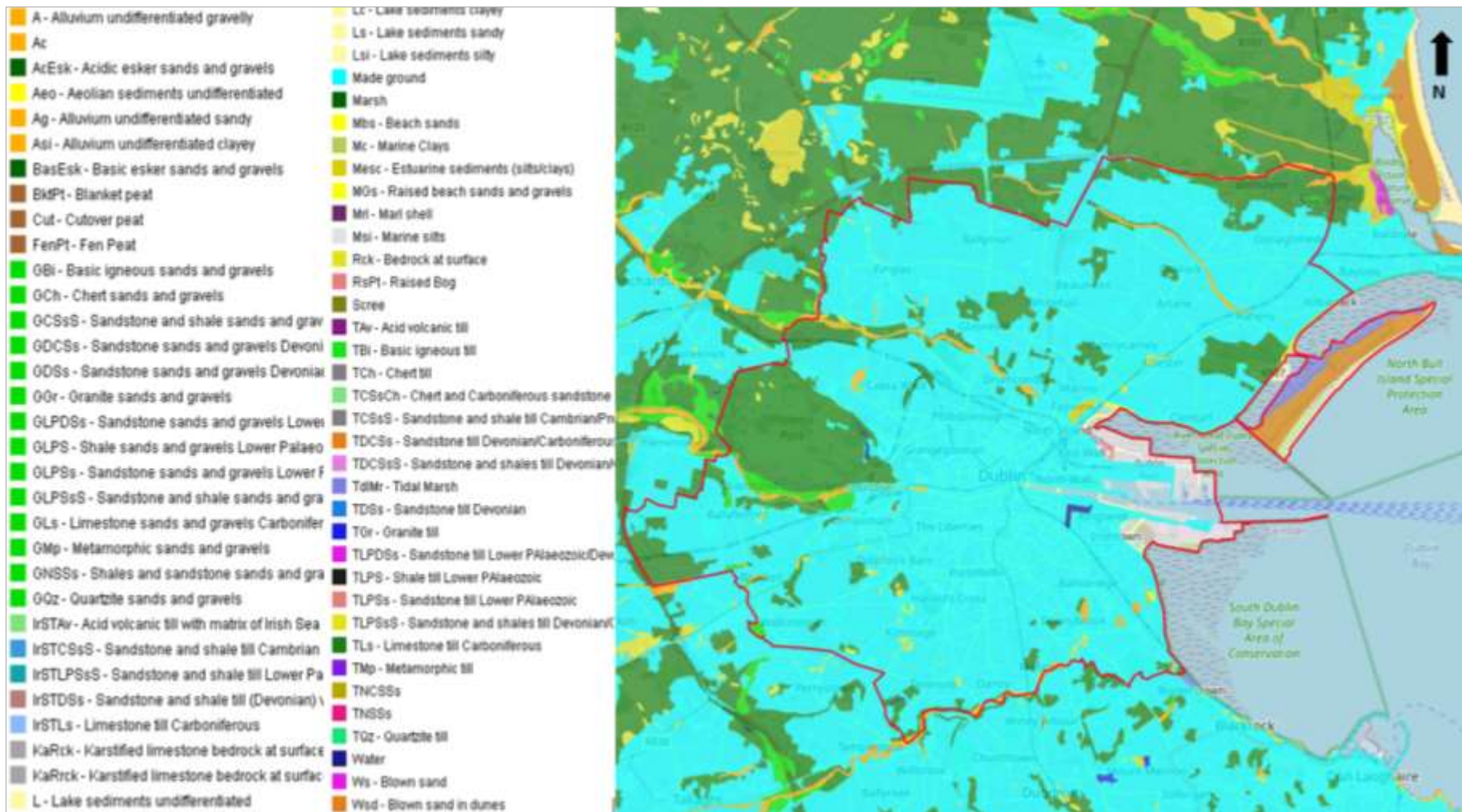
Dublin City has a low landslide risk as much of the city is, by its nature, has made ground. According to Geological Survey, Ireland landslide susceptibility mapping, the majority of the city has zero landslide susceptibility, with the risk rising to 'low' at the outskirts of the city and heading outside the administrative boundary. There are small patches of 'moderate' landslide susceptibility along the southwest edges of the Phoenix Park. There are no recorded landslides within the Dublin City boundary. Refer to Figure 5.7.

Figure 5.5: Soil Information System (SIS) National Soils Map for Dublin City⁴⁶



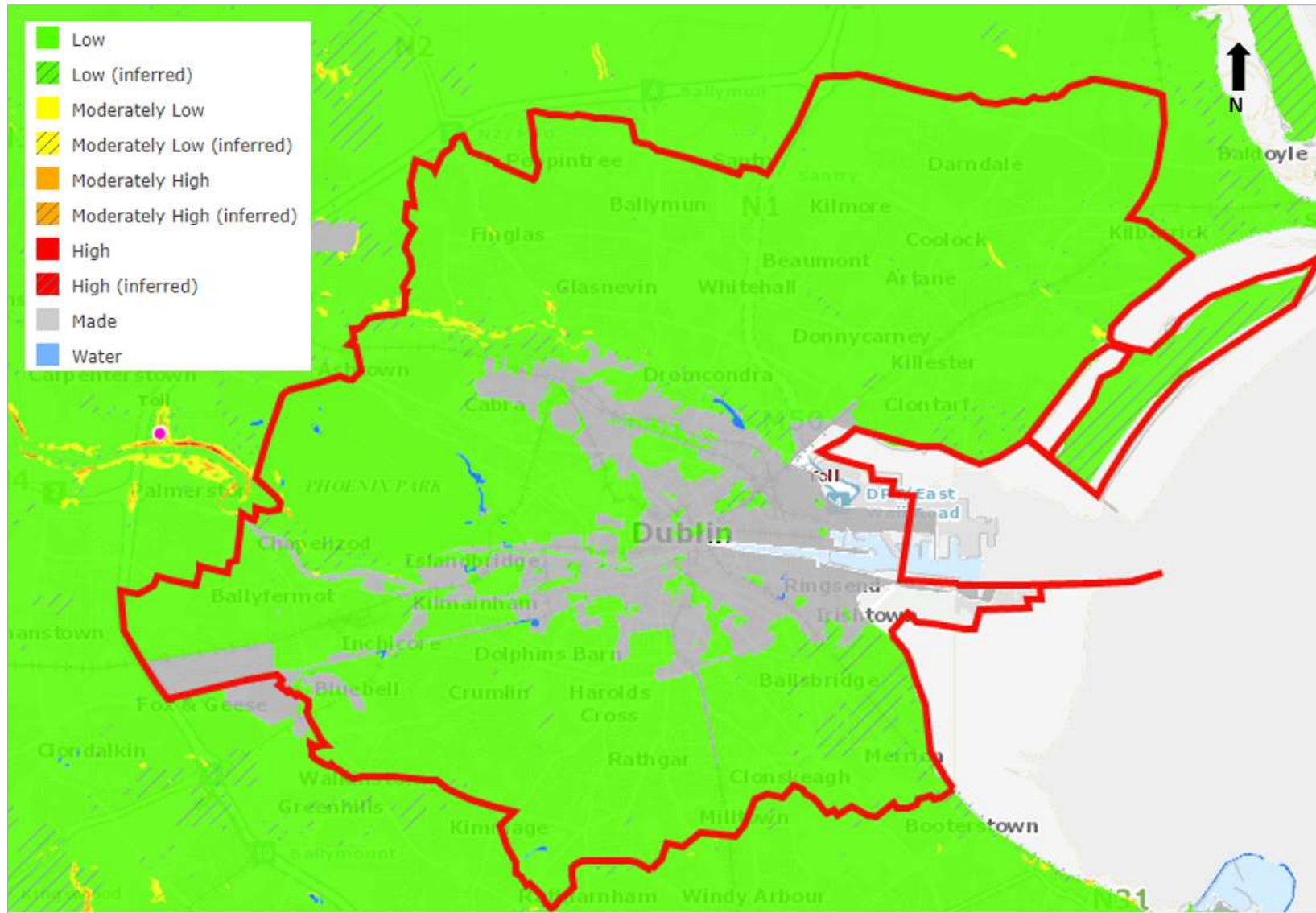
⁴⁶ GEOHIVE Environmental Sensitivity Mapping (2021).

Figure 5.6: Teagasc Subsoils Map for Dublin City⁴⁷



⁴⁷ EPA Maps (2021). Source OpenStreet Maps.

Figure 5.7: GSI Landslide Susceptibility for Dublin City⁴⁸



⁴⁸ GEOHIVE. Environmental Sensitivity Mapping (2021).

5.4.4 Geology

Geological Survey, Ireland (GSI) provides information available on bedrock, subsoil, aquifer classifications and vulnerability. Numerous natural factors influence the composition of soils, notably bedrock, climate and topography. Geological understanding and interpretation is best achieved on the ground at sites where rocks and landforms are displayed.

The landscape of Dublin has been largely defined by the bedrock formations of the area, with limestone to the north and granite to the south. The more easily solubilised, less resilient limestone has eroded gradually, leaving a well-defined bay. The bay is restricted to the north and south where the limestone meets more resistant rocks (granite to the south and shale and conglomerate to the north). The changes in the bedrock geology are fault-controlled to the south of the bay. A large fault, known as the Rathcoole Fault, forms the southern margin of the basin where there is an unconformity between the granite and the limestone. To the north of the bay, there is a natural succession from the muddy limestones to the north into the calp limestone around the area of Sutton Cross.

Much of Dublin is dominated by rocks of Carboniferous age. During the early Carboniferous period, the eastern part of Ireland underwent uplift and erosion. Following this, there was a period of general subsidence in the area. This subsidence permitted the sea to invade the lower ground from the south during the Carboniferous age. Continued subsidence resulted in shallow and then deeper marine sediments accumulating across most of Dublin City and the county. The depth of the sea and type of seabed varied from place to place, as did the rate of sedimentation and so a variety of carbonate sediments were produced in the area.

The calp limestone, which covers most of Dublin, was deposited in the basins that formed over 300 million years ago. Thick sequences of muds and muddy limestones accumulated in the basins, sometimes showing graded bedding. The calp Limestone itself is comprised of dark grey, fine-grained, graded limestone with interbedded black, poorly fossilised shales.

Most of the Carboniferous rock, i.e., the limestone forms low ground and is covered by a thick layer of Quaternary (2.6 million years ago to present) sediments. The deposits along the northern section of the bay are predominantly sand overlying gravels and clay. As one moves towards the city centre, the depth of the deposits increases and depths of 10m or greater of sands, gravels and estuarine muds have been recorded in Ringsend and East Wall.

The Irish Geological Heritage (IGH) Programme is currently identifying and selecting the very best national sites for Natural Heritage Area (NHA) designation, to represent the country's geology. The IGH is also identifying many sites of national or local geological heritage importance, which are classed as County Geological Sites (CGS), although these will not receive statutory protection of NHA sites. CGS do not receive statutory protection like Natural Heritage Areas (NHA) but receive an effective protection from their inclusion in the planning system. Some of these sites overlap with SACs and some are already pNHAs.

The audit of County Geological Sites in Dublin City was completed in 2014, which identifies 12 no. geological sites of interest in the city. CGSs represent sites of particular local or national geological importance and are adopted under the National Heritage Plan; however, these sites are not covered by the statutory protection of Natural Heritage Areas. CGSs represent important aspects of geological heritage conservation. The list of County Geological Sites for protection is set out in Table 5.4 below.

Table 5.4: Geological Heritage Sites in Dublin City⁴⁹

No.	IGH ⁵⁰ Theme	Site Name	Description
1	IGH7 Quaternary, IGH14 Fluvial and Lacustrine Geomorphology, IGH16 Hydrogeology	Phoenix Park	This site forms an extensive, 707 hectare natural landscape within the confines of the City of Dublin.
2	IGH 8 Lower Carboniferous, IGH 14 Fluvial and Lacustrine Geomorphology	River Dodder	A weir built on natural exposures of thick limestone beds in the channel of the River Dodder.
3	IGH13 Coastal Geomorphology	North Bull Island	North Bull Island, about 5km long and 800m wide, is located in Dublin Bay, lying roughly parallel to the shore off Clontarf (including Dollymount), Raheny, Kilbarrack, and facing Sutton. The island, as well as the beach known as Dollymount Strand running its entire length, is a very recent, and inadvertent, result of human intervention in the bay in the last 200 years.
4	IGH14 Fluvial and Lacustrine Geomorphology	River Poddle	This site comprises a river which flows northwards through Dublin City and into the Liffey; most of its course has been diverted underground. The river flows across low permeability glacial till along its course, having formed in postglacial times over the last 11,000 years.
5	IGH 15 Economic Geology	Glasnevin Cemetery	Very large public cemetery of 120 acres. The cemetery was first used in 1832, and has been in constant use since. The rocks used in gravestones and memorials are of many different types and ages.
6	IGH 15 Economic Geology	GPO (General Post Office)	The General Post Office Building in the centre of O'Connell Street.

⁴⁹ GSI (2021).⁵⁰ Irish Geological Heritage

No.	IGH ⁵⁰ Theme	Site Name	Description
			This is a Georgian building of modern historical vintage, opened in the early 1800s. The marble panelling of note here was fitted in 1928 during restoration of the building following the damage done during the 1916 Rising.
7	IGH 15 Economic Geology	Museum Building, TCD	The Museum building of Trinity College Dublin, in particular the original interior. The building was completed in 1857.
8	IGH 15 Economic Geology	Oscar Wilde Statue	A life size statue of Oscar Wilde, on Merrion Square, made of sculpted rocks, placed on top of a very large boulder of quartz. An extremely striking statue of Oscar Wilde is an artwork in its own right. It is of particular geological interest because the life size statue is almost entirely made of different ornamental rock types, fashioned to create a realistic representation.
9	IGH 15 Economic Geology	51 St. Stephen's Green	The entrance lobby of the building is original from mid 1800s, and displays a demonstration set of Irish marbles. The lobby of the present day offices at 51 St. Stephen's Green is the original entrance for what was the Museum of Irish Industry, sited here although the building has been remodelled behind the facade. The lobby contains large polished panels of numerous Irish marbles and polished building stones, which are of many different geological ages.
10	IGH 15 Economic Geology	Dublin City Walls	Three remaining sections of the Medieval city walls of Dublin City. The walls are composed of local Calp limestone of Carboniferous age, but built between 1100 and 1125, also incorporating some later historic re-facings and additions including the 20th Century addition of a crenelated parapet at Cook Street.
11	IGH 16 Hydrogeology	Temple Bar Street Well	An historic street well in the middle of Temple Bar. The Temple Bar Street Well is thought to date from between 1680 and 1720, and was dug to supply freshwater for the local inhabitants of the city, which had become protected by embankments. The water was groundwater that flowed into this area of previously saline groundwater.
12	IGH 16 Hydrogeology	Guinness Wells	The Guinness Brewery has always depended upon the availability of water. It requires water for the product and the processes in making beer. Water was also required for transport of raw materials to the brewery, and distribution of product within Ireland and for export overseas. There were several historic sources of water near the site; the River Liffey, the River Camac and the City Basins fed by water from the Grand Canal. However, Guinness' realised that river and canal water quality was

No.	IGH ⁵⁰ Theme	Site Name	Description
			<p>variable. They made significant efforts to obtain a high quality water supply from the groundwater system below their site. They started in the 19th Century digging wells and drilling boreholes. There were at least eight historic wells and boreholes on the site. One borehole was a major feat of Victorian technology. Over several years they excavated a borehole down to 1,531.5 feet below Ordnance Datum (Poolbeg) about 85 metres north of Market Street. This is probably still the deepest water supply borehole constructed in the country. Even with this great depth, the yield of water from the Calp Limestone was relatively small. It is reported that they obtained a yield of 1000 gallons per hour. Guinness’ dug and bored several wells into the coarse permeable gravels associated with the modern and palaeo channels of the River Liffey. One of these composite wells in the northern part of the site has recently been brought back into use. It is called the Cooperage Well. It currently provides a yield of 22,000 gallons per hour or 100 cubic metres per hour.</p>

5.4.5 Soils and Geology Issues

Changes to land and soils from both natural processes and human activities contribute to their dynamic and evolving nature. The physical, biological and / or chemical degradation of soils, can cause direct loss of soil, and indirectly impact ecologically essential soil processes, reduce productive capacity and deplete soil quality and biodiversity.

Existing soil and geology issues / pressures and threats on land within the Dublin City administrative area, include:

- **Soil** - the loss / damage of soil from the construction of sites for development.
- **Soil** - contamination can occur from unauthorised waste-related activities, leakages and accidental spillages of chemicals. Technical and financial constraints on development and the threat contaminated soils pose to the health of the population.
- **Soil** - disturbance of contaminated soils could result in potential for water pollution and potential further land contamination.
- **Soil** - pressure from land-use change, erosion, disposal of organic wastes to soils, industry and urbanisation.
- **Soil sealing** - covering of the ground by an impermeable material. Soil sealing can potentially put biodiversity at risk, increase the risk of flooding and prevents natural drainage.
- **Land Management** - conversion of land / sites can release CO₂ into the atmosphere and further reduce areas of 'carbon sinks'.
- **Geological Heritage** - the protection of sites of geological importance within the city, see Table 5.4.
- **Climate Change** - carbon stored in soils plays an important role in maintaining soil functionality, in water and air quality and in climate change. Proper land use management is essential to prevent carbon stored in soil from being released into the atmosphere.
- **Groundwater** - rock types in the city area that provides for a productive groundwater aquifer.

5.5 Water Quality

5.5.1 Introduction

Water is fundamental to all life; for humans, plants and animals alike. It is also critical in economic terms in generating and sustaining wealth in a number of key areas such as fishing, power generation, industry, transport and tourism. However, it is also a fragile resource requiring continued protection.

Nearly half of the surface waters in Ireland are failing to meet the legally binding water quality objectives set by the EU Water Framework Directive because of pollution and other human disturbance⁵¹. The 2021 EPA (Water Quality in 2020, An Indicators Report) assessment of water quality in Ireland, finds that surface waters and groundwater's continue to be under pressure from human activity; particularly from nitrogen and phosphorous from urban wastewater discharges and agriculture⁵².

For the purposes of this section, the water environment is taken to include natural features such as **lakes, rivers, streams** (all surface waterbodies) and **ground waterbodies**. In addition **flooding** is also dealt with in this section. Wastewater treatment and drinking water are discussed under Material Assets in Section 5.9.

Larger rivers such as the River Liffey, Tolka and Dodder have had a considerable impact on the landscape of the city. While sections of smaller rivers such as the Camac, Santry and Nanniken have been culverted, open channel sections make a positive contribution to biodiversity value of local parks and the river corridor in the city. The city's rivers and canals and their riparian zones form important elements of the city's green infrastructure network. These waterways and their riparian zones serve as wildlife corridors and aquatic habitats, floodplains, green spaces, the setting for heritage features / development, areas of beauty and tranquillity and a means of connection in the city. Many facilitate river focused amenity, sports and riverside cycle and walkways.

Dublin City also has a number of transitional waterbodies (estuaries) and the entirety of Dublin City's coastline falls within Dublin Bay. Dublin City has no natural lakes.

⁵¹ EPA (2020a).

⁵² EPA (2021j).

DCC is responsible for surface water management and aquifer protection in the city, with the Office of Public Works (OPW) having responsibility for flood risk management.

5.5.2 Legislation

5.5.2.1 Water Framework Directive (WFD)

The EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) (2000/60/EC) establishes a framework for the protection of both surface water and groundwater waterbodies. This Directive was transposed into Irish law under the European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations 2003 (S.I. No. 722 of 2003). This legislation requires governments to take a holistic approach to managing all their water resources based on natural geographic boundaries, i.e. the river catchment or basin.

The WFD establishes a common framework for the sustainable and integrated management of all waters covering groundwater, inland surface waters, transitional waters and coastal waters. The WFD requires Member States to manage all of their waters and ensure that they achieve at least 'good status' by 2015 and beyond. The ultimate deadline for Member States for achievement of 'good' status is 2027 at the latest.

5.5.2.2 Groundwater Directive

The EU Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) was adopted by the European Parliament in June 2006. The Groundwater Directive uses a holistic approach to groundwater by addressing the relationships between groundwater, surface water and ecological receptors. The Groundwater Directive complements the WFD setting up environmental objectives of 'good' groundwater quantitative and chemical status, as well as ensuring a continuity to the Directive 80/68/EEC on the protection of groundwater against pollution caused by dangerous substances.

5.5.3 River Basin Management Plan

For the purpose of implementing the WFD, Ireland was divided into eight River Basin Districts (RBDs) or areas of land that are drained by a large river or number of rivers and the adjacent estuarine / coastal areas. The first cycle of the **River Basin Management Plan (RBMP)** ran from **2009-2015**, where the eight RBDs devised separate plans with the objective of achieving at least 'good' status for all waters by 2015.

The second cycle of the **RBMP 2018-2021**, is currently underway and all eight RBDs have merged to form one national RBD. The RBMP sets out the actions that Ireland will take to improve water

quality and achieve ‘good’ ecological status in waterbodies (rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal waters) by 2027.

Water quality data is also collected by the EPA to provide an overall status of water quality. The monitoring programme, as part of the WFD, assesses water quality but also water trends of rivers in relation to their ecological status and includes biological, physico-chemical and hydro-morphological status. The WFD status of rivers ranges from ‘high’ to ‘bad’. The EPA also undertakes water quality surveys for transitional and coastal waterbodies.

A catchment is an area of land contributing to a waterbody, with all the water ultimately running off to a single outlet. The WFD requires water quality management to be based on natural river catchments i.e. by reference to the natural, environmental unit rather than by reference to administrative or legal boundaries, which often fragment river catchments. Table 5.5 lists the WFD Catchments and WFD Sub-Catchments in the Plan Area.

Table 5.5: WFD Catchments and Sub-Catchments in the Plan Area⁵³

Catchment (WFD Catchment Code)	Sub-catchment Name (WFD Sub-catchment Code)
Liffey and Dublin Bay (09)	Mayne_SC_010
	Tolka_SC_020
	Liffey_SC_100
	Liffey_SC_090
	Dodder_SC_010

⁵³ EPA Maps (2021).

5.5.4 Surface Water Quality Status

The WFD defines ‘overall surface water status’ as the general status of a body of **surface water**, determined by the poorer of its ecological status and its chemical status. In order to achieve ‘good surface water status’ both the ecological status⁵⁴ and the chemical status⁵⁵ of a surface waterbody need to be at least ‘good’.

The latest EPA reports on water quality are the ‘Water Quality in Ireland 2013-2018’ report (2019) and ‘Water Quality in 2020 - An Indicators Report’ (2021). These reports contains the most up-to-date and comprehensive assessments of the ecological health of Ireland’s rivers, lakes, canals, ground waters, transitional waters and coastal waters collected over a six-year period between 2013-2018 and 2020.

The last full EPA assessment of water quality (Water Quality in Ireland 2013-2018) found that just over half of the rivers and lakes were in satisfactory ecological health and overall water quality had declined since the previous assessment.

The latest EPA report (2021)⁵⁶ results show that 57.0% of river waterbodies assessed (1,336), over the period 207-2020, were in in either ‘good’ or ‘high’ biological quality. The remaining 43.0% (1,019) were ‘moderate’, ‘poor’, or of ‘bad’ biological quality⁵⁷. The number of seriously polluted ‘bad’ status river waterbodies has reduced to two. Of the 1,836 (out of 2,355) river waterbodies assessed in 2019 and 2020, 345 improved in quality and 230 declined, resulting in net improvement in quality of 115 river waterbodies⁵⁸. The main problem damaging Irish waters is the presence of too much nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen which come primarily from agriculture and urban wastewater.

The EPA report indicates that of the monitored **transitional waterbodies**, 30 transitional waterbodies (38%) are in ‘high’ or ‘good’ ecological status and 49 (62%) are in ‘moderate’ or worse

⁵⁴ **Ecological status** is an expression of the structure and functioning of aquatic ecosystems associated with surface waters.

⁵⁵ **Chemical Status** is a pass/fail assignment with a failure defined by a face-value exceedance of an Environmental Quality Standards (EQS) for one or more Priority Action Substances (PAS) listed in Annex X of the Water Framework Directive (WFD).

⁵⁶ EPA (2021j).

⁵⁷ EPA (2021j).

⁵⁸ EPA (2021j).

ecological status. Six of these waterbodies are in ‘bad’ ecological status and 14 are in ‘poor’ ecological status.

The EPA report indicates that for **coastal waters**, 36 monitored coastal waterbodies (80%) are in ‘high’ or ‘good’ ecological status, with nine (20%) at less than ‘good’ status. The majority (93%) of the surface area of coastal waters are in ‘high’ or ‘good’ ecological status.

5.5.4.1 Surface Water Quality Status in Dublin City

The WFD status of the **river waterbodies** in Dublin City ranges from ‘moderate’ to ‘poor’ during the 2017-2020 monitoring period. The EPA (2021), ‘Water Quality in 2020 - An Indicators Report’, report indicates that in Dublin City, 1% of its rivers had a ‘moderate’ status⁵⁹. However, there are a number river waterbodies that are ‘unassigned’, as their waterbodies status is under review.

Dublin City rivers are not achieving ‘good ecological status’ as per the WFD, due to a number of factors including upstream pollution, sewer overflows / misconnections and urban runoff. In addition, urban development and historic alterations to rivers has altered the natural banks and contours of river valleys and thus allowed for the rapid and increased movement of water / pollutants into rivers leading to the loss of water quality, biodiversity and increasing the potential for flooding. The main rivers in Dublin City are the:

- River Liffey;
- River Tolka;
- River Santry;
- River Dodder; and
- River Camac.

The **River Liffey** is the main river that flows through Dublin City. The source of the River Liffey is located in Wicklow and the river drains lands in Wicklow, Kildare, South Dublin, Fingal and Dublin City. The River Liffey links Dublin Bay to the Phoenix Park and to the wider region and has important civic, amenity, ecological, historical and cultural connections. The River Liffey water quality status ranges from ‘moderate’ to unassigned as it flows through Dublin City in an eastern direction.

⁵⁹ EPA (2021j).

The **River Tolka** rises near Dunshaughlin in Co. Meath and flows in a south-easterly direction for c. 14 miles before entering the sea at Clontarf on the north side of Dublin City. The River Tolka water quality status ranges from 'poor' to unassigned as it flows through Dublin City.

The source of the **River Santry** is near Harristown and Dubber in North Dublin and flows in a south-easterly direction before it reaches the sea at the eastern "lagoon" behind North Bull Island. The River Santry water quality status ranges from 'poor' to unassigned as it flows through Dublin City.

The source of the **River Dodder** is located just inside Wicklow, and drains lands in South Dublin, Dún Laoghaire - Rathdown and Dublin City. The River Dodder water quality status is 'moderate' as it flows in a northern direction through Dublin City.

The source of the **River Camac** is in South Dublin, but also drains lands in Dublin City. The River Camac water quality status is 'poor' as it flows in a north-easterly direction through Dublin City to the River Liffey at Heuston, refer to Figure 5.8.

Other river corridors within the city include, the River Poddle, River Nanniken and the River Mayne, refer to Figure 5.8.

The Liffey, the Dodder, and the Tolka, support healthy stocks of various fish species, including the salmonid species, trout and salmon. The return of the latter species to the River Dodder and River Tolka in recent years reflects improvements in water quality. These watercourses also harbour a number of animal species protected under the EU Birds and Habitats Directives, namely kingfisher, otter, river lamprey and white-clawed crayfish.

The River Camac supports otter and crayfish, while in addition otters still occur as well on both the River Santry and the River Mayne on the north eastern boundary of the DCC area. It is important therefore that a high water and therefore high ecological quality is maintained in these rivers.

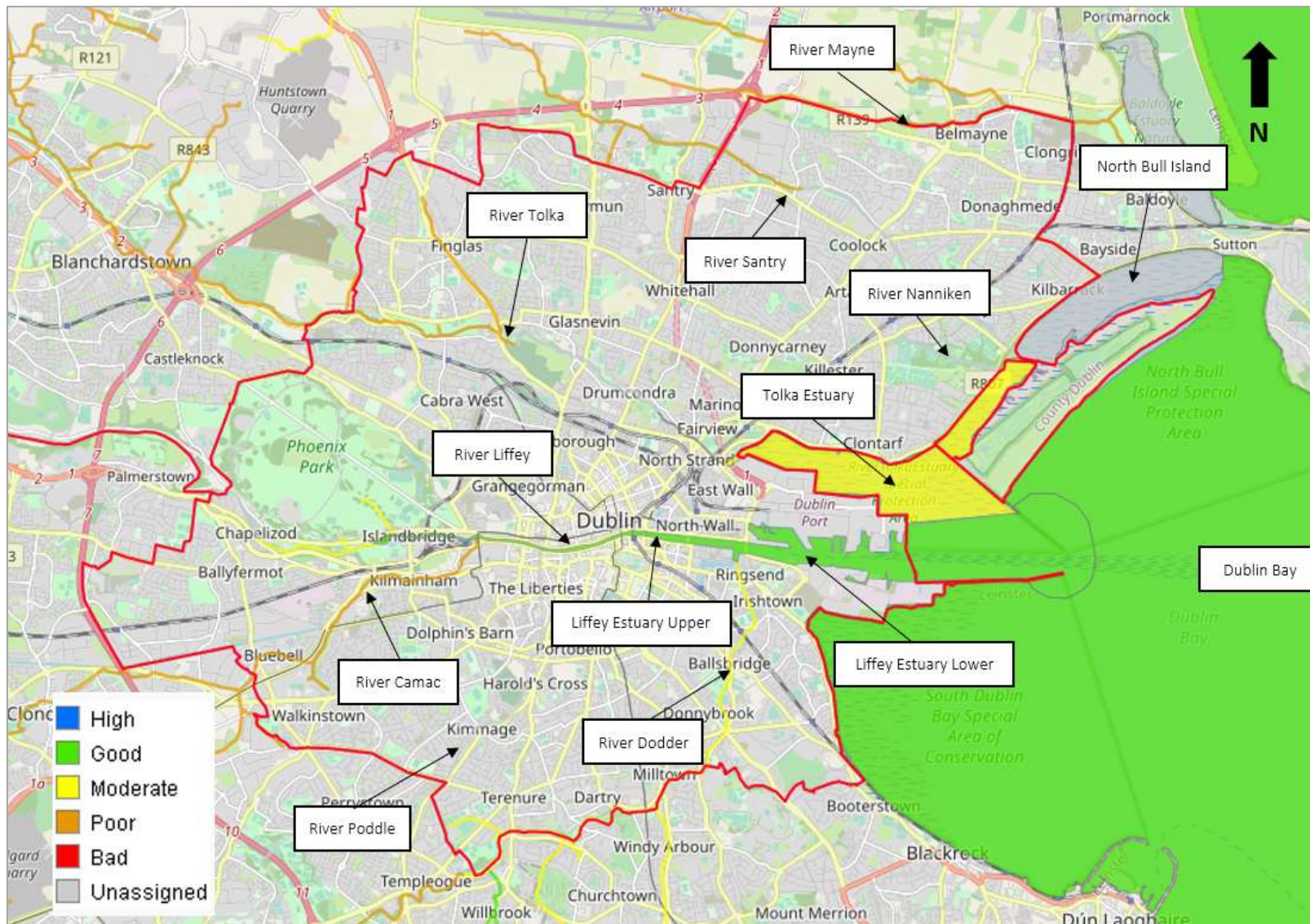
The WFD status of the **transitional waterbodies** in Dublin City ranges from 'good' to 'moderate' during the 2013-2018 monitoring period. The transitional waterbodies in Dublin City are the:

- Liffey Estuary Upper (IE_EA_090_0400);
- Liffey Estuary Lower (IE_EA_090_0300);
- Tolka Estuary (IE_EA_090_0200); and
- North Bull Island (IE_EA_090_0100).

The Liffey Estuary Upper and Liffey Estuary Lower has a 'good' status during the 2013-2018 monitoring period. The Tolka Estuary had a 'moderate' status and North Bull Island was unassigned during the same period, refer to Figure 5.8.

The WFD status of Dublin Bay **Coastal Waterbody** (IE_EA_090_0000) had a 'good' status during the 2013-2018 monitoring period, refer to Figure 5.8.

Figure 5.8: WFD Waterbody Status for Dublin City 2013-2018⁶⁰



⁶⁰ EPA Maps (2021). Source OpenStreet Maps.

5.5.5 Groundwater

5.5.5.1 Groundwater Quality

Groundwater is important for a drinking water supply as well as the supply to surface waters. The National Groundwater Monitoring Programme assesses the general state of groundwater quality and groundwater levels and flows⁶¹.

Groundwater WFD Quality Status in Dublin City (2013 to 2018) was generally ‘good’⁶² and therefore, the Plan must protect groundwater from deterioration.

5.5.5.2 Aquifer Vulnerability and Productivity

Groundwater aquifers form important sources of drinking water both locally and regionally. Much of the summer seasonal flow in many rivers is also derived from groundwater sources. To maintain high quality water resources within the Plan Area, it is important that development is controlled and managed appropriately, in particular in areas of high groundwater vulnerability to avoid transmission of pollutants into important aquifers.

The GSI rates aquifers according to both their productivity and vulnerability to pollution.

Groundwater vulnerability maps are based on the type and thicknesses of subsoils (sands, gravels, glacial tills (or boulder clays), peat, lake and alluvial silts and clays), and the presence of karst features. Groundwater is most at risk where the subsoils are absent or thin and, in areas of karstic limestone, where surface streams sink underground at swallow holes. Aquifer vulnerability is the ease with which pollutants of various kinds can enter into groundwater. The vulnerability of aquifers underlying Dublin City are generally classified as being of:

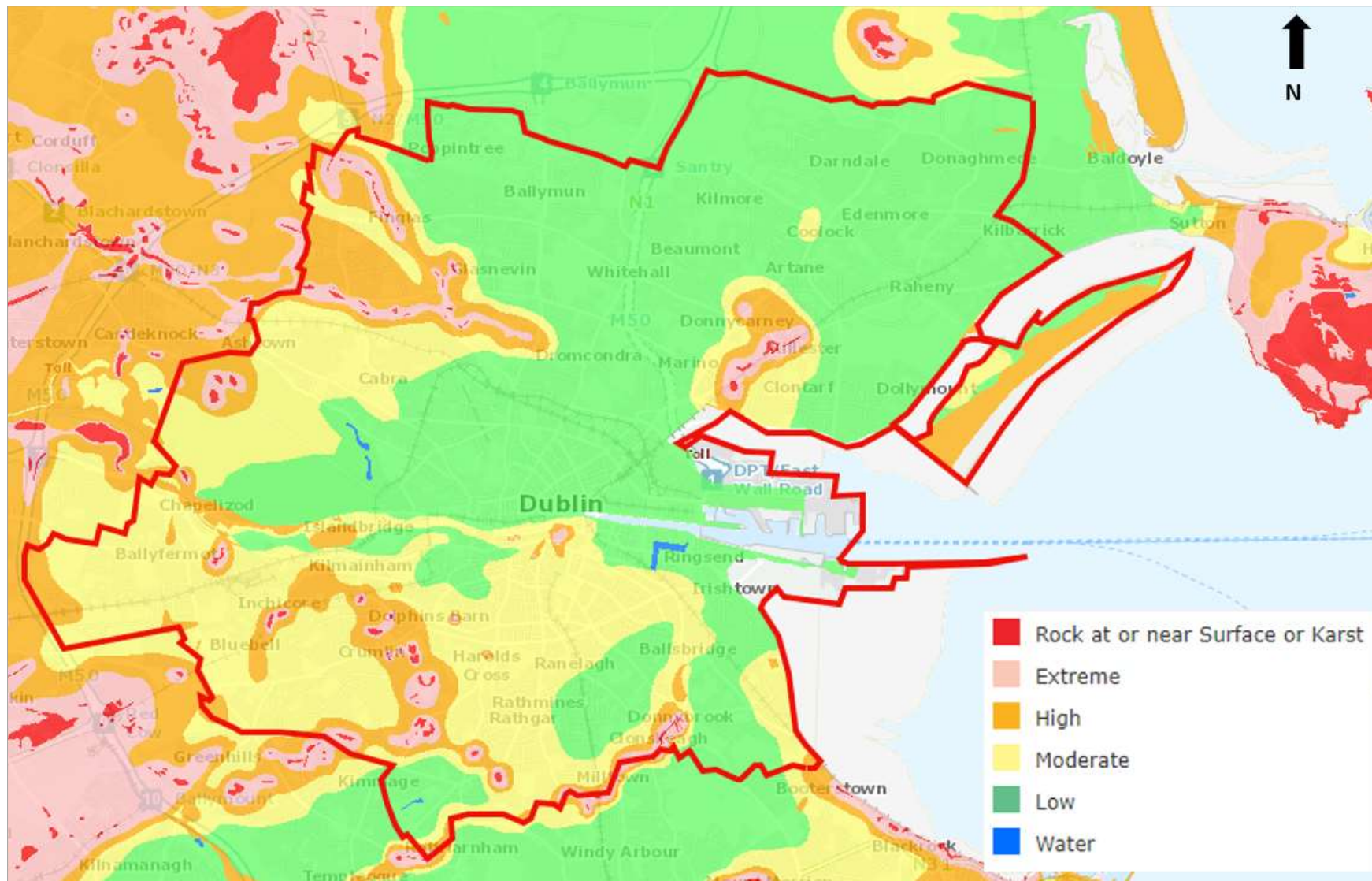
- Extreme vulnerability and Extreme (Rock at or near surface or karst), in small pockets in the north-west and in the south;
- High and Moderate vulnerability, large areas along the south and to the north-west; and
- Low vulnerability, in the north and north city centre.

Dublin City is underlain mainly with a ‘locally important aquifer – Bedrock which is Moderately Productive only in Local Zones’. The groundwater aquifer vulnerability of Dublin City is shown in Figure 5.9 and the Bedrock Aquifer of Dublin City is shown in Figure 5.10.

⁶¹ EPA (2020).

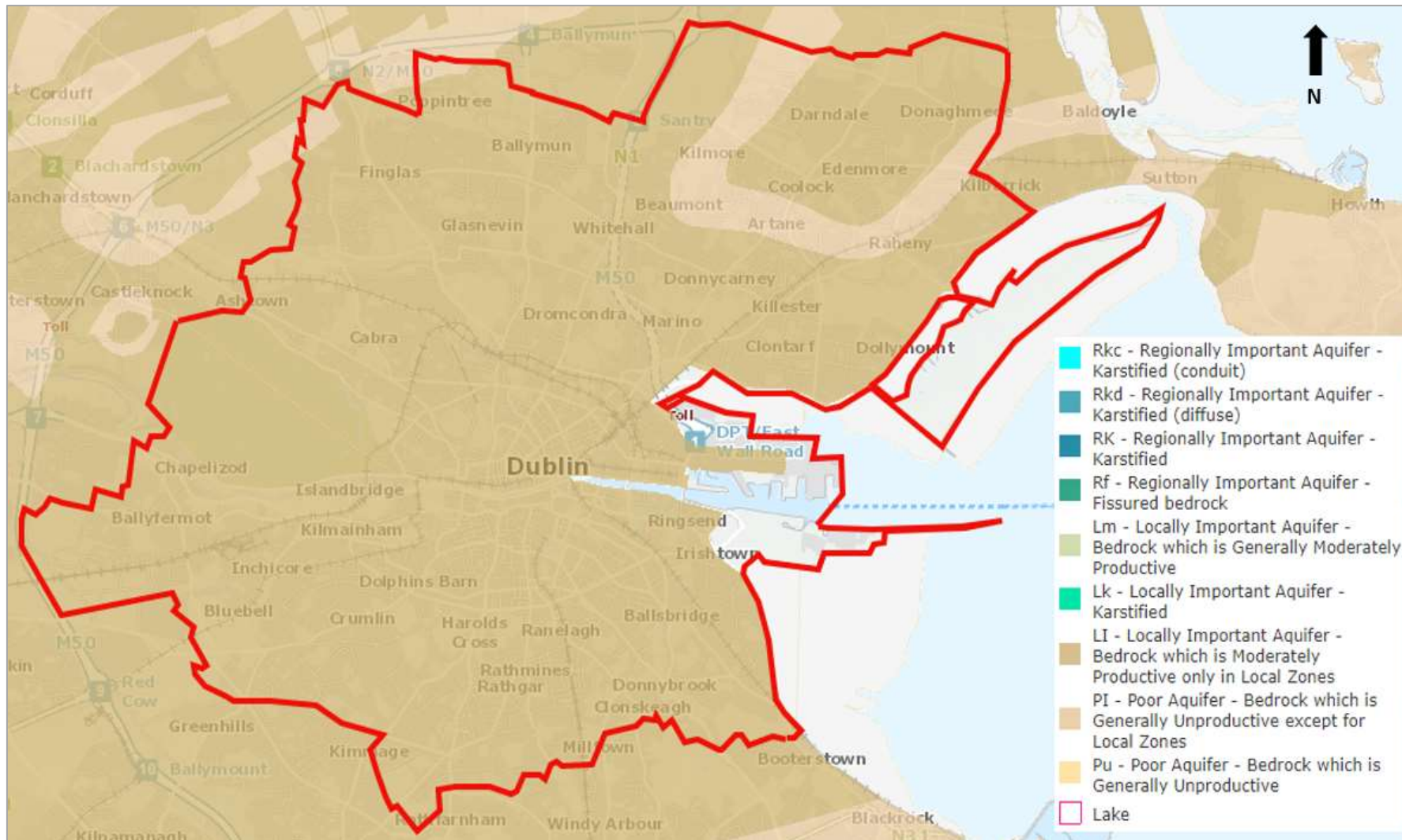
⁶² EPA Maps (2021).

Figure 5.9: Groundwater Aquifer Vulnerability in Dublin City⁶³



⁶³ GEOHIVE Environmental Sensitivity Mapping (2021).

Figure 5.10: Bedrock Aquifer in Dublin City⁶⁴



⁶⁴ GEOHIVE Environmental Sensitivity Mapping (2021).

5.5.6 Coastal Waters

Coastal Waters are important for tourism, for bathing locations and for supporting marine wildlife. The process for monitoring and assessing **bathing** water quality is set out in the EU Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC) and transposed into Irish Legislation as the Bathing Water Regulations S.I. No. 79 of 2008.

Dublin's coastline is an important asset for the city as it underpins many of the environmental, economic, recreational, cultural and tourism functions of the city. Dublin Bay encompasses coastal landscapes, coastal amenities, natural heritage of international, European and national importance, nature reserves and recreational opportunities. It is also home to coastal settlements, Dublin Port and much of the critical infrastructure for the city which is extremely vulnerable to climate change.

In line with Directive 2014/89/EC (establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning), the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, published the National Marine Planning Framework in July 2021⁶⁵. It sets out a national strategy for the strategic planning and sustainable development in the maritime area for the purpose of achieving ecological, economic and social priorities (managing marine assets). Common terrestrial / marine policy areas include renewable energy, electricity networks, coastal and flood defences, fishing and aquaculture, ports and harbours, public access, tourism and recreation, protected sites and species, seascape and landscape.

5.5.6.1 Bathing Waters

Bathing water is the term used for those locations where swimming or recreational use of beaches and lakes is practiced. In Ireland, bathing water information is compiled by the EPA from data submitted from local authorities. During the bathing season (1 June to 15 September), water quality at each bathing area must comply with the minimum EU mandatory value and all bathing areas should endeavour to achieve the stricter EU guide values⁶⁶.

⁶⁵ National Marine Planning Framework. (2021).

⁶⁶ Bathing water is assessed for compliance with two sets of EU standards, as specified in the Directive (2006/7/EC), minimum quality standards (EU mandatory values) and more stringent quality targets (EU guide values).

There are three designated bathing waters within the Dublin City Council area at Dollymount Strand, Merrion Strand and Sandymount Strand. Regular monitoring of bathing water quality is carried out during the bathing season, which runs from the 1 June to 15 September annually.

The most recent report on bathing water quality 'Bathing Water Quality in Ireland - A Report for the Year 2020'⁶⁷ sets out the status of Irish Seawater and Freshwater Bathing areas. During the 2020 Annual Water Quality monitoring period, Dollymount Strand had a 'good' water quality status, while Sandymount Strand had 'sufficient' status. Merrion Strand, which was 'poor' in 2019 has now been declassified and is no longer an identified bathing water.

There were no designated **blue flag beaches** or **marinas** in Dublin City for 2020.

5.5.6.2 Coastal Protection

The coast is an ever changing dynamic environment, subject to the continuous natural processes of erosion and deposition. While erosion is a normal occurrence in coastal areas, rates of erosion may be accelerated due to storm action, inappropriate development, pressures from leisure or recreational activities or the presence of man-made protection works.

The Irish Coastal Protection Strategy Study (ICPSS) is a national study that was commissioned in 2003 with the objective of providing information to support decision making about how best to manage risks associated with coastal flooding and coastal erosion. The Study was completed in 2013, the OPW published the ICPSS which provided strategic coastal flood and erosion hazard maps for the national coastline - current scenario and future scenario (up to 2100)⁶⁸.

Whilst the ICPSS did not identify coastal erosion as a critical threat to Dublin City, DCC will continue to work with the OPW and other agencies on an integrated and precautionary approach to managing the projected impacts of coastal change (caused by increasing development pressures and erosion, sea level rise and increased storm frequency linked to climate change) on the city's coastal communities, infrastructure, heritage and environment.

Coastal development must take account of the changing and dynamic nature of the coast and the need for coastal protection. The coastal zone is subject to growing pressures from increasing population and increasing and sometimes conflicting social, economic and recreational uses.

⁶⁷ EPA (2021j).

⁶⁸ OPW (2019).

5.5.7 WFD Registers of Protected Areas

The WFD requires that Registers of Protected Areas (RPAs) are compiled for a number of waterbodies or part of waterbodies which must have extra controls on their quality by virtue of how their waters are used by people and by wildlife. The WFD requires that these RPAs contain:

- areas from which waters are taken for public or private water supply schemes;
- designated shellfish production areas;
- bathing waters;
- areas which are affected by high levels of substances most commonly found in fertilizers, animal and human wastes - these areas are considered nutrient sensitive; areas designated for the protection of habitats or species e.g. Salmonid areas; and
- Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

Refer to Section 5.2.10 for the full list of RPAs in the Plan Area.

5.5.8 Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)

Surface water on all new development sites should be managed through Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS). SuDS aims to reduce the rate and quantity of surface water runoff, and improve water quality from the site. SuDS can provide an opportunity to enhance biodiversity and amenity.

The objective of SuDS in new developments is to replicate, as closely as possible, the surface water drainage regime to the predevelopment 'greenfield' situation. This is achieved through the use of surface water source control and site control measures. Source control measures include rainwater harvesting, natural infiltration, infiltration trenches, filter drains, filter strips, swales and permeable paving. Site control measures include attenuation by means of tanks or retention ponds. The surface water runoff rate from the site must be limited to the 'greenfield' runoff rate to reduce the risk of flooding.

5.5.9 Flooding and Flood Risk

Floods are usually caused by a combination of events including overflowing river banks, heavy rains, coastal storms or blocked or overloaded drainage systems and an increase in development and impermeable surfacing.

Flood risk can be defined as the probability of flooding multiplied by the consequences of flooding. In 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management', Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009), the probability of a flood event taking place is recognised through the classification of Flood Zones

which indicate a high, moderate or low risk of flooding from fluvial or tidal sources. The Office of Public Works (OPW) is the lead State body for flood risk management.

The National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Programme has been the principle vehicle to deliver on Ireland's commitments under the EU Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)⁶⁹. The CFRAM Programme identified significant flood risk communities under a national screening exercise, known as Areas for Further Assessment (AFAs). The Eastern CFRAM study commenced in in 2011 and ran until the end of 2016.

The National Development Plan (NDP) 2021-2030 is committed to provide funding for flood relief schemes, with annual Capital funding for flood relief for the OPW.

Dublin City is susceptible to different types of flood risk, including:

- **Fluvial** - Flooding occurs when a river overtops its banks due to a blockage in the channel or the channel capacity is exceeded.
- **Pluvial** - Flooding occurs when overland flow cannot infiltrate into the ground, when drainage systems exceed their capacity or are blocked and when the water cannot discharge due to a high water level in the receiving watercourse.
- **Coastal flooding** - which is caused by higher sea levels than normal, largely as a result of storm surges, resulting in the sea overflowing onto the land. Coastal flooding is influenced by the following factors, which can work in combination: high tide level; storm surges; and wave action.
- **Estuarine flooding** - which occurs due to a combination of tidal (coastal) and fluvial flooding, i.e. the interaction between rivers and the sea. A combination of high flow in rivers and a high tide will prevent water flowing out to sea, causing increase in water levels inland, which may flood over river banks.
- **Groundwater flooding** - occurs when the level of water stored in the ground rises as a result of prolonged rainfall to meet the ground surface and flows out over it.

In 2018, the OPW published the Flood Risk Management Plan for the Liffey and Dublin Bay River Basin, which set out the strategy for the cost-effective, sustainable and long-term management of flood risk in the River Basin. DCC strives to implement flood alleviation measures that include

⁶⁹ OPW (2020).

nature and have multiple benefits beyond flood defence, such as providing new spaces for recreation and habitats for birds and animals.

In terms of infrastructural investment, DCC has advanced a number of projects across the city over the last number of years. According to the Annual Progress Report 2020 for the DCC Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024, there are approximately 15 flood alleviation projects under way in the city. The projects are at various stages⁷⁰.

In line with The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009), a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) of Dublin City will be carried out to inform the preparation of the Draft Plan. The SFRA is taking place concurrently with the preparation of the Plan and SEA and will inform both, including integration of flood risk management considerations into the Draft Plan.

It should be noted that the Government has established an Inter-Departmental Group on Coastal Change Management to scope out an approach for the development of a national coordinated and integrated strategy to manage the projected impact of coastal change to coastal communities, economies, heritage, culture and environment. The Inter-Departmental Group⁷¹ will bring forward options and recommendations for the Government to consider.

5.5.10 Water Quality Issues

The principal threat to water is pollution which can adversely impact on all parts of the water cycle from groundwater to rivers, lakes estuaries and coastal waters.

Any development as part of the Draft Plan has the potential to impact waterbody status, water usage, flood risk and generate wastewater. The Plan must fully meet the requirements of the WFD and the Groundwater Directive and aim to drive improvement to water quality in both the short and long-term. Existing water quality issues / pressures and threats on waterbodies within and adjacent to the Dublin City administrative area, include:

⁷⁰ The Annual Progress Report for the Climate Change Action Plan has been prepared by the Dublin City Council Climate Action team in conjunction with the Dublin energy agency Codema and the Dublin Metropolitan Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) and in partnership with the Environment Strategic Policy Committee and the Elected Members of Dublin City Council.

⁷¹ jointly chaired by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and the OPW.

- **Water** - the surface waterbodies in Dublin City need to be improved to achieve 'good' ecological status in waterbodies by 2027.
- **Water** - water contamination arising through poor working practices, leakages or accidental spillage of materials if efficient pollution control measures are not fully implemented and maintained.
- **Water** - pressure on water sources also comes from land-use changes, industry, urbanisation, and erosion.
- **Water** - upstream pollution, combined sewer overflows, misconnection of wastewater from individual houses and urban run-off plus culverting / changes to river channels.
- **Groundwater** - the development and implementation of a wastewater leak detection programme. Groundwater WFD Quality Status in Dublin City was generally 'good' and they need to be protected to prevent deterioration.
- **Surface, ground and coastal waters** - are at risk of pollution from wastewater treatment systems (including septic tanks) in the vicinity of waterbodies.
- **Bathing Water** - bathing water quality at Merrion Strand had a 'poor' status and Sandymount Strand had 'sufficient' water quality status. These bathing waters need to be improved.
- **Flood Risk** - to be considered in Development Plan SEA documents as a key environmental criteria.
- **Flooding** - there is historic and predictive evidence of elevated levels of flood risk from fluvial, pluvial, coastal, estuarine and groundwater and network sources at various locations across the city.

5.6 Air Quality, Noise and Climate Change

5.6.1 Air Quality - Introduction

Air quality legislation in Ireland highlights the need 'to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole'. In addition, it requires that Local Authorities where appropriate 'shall promote the preservation of best ambient air quality compatible with sustainable development'.

5.6.2 Air Quality - Legislation / Policy / Guidance

EU legislation on air quality requires that Member States divide their territory into zones for the assessment and management of air quality, where reporting of national air pollutants and air quality is an obligation for all European member states.

5.6.2.1 Ambient Air Quality Standards

In order to reduce the risk to health from poor air quality, national and European statutory bodies have set limit values in ambient air for a range of air pollutants. These limit values or "Air Quality Standards" are health or environmental-based levels for which additional factors may be considered.

The applicable standards in Ireland include the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011, which incorporate EU Directive 2008/50/EC, which has set limit values for NO₂, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, benzene and CO. Although the EU Air Quality Limit Values are the basis of legislation, other thresholds outlined by the EU Directives are used which are triggers for particular actions.

5.6.2.2 National Emission Ceilings Directive

The National Emission Ceilings (NEC) Directive (2016/2284/EU)⁷², Annex II, set emissions reduction commitments for 2020 and 2030, based on a reduction from 2005 emissions, for the five main air pollutants.

5.6.2.3 National Clean Air Strategy

The National Clean Air Strategy will provide an overarching policy framework within which clean air policies can be formulated and given effect in a manner consistent with national, EU and international policy considerations and priorities. The development of this first National Air

⁷² The new NEC Directive (2016/2284/EU), which entered force on 31 December 2016, replaces earlier NEC directive (2001/81/EC).

Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP) is being undertaken in parallel with a number of other relevant national policy frameworks in Ireland.

The Local Authorities in the Dublin Region have prepared the Air Quality Management Plan for improvement in levels of Nitrogen Dioxide in ambient air quality for submission to the EPA⁷³. Ambient air quality monitoring is carried out in the Dublin Region by the four local authorities under the direction of the EPA. This involves monitoring for a range of air pollutants specified under European Union rules to ensure that legal standards for air quality are met. Nitrogen Dioxide levels in the Dublin Region are primarily associated with traffic emissions. Nitrogen Dioxide is a significant air pollutant as short-term exposure is linked to adverse respiratory effects including airway inflammation in healthy people and increased respiratory symptoms in asthmatics. Long-term exposure is associated with increased risk of respiratory infection in children.

5.6.2.4 Greenhouse Gas Emission

The EPA's 2020 publication Ireland's Greenhouse Gas Emission Projections 2019-2040⁷⁴ provides an assessment of Ireland's progress towards achieving its emission reduction targets set down under the EU Effort Sharing Decision (Decision No 406/2009/EC) between 2013-2020 and a longer-term assessment based on current projections. Ireland's 2020 target was to achieve a 20% reduction of non-Emission Trading Scheme (non-ETS) sector emissions (i.e. transport, the built environment) on 2005 levels with annual limits set for each year over the period 2013-2020.

Ireland's 2030 target under the Effort Sharing Regulation is a 30% reduction of emissions compared to 2005 levels by 2030. The key insights identified include:

- There is a long-term projected decrease in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as a result of inclusion of new climate mitigation policies and measures that formed part of the **NDP 2018-2027**.
- Fossil fuels (i.e. coal, peat and gas) continue to be key contributors to emissions from the power generation sector. However, a significant reduction in emissions over the longer term is projected as a result of the expansion of renewables (e.g. wind, solar), with a move away from coal and peat.

⁷³ DCC, SDCC, FCC, DLRCC. Air Quality Management Plan.

⁷⁴ EPA (2020f).

- Growth in emissions from the transport sector continues to be projected which is largely attributed to fuel consumption from diesel cars and diesel freight. A decrease in emissions over the longer-term, most notably in the With Additional Measures scenario, is largely attributed to assumed accelerated deployment of 500,000 electric vehicles and the impact of greater biofuel uptake.
- Agriculture emissions are projected to continue to grow steadily over the period which is mainly a result of an increase in animal numbers particularly for the dairy herd.
- The implementation of additional energy efficiency measures included in the NDP will see a significant reduction in emissions in the residential, commercial / public services and manufacturing sectors over the projected period.

5.6.3 Air Quality Monitoring

The EPA manages the national ambient air quality monitoring network and measures the levels of a number of atmospheric pollutants. Following a review of ambient air quality monitoring in Ireland, the current national monitoring programme was launched at the end of 2017. The programme is providing more comprehensive, real-time, localised air quality information that is linked to public health advice⁷⁵.

The current trends in air quality in Ireland are reported in the latest EPA publication (2020) 'Air Quality in Ireland 2019'⁷⁶. The report indicates that air quality levels at monitoring sites in Ireland were below the EU legislative limit values in 2019, however, there was one exceedance of EU annual average limit values in 2019 at one urban traffic station in Dublin due to pollution from transport.

Ireland was above World Health Organization (WHO) air quality guideline value levels at 33 no. monitoring sites, mostly due to the burning of solid fuel in our cities, towns and villages. However, the report indicates that Ireland will exceed EU limit values for NO₂ in the near future. There are four national air quality designated zones in Ireland, these are:

- Zone A is the Dublin conurbation;
- Zone B is the Cork conurbation;
- Zone C comprises of 23 large towns in Ireland with a population of >15,000; and

⁷⁵ EPA (2020f).

⁷⁶ EPA (2020g).

- Zone D is the remaining area of Ireland.

Dublin City is located within Zone A, within the 'Dublin conurbation' zone⁷⁷. The main sources of air pollution are domestic solid fuel burning, diesel fuelled vehicle emissions, industry and even natural sources such as sea salt and wind-blown dust.

The air quality index for health (AQIH) regions are calculated on an hourly basis at various locations around Ireland⁷⁸. The AQIH is a number from one to ten that tells you what the air quality currently is in the station. A reading of ten means the air quality is very poor and a reading of one to three inclusive means that the air quality is good. The AQIH is based on measurements of five air pollutants all of which can harm health. The five pollutants are:

- Ozone gas;
- Nitrogen dioxide gas (combustion of fossil fuels);
- Sulphur dioxide gas (combustion of fossil fuels);
- PM_{2.5} particles (combustion of fossil fuels); and
- PM₁₀ particles (combustion of fossil fuels).

There are a number of AQIH monitoring locations in Dublin City at Ringsend, Pearse Street, Winetavern Street, Rathmines, St. John's Road Kilmainham, Davitt Road Inchicore, Ballyfermot, Phoenix Park, Finglas, Marino, St. Anne's Park and Dublin Port⁷⁹. The results from the monitoring sites are updated every two to five minutes with the calculated AQIH and displayed on the Air Quality Map which shows if air quality is good, fair, poor or very poor. The current Air Quality Index Region for Dublin City is good⁸⁰.

The EPA monitors air pollutants levels and compares them to EU legal limit values and WHO guideline values. These pollutants are:

- Particulate matter - PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀
- Nitrogen oxides - NO₂ and NO
- Sulphur dioxide (SO₂)

⁷⁷ EPA Maps (2021).

⁷⁸ The AQIH is calculated on an hourly basis using representative sampling from each region. (Dublin, Cork, large towns, small towns, rural east and rural west.

⁷⁹ EPA Maps (2021).

⁸⁰ EPA Maps (2021).

- Ozone (O₃)
- Carbon monoxide (CO)
- Benzene and ozone precursors
- Benzo(a)Pyrene, a Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon (PAH) - both in PM₁₀ and deposition
- Heavy metals - both in PM₁₀ and deposition
- Chemical composition of PM_{2.5}
- Mercury.

Annual average PM_{2.5} concentrations were modelled for Dublin in 2017. The PM_{2.5} mapping clearly indicates that Dublin City was above the WHO guideline values⁸¹ for PM_{2.5}, refer to Figure 5.11. These indicative results support monitoring carried out by them EPA and the conclusion of previous Air Quality in Ireland reports⁸².

In 2019, levels of sulphur dioxide (SO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), and particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) are all within acceptable EU levels, however, EU levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), was breached at one monitoring location.

Also in 2019, DCC expanded its air quality monitoring network to include six local monitoring stations in addition to those already operating within the EPA national network⁸³. These stations specifically monitor pollution in areas not covered by the national network.

In February 2020, DCC in conjunction with the other local authorities in Dublin signed up to the Breathe Life Commitments which essentially commits the city to meeting the more stringent WHO air quality guideline values as distinct from meeting mandatory EU limit values by 2030⁸⁴.

In early 2020, the Council launched the website www.dublincityairandnoise.ie which consolidates online access in real time to the city's ambient air and noise monitoring network and also provides archived data.

DCC will support the implementation of the 'Air Quality Management Plan' in cooperation with the other Dublin Local Authorities.

⁸¹ 10µg/m³ annual mean and 25µg/m³ 24-hour mean

⁸² EPA (2020g).

⁸³ DCC (2020a).

⁸⁴ Breathe Life (2021).

5.6.3.1 Licenced Facilities

A system of **Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC)** licensing came into effect in Ireland on 12 July 2004. The primary aims of IPPC licensing are to prevent or reduce emissions to air, water and land, to reduce waste and to use energy efficiently. An IPPC licence is a single integrated licence which covers all emissions from the facility and its environmental management. The IPPC system replaces Integrated Pollution Control (IPC).

There are a number of IPPC licensed facilities in Dublin City, located in Dublin Port and industrial estates at the northern, western and southern boundary of the City Council with Fingal County Council and South Dublin.

5.6.4 Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) Levels in Dublin

Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) is an air pollutant associated with urban areas. It is strongly linked with traffic emissions. High levels affect our lung health.

The EPA's 2019 publication Urban Environmental Indicators: Nitrogen dioxide levels in Dublin⁸⁵ provides new evidence on levels in Dublin. The findings represent an early warning of potential exceedances of EU limit values in Dublin - long-term exposure to these levels of NO₂ is a cause of concern for people's health and action needs to be taken now to address these findings. Three main findings in the report are:

1. Highest levels of NO₂ are at locations with heavier traffic. This clearly shows the impact traffic has on the levels of NO₂ in areas close to busy roads in Dublin.
2. There are many areas where NO₂ is problematic – In particular places, NO₂ levels were high suggesting they may be over the EU limit. Some of these areas include: certain city centre streets; the M50 motorway, and; the entrance to and exit from the Dublin Port Tunnel.
3. Levels of NO₂ are well within the EU limits in many residential areas – Away from busy roads the levels of NO₂ drop significantly and are well beneath the recommended EU limits in many residential areas.

In order to improve the availability of real-time air quality data to the public, EPA is setting up new permanent monitoring stations in partnership with DCC and Trinity College Dublin. If further monitoring confirms that the EU limit values of NO₂ have been exceeded, local authorities in

⁸⁵ EPA (2019d).

Dublin and its suburbs will be legally required to prepare air quality action plans to address the causes and provide solutions in the affected areas.

5.6.5 Noise - Introduction

In general, low environmental sound levels can contribute significantly to the good health and quality of life for the population in Dublin City.

5.6.6 Noise - Legislation / Policy / Guidance

The objectives of EU and Irish noise legislation is 'to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole', and this includes noise nuisance. The Noise Directive - Environmental Noise Directive (END) 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 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; and
- 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.

5.6.6.1 Environmental Noise Guidelines

In 2018, the World Health Organisation (WHO) published the Environmental Noise Guidelines for the European Region. The WHO Guidelines have set out how noise pollution in towns and cities is increasing and how excessive noise (particularly from transport sources), has negative impacts on human health and wellbeing, adversely affecting sleep and cardiovascular and metabolic function.

5.6.6.2 Noise Guidance for Marine Mammals

In 2014, the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DAHG), launched the 'Guidance to Manage the Risk to Marine Mammals from Man-made Sound Sources in Irish Waters'⁸⁷. The guidance sets out to address several key potential sources of anthropogenic sound that may

⁸⁷ DAHG (2014).

impact detrimentally upon marine mammals in Irish water and a risk methodology to assess any plan or proposed development. The aims of this guidance is to:

- Give an understanding of selected sound sources introduced into the environment by specific human activities, which may impact detrimentally on protected marine mammal populations or individuals of those species.
- Describe a structured, staged process for the informed assessment of risk and decision making with regard to such sources.
- Outline practical risk avoidance and / or risk reduction measures which in the Department's view must be considered in order to minimise the potential effects of sound sources on the natural ecology of marine mammal species whether in Ireland's extensive and diverse coastal / marine waters or in designated conservation sites therein.

5.6.7 Dublin Agglomeration Noise Action Plan 2018-2023

The Dublin Agglomeration Noise Action Plan 2018-2023 (NAP)⁸⁸ has been prepared jointly by the four Local Authorities⁸⁹ in the Dublin Agglomeration. The Plan will be implemented through a staged process over five years.

As part of the initiative to manage sound levels around Dublin, DCC have designated eight Quiet Areas which are to be protected from future increases in environmental noise. These sites were chosen partly because of the sound levels in the areas and partly because they provide some value to the citizens of Dublin - city parks and green open spaces. The following areas are designated Quiet Areas:

- Blessington Basin, Blessington Street;
- Edenmore Park, Raheny;
- Mount Bernard Park, Shandon Park, Phibsborough;
- Dollymount SSA, Clontarf – terrestrial area only;
- St. Anne's Park, Raheny;
- Palmerston Park, Dartry;
- Ranelagh Gardens, Ranelagh; and

⁸⁸ NAP has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, S.I. No. 140 of 2006

⁸⁹ Dublin City Council, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, Fingal County Council and South Dublin County Council.

- The Cabbage Gardens, Cathedral Lane, Dublin 2.

5.6.8 Noise Mapping

The Environmental Noise Directive (END), requires Member States to prepare and publish, every five years, strategic noise maps and noise management action plans. The aim of the END is to provide a common framework to avoid, prevent or reduce, on a prioritised basis, the harmful effects of exposure to environmental noise through the preparation of strategic noise maps and the development and implementation of action plans.

The strategic noise mapping of the major roads across Ireland was undertaken by the National Roads Authority (NRA) with the support of the local authorities within whose functional areas the major roads were located. They provide supplementary information relating to the Noise Action Plans developed in 2013 for the major roads in Ireland as part of the second round of the implementation of the EC Directive 2002/49/EC.

Daytime and night-time noise mapping of major roads have been prepared using EPA recommended noise limits which identified local 'hot spots' (noise sensitive areas) in terms of population exposure. The identification of noise sensitive areas allows for the application of protective measure or mitigation measures in advance of further development, refer to Figures 5.12 and 5.13.

The main priority of the END is to reduce environmental noise exposure in residential areas. To this effect, the Plan should ensure this requirement is complied with and as appropriate, the Plan should promote the implementation of END and associated national regulations⁹⁰.

Consideration should also be given to protect, where relevant, any designated quiet areas in open country.

5.6.8.1 Noise Action Plan for Dublin Airport 2019-2023

The zone of operation for Dublin Airport overlaps with Dublin City. Variation No. 1 of the Fingal County Development Plan 2017-2023, which was made in response to the publication of the Noise Action Plan for Dublin Airport 2019-2023, identifies lands to the north of the city which fall within Dublin Aircraft Noise Zones C and D and have the potential for noise exposure arising from airport

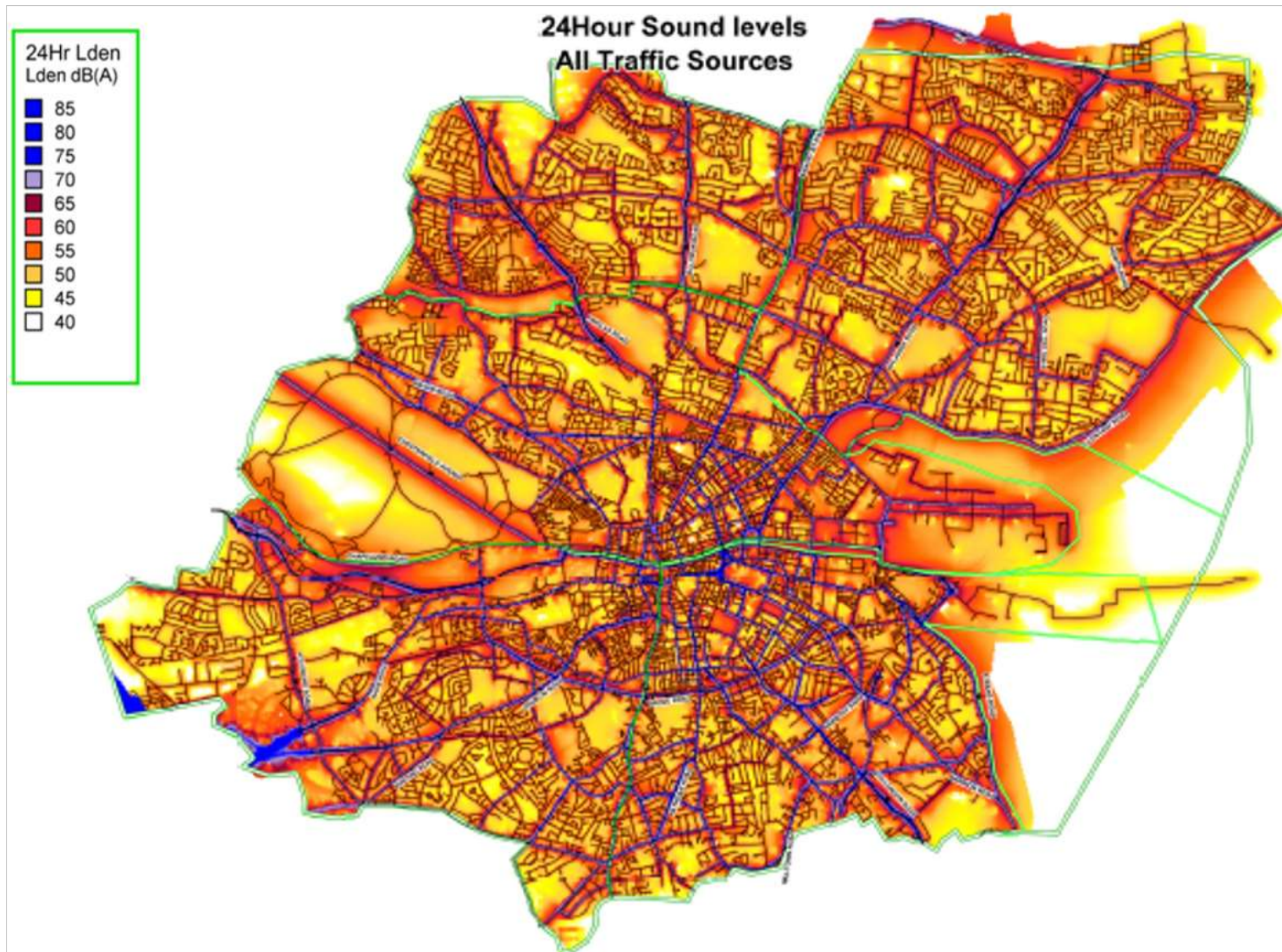
⁹⁰ It is noted that DCC will have to produce an updated Noise Action Plan and Noise Map under the END for the City by 2022 and the timing of this update will need to be assessed against the statutory timeline for the preparation of the Development Plan.

operations. In Zone C, it is an objective to manage noise sensitive development in areas where aircraft noise may give rise to annoyance and sleep disturbance, and to ensure, where appropriate, noise assessment is undertaken and noise insulation is incorporated in order to deliver good acoustic design. In Zone D, if a residential development comprises 50 units or more, or incorporates non-residential noise sensitive uses, it may be necessary for the applicant to demonstrate that a good acoustic design has been followed. The Dublin Airport noise management process is based on three key themes

- **Manage:** continue to operate noise management schemes to achieve the quietest practicable aircraft operations on Noise Preferential Routes, and minimise noise from other activities such as construction;
- **Monitor:** continue to monitor noise using best practicable methods; and
- **Engage:** continue to meet with our neighbours and partners to involve, engage and inform, and continue to communicate with stakeholders.

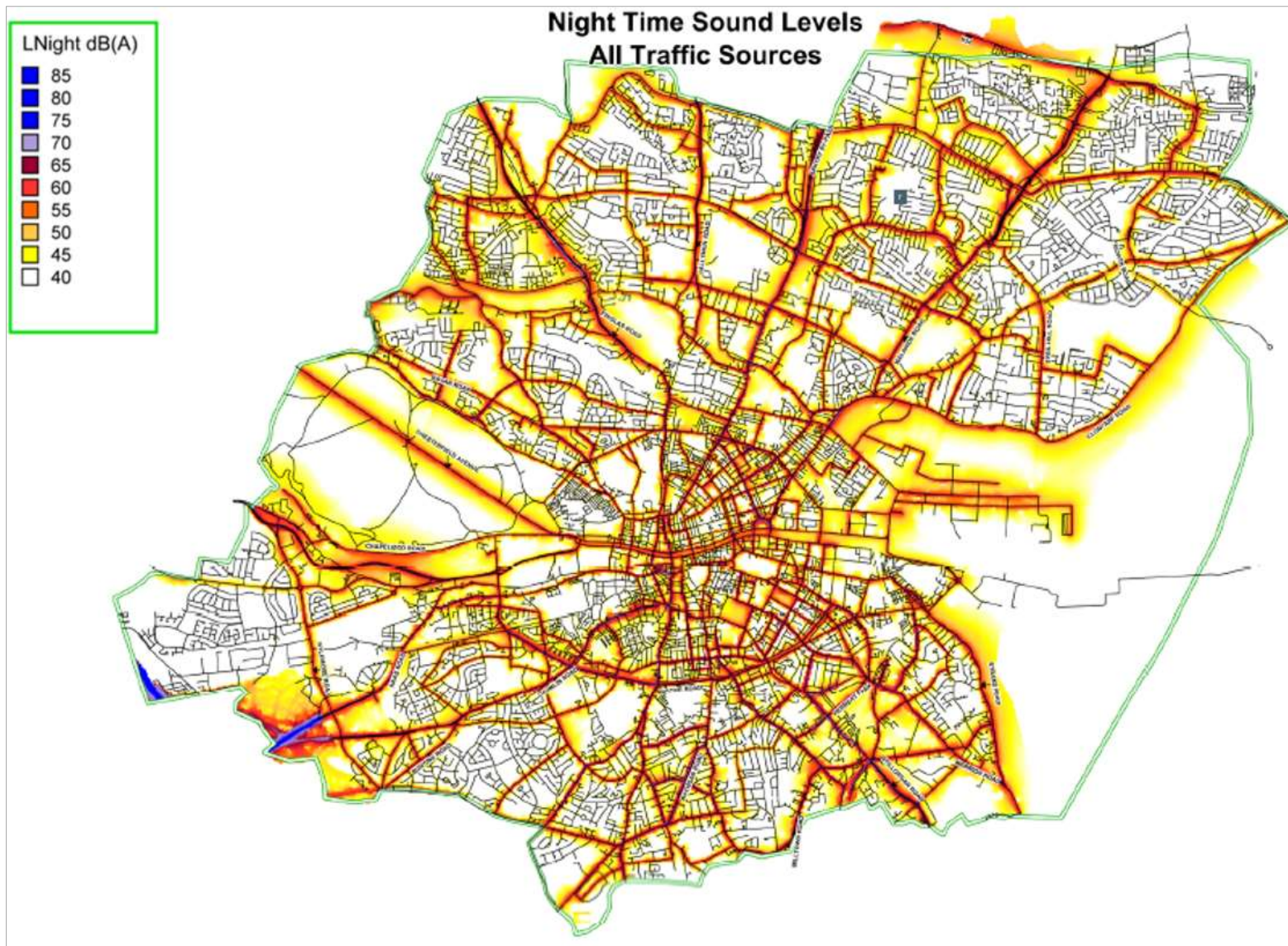
Dublin Airport utilises a number of techniques to mitigate the impact of noise on the wider community. Dublin Airport continually monitors the effectiveness of control measures associated with noise management, altering or improving these measures as and when required.

Figure 5.12: Dublin City Noise Mapping (24-hour Lden)⁹¹



⁹¹ DCC (2016b).

Figure 5.13: Dublin City Noise Mapping (24-hour Lnight)⁹²



⁹² DCC (2016b).

5.6.9 Climate Change - Introduction

Climate change is a phenomenon that has widespread economic, health and safety, food production, security, and other dimensions. Climate change refers to a long-term, large scale change in global or regional climate patterns. In recent years, global temperatures have been rising. Urgent action is needed to address climate change and to move Ireland towards a low carbon, climate resilient economy and society.

The ever increasing rate of carbon dioxide combustion, and the emission of other greenhouse gases (GHG) such as methane and nitrous oxide since the industrial revolution, has resulted in the 'greenhouse affect'. Most greenhouse gases emissions are related to the energy generation, transport, agriculture, and industry sectors.

In Ireland, the expected effects of climate change are increased frequency of extreme weather events within the next century. This will include a 20%-30% increase in precipitation, greater rainfall intensity coupled with flash floods and an average annual temperature increase of ~2°C. The potential impacts of climate change could have serious consequences for both people and infrastructure along Ireland's coastal areas as well as its rivers⁹³.

Climate mitigation refers to efforts to reduce or prevent emission of greenhouse gases. Mitigation can mean using new technologies and renewable energies, making older equipment more energy efficient, or changing practices and behaviours e.g. encouraging more walking and cycling by providing footpaths and cycle paths.

Climate adaptation is focused on anticipating the adverse effects of climate change and taking appropriate action to prevent or minimise the damage or taking advantage of opportunities that may arise. Examples include water conservation, ensuring buildings are designed for future climate conditions and weather events, building flood defences, planting crops and trees suitable to new climate, and avoiding unnecessary development in coastal areas at risk of coastal erosion and flooding.

⁹³ GOI (2019b).

5.6.10 Climate Change - Legislation / Policy / Guidance

5.6.10.1 Climate Agreements

Ireland ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in April 1994 and the Kyoto Protocol in principle in 1997 and formally in May 2002⁹⁴. For the purposes of the EU burden sharing agreement under Article 4 of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol, in December 2012, Ireland agreed to limit the net growth of the six Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) under the Kyoto Protocol to 20% below the 2005 level over the period 2013 to 2020⁹⁵. The UNFCCC is continuing detailed negotiations in relation to GHG reductions and in relation to technical issues such as Emission Trading and burden sharing.

The most recent Conference of the Parties to the Convention (COP25) took place in Madrid, Spain from the 2nd to the 13th of December 2019 and focussed on advancing the implementation of the Paris Agreement. The Paris Agreement was established at COP21 in Paris in 2015 and is an important milestone in terms of international climate change agreements.

The EU in 2014, agreed the “2030 Climate and Energy Policy Framework”⁹⁶. The European Council endorsed a binding EU target of at least a 40% domestic reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990. The target will be delivered collectively by the EU in the most cost-effective manner possible.

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015⁹⁷ was developed to provide for the approval of plans by the government in relation to climate change and to enable achievement of the national transition objective of achieving decarbonisation by 2050. Under this Act the National Mitigation Plan⁹⁸ and the National Adaptation Framework⁹⁹ were established.

5.6.10.2 National Policy Position 2014

In 2014, the Government adopted the National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development. The National Policy Position provides a high-level policy direction for the adoption and implementation by Government of plans to enable the State to pursue the transition to a low

⁹⁴ UNFCC (1997) and UNFCC (1999).

⁹⁵ UNFCC (2012).

⁹⁶ European Commission (2014).

⁹⁷ Government of Ireland (2015).

⁹⁸ The Plan was quashed by the Supreme Court on 31 July 2020 (Appeal No. 205/10)

⁹⁹ DCCA (2017) & (2018).

carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050. It sets out the context for the objective, clarifies the level of greenhouse gas mitigation ambition envisaged and establishes the process to pursue and achieve the overall objective.

5.6.10.3 Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 seeks to address the issue of climate changes and establishes the national goal to move to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy. The Act sets out a roadmap for Ireland's transition towards a low carbon economy and details mechanisms for the implementation of the 'National Low Carbon Transition and Mitigation Plan'¹⁰⁰, to lower Ireland's level of greenhouse emissions and a 'National Climate Change Adaptation Framework'¹⁰¹.

More recently, the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2021 has been enacted to support Ireland's transition to Net Zero and to achieve a climate neutral economy by no later than 2050.

5.6.10.4 National Mitigation Plan 2017

(The Plan was quashed by the Supreme Court on 31 July 2020 (Appeal No. 205/10))
Ireland's long-term climate policy framework is set out in the 2017 National Mitigation Plan. The National Mitigation Plan¹⁰² sets out the initial steps to achieve the level of decarbonisation required.

5.6.10.5 National Adaptation Framework 2018

The National Adaptation Framework (NAF) was published in 2018 and sets out the national strategy which seeks to reduce the vulnerability of the country to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of positive impacts. The NAF was developed under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015.

5.6.10.6 Climate Action Plan 2021¹⁰³

The Climate Action Plan 2021 provides a detailed plan for taking decisive action to achieve a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and setting us on a path to reach net-zero

¹⁰⁰ DCCAE (2017).

¹⁰¹ DCCAE (2018).

¹⁰² The Plan sets out the Government's approach to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

¹⁰³ DECC (2021) <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/6223e-climate-action-plan-2021/>

emissions by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Programme for Government and set out in the Climate Act 2021.

It will put Ireland on a more sustainable path; cut emissions; create a cleaner, greener economy and society; and protect us from the devastating consequences of climate change. It is a huge opportunity to create new jobs and grow businesses in areas like offshore wind; cutting-edge agriculture; and retrofitting, making our homes warmer and safer.

The Plan lists the actions needed to deliver on our climate targets and sets indicative ranges of emissions reductions for each sector of the economy. It will be updated annually, including in 2022, to ensure alignment with our legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral ceilings.

5.6.10.7 European Green Deal

The European Green Deal¹⁰⁴ is Europe's new growth strategy and acts as a roadmap for making Europe the first carbon neutral continent by 2050 whilst also enabling the EU to achieve its commitment under the Paris agreement. The Climate Action Bill 2020 transposes the European Green Deal into Irish law.

5.6.10.8 Climate Change and Flooding Risk Management

The OPW published the 'Flood Risk Management 2015-2019' report as part of the Department of Communication, Climate Action and Environment's (DCCA) 'Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan'¹⁰⁵.

The Flood Risk Management Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan outlines the potential impacts of climate change on flooding and flood risk management, identifies objectives for an effective, sustainable and coordinated approach to adaptation, and recommends further actions required to meet the long-term goal for adaptation in flood risk management.

5.6.11 Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change and uses the following definitions:

¹⁰⁴ Launched by the European Commission in 2019

¹⁰⁵ Term 2080s used to describe the period covering 2071-2100. Increases are measured with respect to the period 1961-1990.

Climate Mitigation is defined as ‘a human intervention to reduce the sources or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases’

Climate Change Adaptation is defined as ‘the process of adjustment to actual or expected climate and its effects. In human systems, adaptation seeks to moderate or avoid harm or exploit beneficial opportunities. In some natural systems, human intervention may facilitate adjustment to expected climate and its effects’.

The **National Mitigation Plan** (refer to Section 5.6.10.4), represents an initial step to set Ireland on a pathway to achieve the level of decarbonisation required.

The **National Adaptation Framework** (refer to Section 5.6.10.5), sets out the national strategy to reduce the vulnerability of the country to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of positive impacts.

The **Climate Action Plan 2021** (refer to Section 5.6.10.6), is an all of Government plan to tackle climate change and bring about a step change in Ireland’s climate ambition over the coming years.

The use of alternative fuels, including electricity, forms a significant part of government policy to reduce emissions, including from transport. Greater use of alternative fuels, including renewable energy, has the potential to further contribute towards energy security.

The Climate Change Advisory Council’s Annual Review 2020¹⁰⁶ identified that Ireland will not meet its 2020 targets and will require huge efforts to meet its EU 2030 targets, notwithstanding progress made in the development of the Climate Action Plan and the ambition contained in the Programme for Government. The Council emphasises that Ireland needs to increase its mitigation efforts in implementation and delivery, not only to meet legislated EU targets but also to set in train the actions required to meet our 2050 ambitions. Projections show that we can meet our legislated EU 2030 targets but there is absolutely no room for complacency.

National emissions reduced by 0.1% from 2017 to 2018 largely due to progress in the electricity sector. Other sectors have not delivered emissions reductions on the scale required. However, it must be noted that additional measures within the recent Programme for Government are not included.

¹⁰⁶ Climate Change Advisory Council (2020).

The NPF, the RSES and the DCC Climate Change Action Plan 2019, outline land use aspects / themes of climate action and how the planning system can be utilized to effect positive change and action. The following themes are where change can be made in order to positively address climate change and reduce greenhouse gases:

- Sustainable Settlement Patterns.
- Compact Growth and Urban Regeneration.
- Integrated Transport and Land Use.

5.6.11.1 Climate Change Adaptation

In 2019, the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTS) released a new plan - Developing Resilience to Climate Change in the Irish Transport Sector¹⁰⁷. This Plan seeks to assess the state of our preparedness for the predicted changes to Ireland's climate in the years to come. The transport sector in Ireland is inherently sensitive to the effects of climate change and the impacts of numerous recent severe weather events on key transport infrastructure and services. Adaptation planning is crucial for the transport sector as a key player in the Irish economy.

As an island nation, Ireland's network of 25 no. ports constitutes infrastructure of strategic economic importance to the State. In the Plan, the potential climate change vulnerabilities to ports (but including other transport infrastructure) were identified as precipitation; flooding; high winds; storm surges; heatwaves; cold spells; and sea level rise. The high priority impacts identified in the Plan in relation to ports are:

- Sea level rise and increased occurrence of coastal storms will put port infrastructure at risk.
- Damages to port infrastructure from freezing weather events.
- Service disruption.
- Changing patterns of siltation.

Port infrastructure will be at particular risk under projected sea level changes and storm surge. The key impacts identified include: damages to port infrastructure, navigations and safety equipment; damages to vessels while in port and impacts on safety of passengers while embarking, in transit, and disembarking.

¹⁰⁷ DTTS (2019).

5.6.12 Climate Action Requirements for Development Plans

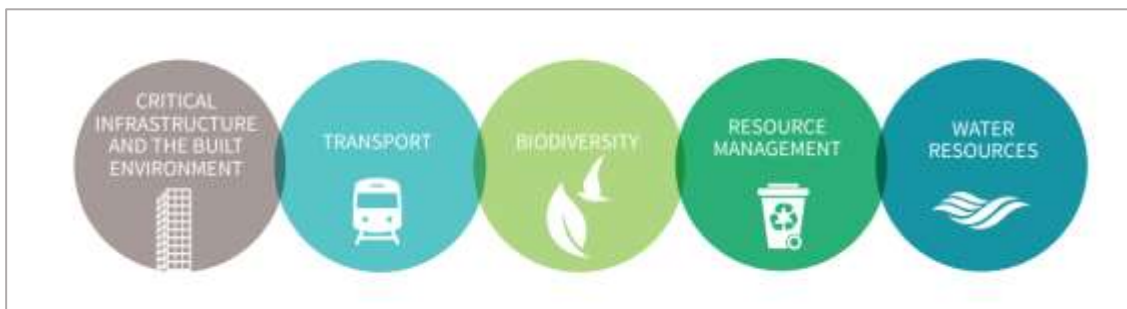
The NPF, Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for Eastern and Midland Region, the Climate Action Plan 2021 and Dublin City Council Climate Change Action Plan 2019, all outline support for climate action requirements for Development Plans.

The RSES states ‘RPO 3.6 City and county development plans shall undergo assessment of their impact on carbon reduction targets in their preparation, and shall include measures to monitor and review progress towards carbon reduction targets’.

In 2017, the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, published the ‘Interim Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Statutory Plans, Renewable Energy and Climate Change’ report. This report identifies that Development Plans play a critical part in translating overall national policy on energy, renewable energy and wind energy in a manner that supports the achievement of Ireland’s binding international obligations relating to climate change and renewable energy, and taking account of local circumstances. This report also states that central and local government need to work together in achieving these targets.

5.6.13 DCC Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024¹⁰⁸

The DCC Climate Change Action Plan outlines a number of goals and plans to prepare for and adapt to climate change. There are five key action areas within the plan: energy and buildings, transport, flood resilience, nature-based solutions and resource management.



The plan has four key targets:

1. 33% better energy use by the Council by 2030;
2. 40% reduction in the Council’s greenhouse gas emissions by 2030;

¹⁰⁸ Dublin City Council & Codema (2019).

3. to make Dublin a climate resilient region, by reducing the impacts of future and current climate change related events; and
4. to actively engage and inform citizens on climate change.

The Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) covering the four Dublin Local Authorities was established in 2018 with Dublin City Council as the lead Authority. CARO is focusing on climate-related projects, research, funding, the development of regional specialisms and addressing mitigation.

5.6.13.1 DCC Climate Mitigation and Adaptation

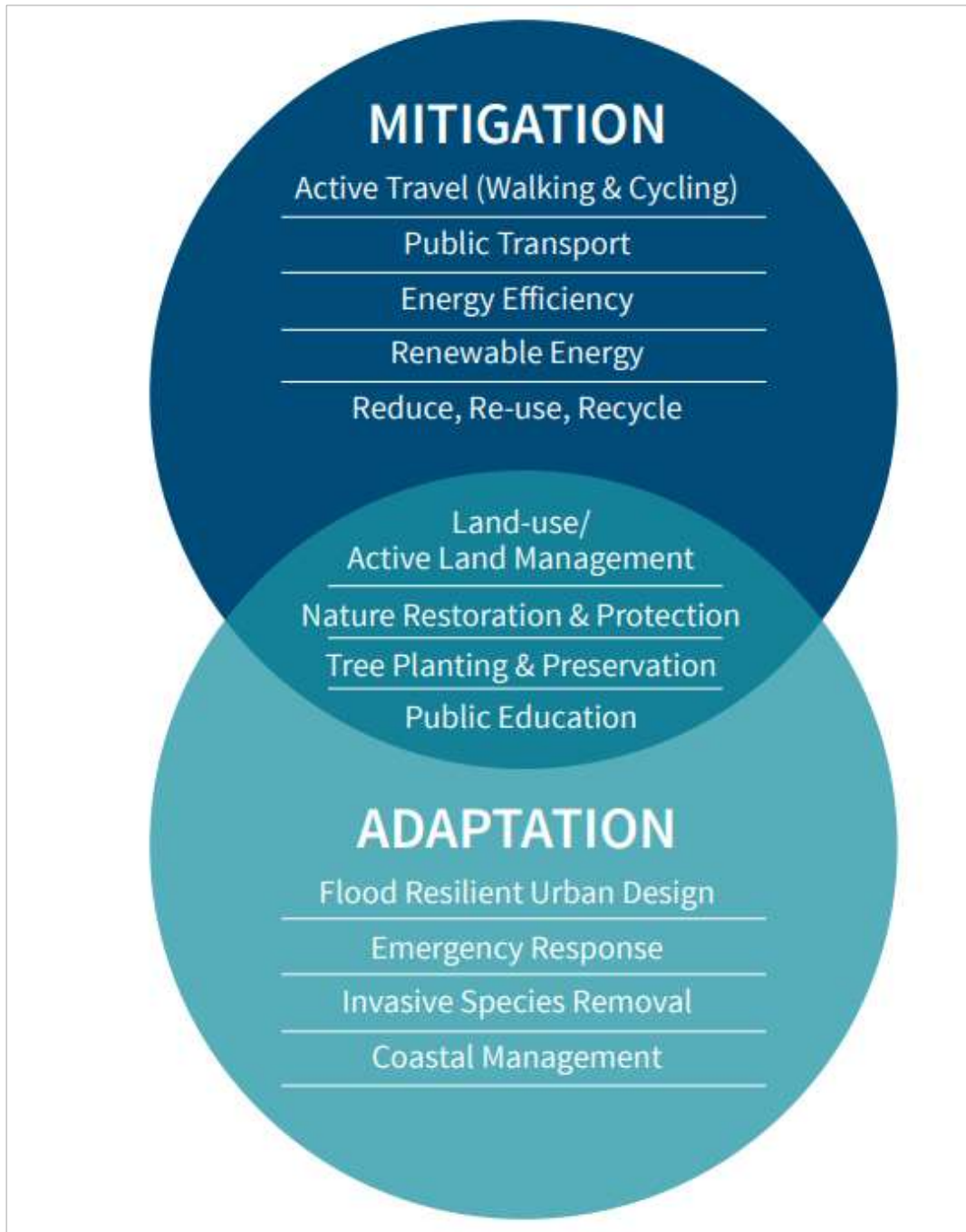
The DCC Climate Change Action Plan 2019 provides examples of climate mitigation and adaptation projects for their climate programme. For example **Climate Mitigation** projects include:

- Participation in Regional and National Electric Vehicle (EV) working groups.
- Collaboration with energy agencies (where in place) and SEAI on energy related projects.
- Identifying and assisting local authorities with projects eligible for the National Climate Action Fund.

For example **Climate Adaptation** projects include:

- Assisting local authorities with implementation and reporting of Climate Change Adaptation / Action Plans including implementation guidance.
- Preparation of guidance such as guidance document for adaptation of regional & local road.
- Participation on National Working Groups such as new Coastal Change Strategy Steering Group.

Figure 5.14: Examples of some Mitigation and Adaptation Solutions and their Crossovers¹⁰⁹



5.6.14 Climate Issues in Dublin City

Dublin’s energy agency CODEMA has produced an adaptation baseline in line with the guidelines contained in the Local Authority Adaptation Strategy Development Guidelines 2018 and the National Adaptation Framework.

¹⁰⁹ Dublin City Council & CODEMA (2019).

Dublin City covers an area of 115 sq.km and has a population of c. 554,554 people (Census 2016). Dublin City is divided into five administrative areas, called Local Areas, which co-ordinate the delivery of services in the community.

The geographic and demographic characteristics make Dublin City sensitive to a set of climate change risks, which differ from rural, landlocked or sparsely populated regions. As a city, Dublin creates its own unique micro-climate and this can intensify current and future climate impacts. An example of this is the urban heat island effect, making it warmer than the surrounding semi-urban and rural areas. This is mainly due to heat absorption from built-up areas in the city, waste heat generated from urban activities and a lack of tree cover. Flood risks are also higher in cities due to the amount of impervious surfaces and lack of vegetation (pervious surfaces); this results in enhanced rainwater run-off, which may result in flooding.

Risks in cities are exacerbated, which means we need to assess the impacts of not only extreme weather and climatic events, but also climatic trends, such as urban flooding, sea level rise and increasing temperatures. These events and trends should not be considered as independent, as they influence each other. The slow, gradual increase in temperatures and sea level rise will contribute to the increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events and flooding.

Dublin City has experienced an increase in **extreme weather** events within the last 15 years. In February and March 2018, Dublin City experienced its greatest snowfall since the winter of 1982, with depths of up to 55cm. This was coupled with extreme cold and blizzard-like conditions, as a result of Storm Emma coming from the Atlantic, and the 'Beast from the East', which also impacted most of Europe¹¹⁰. The frequency of extreme cold spells in Ireland has increased, and this presents additional risks to Dublin City. During Storm Emma, prolonged periods of cold resulted in water pipes freezing and then bursting as the temperatures started to rise, which left homes in the city without water. Extreme weather events pose significant risks to critical assets such as electricity infrastructure.

Met Éireann issued its first-ever Status Red warning for **snow** nationwide. High demands were placed on the country's water network, with as many as 1.2 million households and businesses in and around the city affected by water outages or curtailments in the days after Storm Emma.

¹¹⁰ Dublin City Council & CODEMA (2019).

Dublin's **rainfall** is also changing - in the last decade, the number of days with rainfall greater than 0.2mm has been gradually increasing, as are days with over 10mm of rain. Data from Met Éireann shows that from 1961-2010, there was a 5% increase in average yearly rainfall¹¹¹. In the last 20 years, the number of days with heavy rainfall has also increased as have the amount of extreme flooding events in Dublin in the last 10 years¹¹². The average sea level in Dublin Bay has risen by nearly twice the global average.

Rising **temperatures** impact the city's air quality, which degrades as the concentration of pollutants increase. In the summer of 2018, Ireland experienced extreme temperatures, which caused heat wave and drought conditions, and resulted in a hosepipe ban for most of the summer, due to water shortages throughout the country.

Met Éireann predicts that Ireland as a whole will experience wetter and milder winters, with a 10-15% increase in rainfall, and drier summer¹¹³.

5.6.15 Air Quality, Noise and Climate Change Issues

Ireland's **air quality** currently is good, relative to other EU Member States, but maintaining this standard is a growing challenge. In urban areas, concern has shifted to a range of pollutants associated with domestic fossil fuel use and road traffic which may be considered relatively new in the context of air quality control. The key issue regarding air quality for the Plan area is likely to be the impact on air quality from domestic fossil fuel use and local traffic. Existing air quality issues / pressures and threats on air quality within and adjacent to the Dublin City administrative area, include:

- **Air emissions** - associated with the high use of the private car.
- **Air emissions** - associated with the burning of fossil fuels to heat homes / buildings, emissions from the construction industry and industrial activities.

Noise pollution is considered to be one of the most damaging and prevalent forms of nuisance and pollution within urban areas. High levels of traffic noise especially can have a detrimental effect on the quality of life, and on human health. Existing noise issues to local areas and communities within and adjacent to the Dublin City administrative area, include:

¹¹¹ Dublin City Council & CODEMA (2019).

¹¹² DCC (2021a).

¹¹³ Dublin City Council & CODEMA (2019).

- **High noise levels** - areas of high noise.
- **Noise levels** - noise associated with increased traffic on major roads.
- **Noise levels** - increasing traffic volumes affect the acoustic environment.
- **Development** - new development such as roads, housing developments and industry, must adhere to international best practice standards for noise attenuation.

The potential effects of **climate change** resulting in an increase in the frequency and severity of flooding and storms events must also be considered in the Plan. Severe rainfall and storms events as a result of climate change could adversely impact Dublin City, leading to water shortages, residential flooding and disruption and damage to infrastructure.

According to the Dublin City's Climate Change Action Plan 2019, nature based solutions are critical for climate change mitigation / adaptation. They can play an important role in protecting and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystems, flood prevention and carbon sequestration, but also in terms of temperature regulation, water quality, erosion prevention and filtering pollutants from the air and water. Existing climate change issues / pressures and threats within and adjacent to the Dublin City administrative area, include:

- **Policy** - the need to incorporate and implement strategic goals from higher level plans and programmes.
- **Biodiversity** - direct and indirect impacts on biodiversity from flooding, temperature changes, sea level rise, etc.
- **Population** - population growth and the need for transportation and transport networks, energy, housing and waste disposal.
- **Population** - the threat of extreme weather events (storms / cold spells / heat waves), sea level rise and pluvial and fluvial flooding.
- **Flooding** - direct and indirect impacts from flooding with impacts for populations, development, etc.
- **Air emissions** - associated with the burning of fossil fuels to heat homes / buildings, emissions from the construction industry and industrial activities.
- **Air emissions** - associated with the high use of the private car.
- **Transport / Climate Change** - Delivering sustainable and liveable communities, including minimising the need to travel and ensuring that development takes place where active

travel can successfully be promoted and there is access to high quality public transport networks.

- **Land use changes** - the loss / damage of soil / land from the construction of sites for development.

5.7 Cultural Heritage

5.7.1 Introduction

The physical traces left in the landscape by previous generations in archaeological monuments and sites and in historic buildings, townscapes and vernacular structures forms part of the tangible cultural heritage linking the past and present.

Dublin is an ancient city with many sites of archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage importance. As a vibrant and expanding city, there is a continuing need to balance day-to-day operations with protection of the cultural resource that is so much a part of the fabric of Dublin.

Within Dublin City, there are a number of methods to protect the integrity of cultural assets including appropriate zonings:

- Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs).
- Record of Protected Structures (RPS).
- Record of Monuments and Places (RMPs).
- Conservation Areas (for example along the Liffey Quays).

Archaeological Heritage refers to sites, monuments and complexes imprinted in the landscape and area protected under the national monuments Act 1930-2004.

Architectural Heritage refers historic or modern buildings of architectural, technological or social importance.

5.7.1.1 Dublin City Heritage Plan

The Dublin City Heritage Plan provides strategic support to DCC and other stakeholders by delivering or contributing to a wide range of initiatives aimed at improving the management, understanding and appreciation of Dublin City's heritage.

The Dublin City Heritage Plan identifies new ways to research, support and manage heritage and identify opportunities to engage communities across the city and suburbs with our built environment, or archaeological monuments, and our cultural heritage and intangible cultural heritage. The Heritage Plan will be prepared in tandem with the Plan and the policies and objectives of the Plan will complement and reinforce those in the Heritage Plan.

A number of pioneering Heritage Plan projects have been undertaken since 2016, all supported by the Heritage Council. These projects include¹¹⁴:

- No. 14 Henrietta Street - conservation / adaptive reuse and museum development project, winning awards from the RIAI in 2018 for 'Best Conservation Project' and more recently the 'Silletto' Prize at the European Museum of the Year 2020 awards.
- Original social and architectural history research into the processes of modernisation in Dublin during the 20th Century including 'More than Concrete Blocks, Vol II 1940-1972' and 'Dublin Through the Ages: The City Walls.'

5.7.2 Archaeological Heritage

Archaeological heritage is a non-renewable resource which helps us to understand how cultures and past societies developed. It consists of material remains in the form of sites and monuments, as well as artefacts or moveable objects. '**Monuments**' refer to manmade structures or natural features altered by man while 'sites' are normally situated below ground and may have no visible surface features at all.

The archaeological heritage of an area includes structures, constructions, groups of buildings, developed sites, moveable objects, monuments of other types as well as their context, whether situated on or under land or water.

The National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 provide for the protection of archaeological heritage. At present, a monument is protected in one of four ways¹¹⁵:

- It is recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP).
- It is registered in the Register of Historic Monuments (RHM).
- It is a national monument subject to a preservation order (or temporary preservation order).
- It is a national monument in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht or a Local Authority.

Archaeological heritage is protected under the National Monuments Acts (1930-2004), National Cultural Institutions Act 1997 and the Planning Acts. The **Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)**

¹¹⁴ DCC (2021a).

¹¹⁵ Different levels of protection apply to a monument depending on which of the four categories it falls under.

is an inventory, was established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 and structures, features, objects or sites listed in this Record are known as Recorded Monuments.

Dublin City has a rich archaeological heritage. It has a recorded history of human settlement of over 9,000 years, centred along the line of the River Liffey. While there are few upstanding monuments in the city centre, beneath the surface is a rich and complex record of human activity. The upstanding monuments that survive include the city walls, several castles, churches and graveyards and the quay walls. Dublin City also has deep buried archaeological deposits. Mesolithic fish traps were excavated at Spencer Dock, while an exceptionally well-preserved Viking town was uncovered at Wood Quay.

Dublin originated first as two separate monastic enclosures (Átha Cliath and Linn Dubh), and then as a fortress for Viking ships on the Liffey. After the Anglo-Norman invasion of 1170, the walled city expanded reclaiming land at wood quay and large suburbs developed to the north (Oxmantown), to the south and west around Ship Street and St. Patrick's Cathedral and the Liberties. On the outskirts were villages such as Chapelizod, Finglas and Donnybrook, etc. Much of the medieval city was still intact in 1610 when John Speed mapped it for the first time. During the eighteenth century however, the Wide Streets Commission reshaped the old medieval city, and created a network of main thoroughfares by wholesale demolition or widening of old streets or the creation of entirely new ones. However, much remains that is of value and which can be reinforced or stitched back together and presented in the city's renewal.

The River Liffey in Dublin has been the focus of continuous human activity from prehistory to modern times. This is evidenced by archaeological discoveries of prehistoric burial, cooking and fishing structures, and deep waterlogged Viking and medieval urban layers, upstanding churches, buried foundation remnants of post-medieval structures and human burials¹¹⁶.

The City's archaeological complexity is signified by the **Sites and Monuments Record**, which lists 857 no. sites in the historic core¹¹⁷. Dublin has now seen over 50 years of intensive archaeological investigation, with over 2,500 development-led investigations taking place. The deep, wet, anoxic

¹¹⁶ DCC (2020b).

¹¹⁷ DCC (2020b).

sub-surface archaeological features and deposits within the historic core are of international significance and are vulnerable to loss through rescue excavation, destruction and dewatering.

5.7.2.1 Maritime Archaeology

Maritime archaeology explores the way that people lived and worked by the coast. Ireland's maritime landscapes include ancient settlements along the coast and islands, piers, harbours, fish traps and shipwrecks and submerged landscapes on the seabed. Threats to maritime archaeology include climate change, sea-level rise, coastal erosion, fishing and shellfish farming, coastal and offshore development. Such activities can lead to the damage or destruction of underwater archaeological sites.

Shipwrecks over 100 years old and archaeological objects found underwater are protected under the National Monuments (Amendment) Acts 1987 and 1994. The Shipwreck Inventory of Ireland includes all known wrecks for the years up to and including 1945.

All shipwrecks over one hundred years old and underwater archaeological objects are protected under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 and must not be interfered with, except in accordance with a licence issued by the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. There are over 600 shipwrecks recorded in Dublin Bay.

5.7.3 Architectural Heritage

The term architectural heritage is defined in the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments Act 1999 as meaning all: structures and buildings together with their settings and attendant grounds, fixtures and fittings; groups of structures and buildings; and, sites which are of technical, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social, or technical interest.

5.7.3.1 Record of Protected Structures

Section 10 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) places an obligation on all Local Authorities to include in their Development Plan objectives for the protection of structures, or parts of structures, which are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest. These buildings and structures are compiled on a register known as the Record of Protected Structures (RPS). A Protected Structure, unless otherwise stated in the RPS, includes:

- the interior of the structure;
- the land lying within its curtilage;

- any other structures within the curtilage, and their interiors; and
- all fixtures and features which form part of the interior or exterior of any of these structures.

There are currently over 8,000 structures listed for protection in the Record of Protected Structures. These structures include individual houses, warehouses, shop fronts, churches, boundary walls, bridges, building exteriors etc.

In addition to the Record of Protected Structures, structures of architectural heritage merit, although not put forward for inclusion in the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) may be of local value and may continue to contribute to the identity of a particular area of the city. The Draft Plan will continue to actively seek to protect buildings / structures of heritage value, which may not be protected, but which make a positive contribution to the area and identity of the city. The contributions of any features, which give identity to and enhance that uniqueness, will be given recognition in the preparation of the Draft Plan.

There are over 8,400 no. structures on the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) in the Plan area¹¹⁸. Since October 2016, there have been 51 no. additions, 10 amendments / clarifications and 129 no. deletions from the RPS.

5.7.3.2 Architectural Conservation Areas

An Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) is a place, area, group of structures or townscape, taking account of building lines and heights, that is of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural scientific, social or technical interest or that contributes to the appreciation of a protected structure, and whose character is an objective of a Development Plan to preserve. It should be noted that not all buildings or structures within an ACA are contained within the RPS. The ACAs also offer protection to surrounding structures which combine to create a specific character, street pattern or layout which is worthy of recognition. There are currently 24 no. ACAs in Dublin City as listed in Table 5.6 below. In the period since the 2016-2022 Dublin City Development Plan was adopted, three additional ACAs have been designated at Haddon Road / Victoria Road, Hollybrook Road and North Great George's Street.

¹¹⁸ As of March 2021.

Table 5.6: Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs)

Architectural Conservation Areas	
Capel Street and environs	Hollybrook Road
Chapelizod and environs	Marino Casino
Colliers Avenue	Mountjoy Square
Crumlin	O'Connell Street
Dartmouth Square and environs	Phibsborough Centre
De Courcy Square	Ranelagh Avenue
Elmpark Avenue and Elmwood Avenue	Sandymount Village
Fitzwilliam Square and environs	South City Retail Quarter
Grafton Street and environs	Temple Place
Great Western Square	Thomas Street and environs
Haddon Road / Victoria Road	Westmoreland Park
Belmont Avenue / Mount Eden Road	North Great George's Street

5.7.3.3 Areas of Special Planning Control

An Area of Special Planning Control (ASPC) is all, or part of an Architectural Conservation Areas (ACA) which is considered to be of special importance to the civic life or the architectural, historical, cultural, or social character of a city or town in which it is situated. The legislation relating to ACAs and ASPCs is contained in Part IV of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

Two Areas of Special Planning Control have been created for Dublin City centre:

- O'Connell Street and Environs ASPC; and
- Grafton Street and Environs ASPC.

Dublin City Council monitors and reviews the schemes over a six year period and may by resolution, amend or revoke the scheme as necessary.

5.7.3.4 Designated Conservation Areas

The main conservation areas in the city are primarily the Georgian squares, Liffey Quays, and the corridors of the River Dodder, Grand Canal and Royal Canal. Conservation Areas designation comprises:

- Z8 Georgian Conservation Areas.
- Z2 Residential Conservation Areas.
- Red-hatched Conservation areas covering the Quays / Rivers / Canals.

The Z8 Georgian Conservation Areas, Z2 Residential Conservation Areas and red-lined Conservation Areas are extensive throughout the city. Whilst these areas do not have a statutory basis in the same manner as protected structures or ACAs, they are recognised as areas that have conservation merit and importance and warrant protection through zoning and policy application. Designated Conservation Areas included extensive groupings of buildings or streetscapes and associated open spaces and include (parts of) the medieval / walled city, the Georgian Core (in recognition of Dublin's international importance as a Georgian City), the 19th and 20th century city and the city quays, rivers and canals. The special interest / value of Conservation Areas lies in the historic and architectural interest and the design and scale of these areas.'

5.7.4 Other Heritage Areas in Dublin

5.7.4.1 Industrial Heritage

'Industrial Heritage' refers to everything from the extraction of raw materials, manufacturing and processing into usable forms or finished products, public utilities, transport, communications and energy production. Over the past number of years there has been a growing public awareness of Ireland's industrial heritage, and a number of sites have been restored and are now open to the public as tourist and educational attractions.

Dublin's industrial heritage is closely associated with the development of the city, encompassing sites and structures of engineering heritage related to the evolution of the city's transport networks and public utilities, as well as its manufacturing heritage. It includes a number of sites of national and international importance such as the Grand and Royal Canals, the Great South Wall, the Pigeon House Power Station, the Guinness Storehouse and the R&H Hall Grain Silo. It also includes sites / structures such as the city's bridges, quays, railways, telephone exchanges, post boxes and weirs.

The industrial heritage of the city c. 1750-1950 survives in areas such as St. James's Gate. The **Guinness Brewery** is one of Dublin's most important industrial heritage sites and Guinness is identified as a significant brand internationally and is inextricably linked with the capital. The **Royal Canal** in Dublin City is another example of a tourist and educational attraction based on

industrial heritage in Ireland. However, industrial heritage is currently a critically underutilised and undervalued aspect of Dublin's built heritage.

Recording and conserving the city's built heritage is a key issue, as a substantial portion of Dublin's industrial heritage has already disappeared without record. Industrial buildings are not always of high architectural significance and so are poorly represented on the Record of Protected Structures for this reason. The National Monuments Act (amended) protects sites and monuments down to, but not after, 1700AD. In this way, industrial heritage has continually fallen between the two primary statutory instruments for protection of built heritage. DCC has undertaken an inventory of industrial heritage and the Dublin City Industrial Heritage Record (DCIHR) and the current Plan (2016-2022) has regard to this record.

5.7.4.2 UNESCO World Heritage

The Historic City of Dublin is currently on Ireland's Tentative List of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. DCC and the Heritage Council are working on an agenda which seeks to identify the sociological and cultural characteristics which are unique features of Dublin.

5.7.5 Cultural Heritage Issues

Construction activities have the potential for direct negative impacts on heritage features and their setting. Development of infrastructure, in addition to development resulting from economic growth and increasing population, can potentially impact on the integrity of sites or features of architectural, archaeological or cultural heritage interest.

Existing cultural heritage issues / pressures and threats within and adjacent to the Dublin City administrative area, include:

- **Development** - development of infrastructure resulting from economic growth and increasing population, can potentially impact on the integrity of sites or features and their views to / from architectural, archaeological or cultural heritage interest.
- **Development** - in close proximity to sites and areas of cultural heritage may adversely impact upon the cultural landscape setting.
- **Development** - can adversely impact on community's sense of place.
- **Architecture** - impact on heritage streetscapes of regional and local importance.
- **Archaeology** - impact on archaeological monuments and their settings including undiscovered sites / features.

- **Landscapes** - there is a need to identify and protect culturally important landscapes.
- **Tourism** - demand for development in areas of tourism and along the coastline including amenities, can potentially impact cultural heritage sites and features.
- **Climate change** - the direct effects of climate change on heritage may be immediate or cumulative. Potential impacts are flooding, storm damage, coastal erosion, soil movement, changing burial-preservation conditions, pest and mould and maladaptation.
- **Awareness** - increasing public awareness of the cultural value and social and economic significance of the city's built heritage.

5.8 Landscape and Visual

5.8.1 Introduction

The concept of landscape encompasses all that can be seen by looking across an area of land, i.e. it is the visible environment in its entirety. Landscape is the context in which all change takes place and helps to create a unique sense of place or identity within an area. The landscape supports a wide range of ecological habitats despite growth in its resident population. The interaction of all of these elements influences landscape character for future generations.

The landscape in Dublin City is characterised by its predominantly urban fabric, its diverse styles of building of varying heights and its green infrastructure. The city landscape consists of the public and private landscape and it fulfils an array of environmental, ecological, social, recreational and aesthetic functions of the developing city. Dublin's setting, on the River Liffey and around Dublin Bay, with the Dublin Mountains to the south and Howth peninsula to the north is unique.

The city park system forms one of the most recognisable components of the modern city landscape, including Dublin City. The city evolved primarily from lands that were originally in private ownership, such as the Phoenix Park and squares such as Mountjoy Square.

5.8.2 Legislation / Policy / Guidance

The European Landscape Convention, also known as the Florence Convention, promotes the protection, management and planning of European landscapes and organises European co-operation on landscape issues. The convention was adopted on 20 October 2000 in Florence (Italy) and came into force on 1 March 2004¹¹⁹.

The National Planning Framework, Project Ireland 2040 outlines that Ireland's landscape has a wealth of natural and cultural assets which support our quality of life. Therefore the protection, management and planning of the landscape is also interconnected with the National Landscape Strategy for Ireland, and a national landscape character assessment, will provide consistency in how we characterise and connect with the landscape. The National Policy Objective 61 is:

“Facilitate landscape protection, management and change through the preparation of a National Landscape Character Map and development of guidance on local landscape character assessments, (including historic landscape characterisation) to ensure a

¹¹⁹ Council of Europe.

consistent approach to landscape character assessment, particularly across planning and administrative boundaries”.

The National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025¹²⁰ was published in line with Ireland’s obligations under the European Landscape Convention. The key objectives of this Strategy are the recognition of landscape in law and the provision of a policy framework to put measures in place for the management and protection of landscape and the production of a national Landscape Character Assessment (LCA).

The City Landscape Plan, Dublin City Council’s Parks Strategy 2017-2022 which forms part of the DCC’s Parks strategy is intended as a precursor to the future development of more detailed landscape plans for the city including historic landscapes for conservation.

5.8.3 Landscape Conservation Areas

Landscape Conservation Areas (LCAs) can be made by order for the preservation of the landscape. There are no LCAs within the city administrative area.

5.8.4 Landscape of Dublin City

Dublin City is located on the River Liffey, with the Dublin Mountains to the south, Howth peninsula to the north, and Dublin Bay to the east. Dublin City is located in a unique setting, and it is critical to retain existing key landscapes and open spaces which offer so much to the city in terms of amenity and character.

Within Dublin City, there are outstanding landscapes of national importance including a National Special Amenity Area at North Bull Island (refer to Section 5.2.14), views northward to the National Special Amenity Area at Howth Head (within Fingal area) and a National Historic Park - the Phoenix Park. The Liffey Valley where it adjoins the city within Fingal and South Dublin plan areas is also a National Special Amenity Area.

5.8.4.1 Parks and Open Spaces

Dublin City’s parks and open spaces encompass a wide range of spaces including formal parks, green open space areas, grassed areas, woodlands and also cemeteries, allotments and civic spaces. These parks and open spaces play an invaluable role in improving the quality and character of the city. They are an essential physical asset for well-being, linked to the better mental and

¹²⁰ DAHG (2015).

physical health of residents. They provide attractive places for residents, workers and visitors to relax, socialise and play, and allow people to have contact with nature.

DCC currently manages approximately 1,400ha of public open space. The public landscape is primarily composed of:

- parks and golf courses;
- transport corridor landscape (road and rail);
- canals, rivers and coastline;
- street trees and civic decoration; and
- public housing / buildings / office landscape.

The private landscape is under the management of individuals, institutions and commercial entities and is primarily composed of:

- private parks (e.g. Fitzwilliam Square);
- institutional landscape (e.g. school grounds);
- commercial landscape (e.g. private golf courses, shopping centres, hotels etc.); and
- residential landscape (e.g. private gardens, apartment landscape).

5.8.4.2 Urban Forests

Dublin City's urban forest consists of street trees, garden trees, trees in parks and open spaces, hedge lines and woodlands. Trees bring extensive benefits to the city by humanising space, enhancing the environment and minimising the impacts of climate change. They provide ecosystem services such as cleaning air, providing natural water management / flood control and creating diverse habitats while also storing carbon, cooling the urban environment, masking noise and acting as a wind barrier.

The 2017 Dublin Tree Canopy Study identified that there are some 300,000 trees in Dublin City covering some 10% of the city's land area. It identified a low canopy cover between the canals in the city centre and an axis of low canopy cover running from the Grand Canal to the south west city boundary. The forthcoming Dublin Tree Strategy will establish urban forestry plans for the city, provide a target for an increased level of tree cover and will prioritise locations for tree planting.

5.8.4.3 Tree Preservation Orders

Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) may be made under Section 45 of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, 1963 and subsequent acts. Part XIII of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 sets out the provisions for TPOs.

A TPO can be made if it appears to the planning authority to be desirable and appropriate in the interest of amenity or the environment. A TPO can apply to a tree, trees, group of trees or woodland. The principle effect of a TPO is to prohibit the cutting down, topping, lopping or wilful destruction of trees without the planning authority's consent. These trees have been designated due to their landscape, amenity and ecological value. The trees may only be removed if they are a risk to public health and safety or in the interest of design. There are currently six Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) in the Plan area (see Figure 10-4 in Volume 1 of CDP for details):

- Dublin Corporation Tree Preservation (Watermill Road / All Saints Drive, Adjoining St. Anne's National School) Order 1989.
- Dublin Corporation Tree Preservation (St. Patrick's House) Order 1994.
- Dublin City Council Tree Preservation Order (No.1) 2008 Dartmouth Square Park, Dublin 6.
- Dublin City Council Tree Preservation Order (No.2) 2008 Dartmouth Square Park, Dublin 6.
- Dublin City Council Tree Preservation Order (No.3) 2008 Dartmouth Square Park, Dublin 6.
- Dublin City Council Tree Preservation Order (No.4) 2008 Dartmouth Square Park, Dublin 6.

5.8.5 Key Views and Prospects for Dublin City

Figure 5.15 shows the key views and prospects for Dublin City as included in the Draft Plan.

5.8.6 Special Amenity Areas

The objective of the Special Amenity Area Order (SAAO) is primarily to protect areas of outstanding natural beauty or special recreational value whilst having regard to any benefits for nature conservation. North Bull Island is a National Special Amenity Area, representing a landscape of national importance for its aesthetic and recreational value; Bull Island is one of three such designations in Ireland (the others being Howth and the Liffey Valley west of the city) and was designated under Special Amenity Area Order (SAAO) in 1994 (S.I. No. 70/1995¹²¹).

¹²¹ GOI (1995).

5.8.7 Landscape and Visual Issues

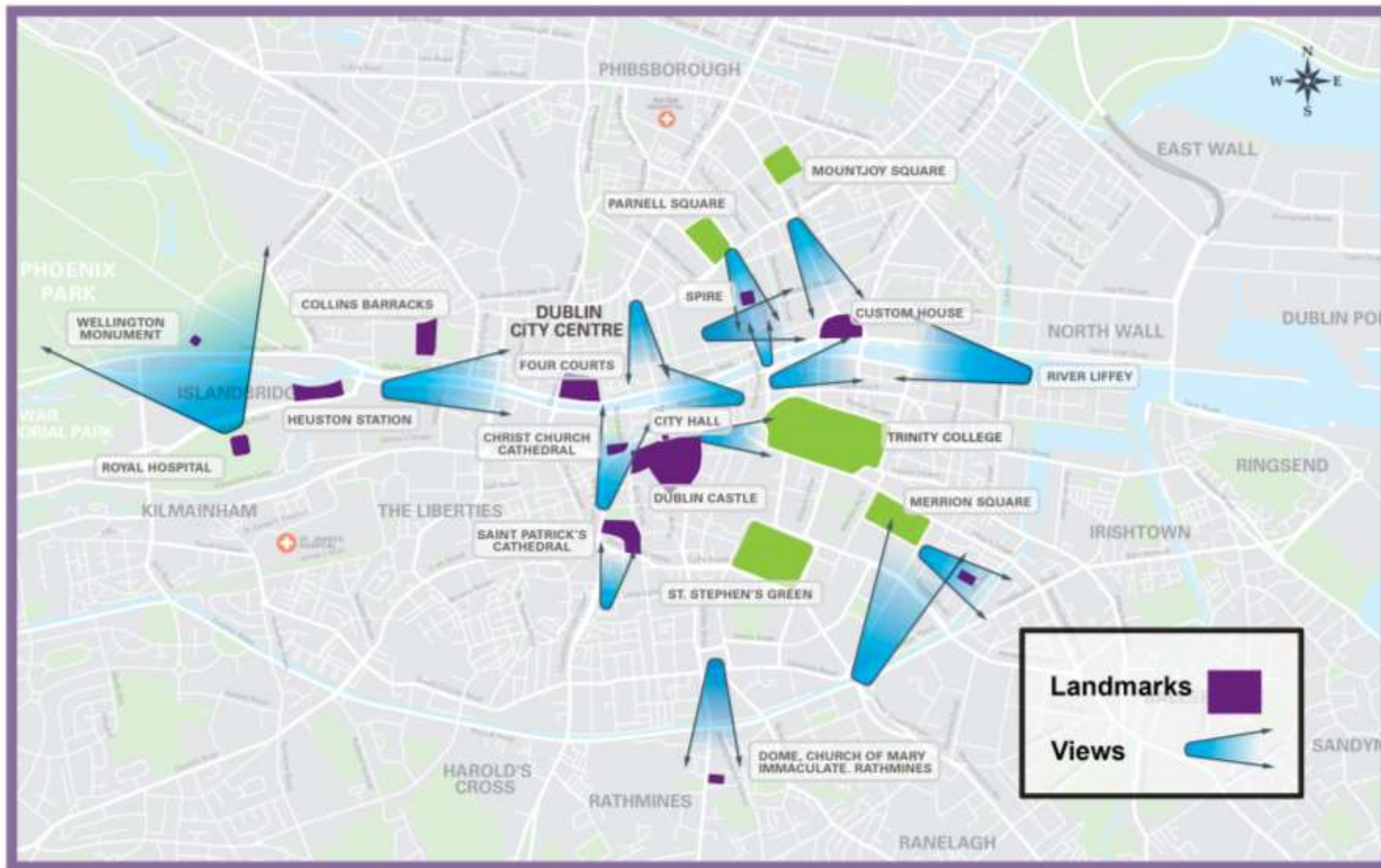
Landscape can be considered a dynamic rather than static asset. It is constantly changing, and its changes are driven by nature itself, by direct human intervention, and indirectly through the consequences of human activity, notably climate change. All physical development undertaken by human impacts on the landscape.

Areas of a highly sensitive landscape have a low capacity to absorb new development and this can be a challenge to locate new development in these areas without it becoming unduly obtrusive.

Existing landscape and visual issues / pressures and threats within and adjacent to the Dublin City administrative area, include:

- **Development** - development and housing are having adverse and visual impacts on the landscape.
- **Development** - sustainable building heights in the right locations to ensure efficient use of resources, services and public transport infrastructure.
- **Housing** - visual impact with greatest pressure for expansion of settlements.
- **Green Infrastructure** - protecting the existing green infrastructure network from fragmentation and loss due to pressures of urban development within and adjoining the network
- **Ecosystem Services** - recognising and promoting the value of ecosystem services that the green infrastructure network provides to the city.
- **Health and Well-being** - addressing deficits of green space in some neighbourhoods due to the historic development of the city and retrofitting green infrastructure into existing built-up areas.

Figure 5.15: Key Views and Prospects for Dublin City (Extract from the Draft Plan)¹²²



¹²² DCC (2021).

5.9 Material Assets

5.9.1 Introduction

Material assets are resources that are valued and intrinsic to a development and the surrounding area. Material assets may be of either natural or human origin and the value may arise for economic or cultural reasons. Material assets include water supply, wastewater treatment infrastructure, waste disposal including recycling, transport infrastructure (road, rail, airports and ports), energy and supply networks and telecom services. Material assets also includes economic assets such as coastal and water resources which support fisheries and aquaculture.

The sustainable growth of the city is dependent on the provision of services and infrastructure. A Plan led approach, in accordance with the Council's Core Settlement and Housing Strategy is required for the delivery of such services in order to ensure there is adequate capacity to support the future development of the city.

5.9.2 Water Services

5.9.2.1 Water Supply and Water Services

There have been significant changes in responsibilities for water supply and wastewater treatment services. As of January 2014 Irish Water replaced local authorities as a single provider of water supply and wastewater services. The future development of Dublin City's water supply and wastewater treatment infrastructure is largely dependent on the Irish Water Services Capital Investment Programme (CIP), and the availability of funding therein.

Irish Water have prepared the Water Services Strategic Plan (WSSP), 'A Plan for the Future of Water Services' and it provides for the first time at national level an opportunity to consider the way water services are delivered in Ireland. The WSSP sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040.

Irish Water is preparing its first National Water Resources Plan (NWRP) which outlines a move towards a sustainable, secure and reliable drinking water supply for Ireland over the next 25 years. The preparation of the NWRP provides an opportunity to strategically plan the way that water services are delivered in Ireland at a national level. The NWRP is being prepared in two phases:

Phase 1: NRWP Framework Plan: (completed in 2021¹²³) a description of the options assessment methodology Irish Water proposes to use for water resource planning, and assessment of need across Irish Water asset base in terms of quality, quantity, reliability and sustainability; and

Phase 2: Regional Water Resource Plans (RWRPs) (under preparation) for the four regional group areas. Dublin City is with the Eastern & Midlands Region. The Regional Plans apply the options assessment methodology presented in the Framework Plan to the national water supply and develop a programme of preferred short, medium- and long-term solutions and/or groups of solutions to address identified needs for each area of the supply network

Currently, the Dublin Region Water Supply Area is defined by the combined areas served by the Dublin Region Water Supply Schemes, operated by the local authorities on behalf of Irish Water, namely¹²⁴:

- Liffey Water Treatment Plant at Ballymore Eustace (outside of Dublin City Council area – but operated by Dublin City Council);
- Liffey Water Treatment Plant at Leixlip (Fingal County Council);
- Vartry Plant at Roundwood (outside of Dublin City Council area – but operated by Dublin City Council);
- Dodder Plant at Ballyboden (outside of Dublin City Council area – but operated by Dublin City Council); and
- Bog of the Ring Groundwater (Fingal County Council).

As part of the Water Supply Project, Eastern and Midlands Region (WSP)¹²⁵, Irish Water, has plans – currently as a preferred option¹²⁶ - to abstract water from the Parteen Basin on the Lower River Shannon and to pipe the water to a new reservoir at Peamount in South Dublin County, from where it would connect to the Greater Dublin network.

¹²³ Irish Water (2021a).

¹²⁴ DCC (2016).

¹²⁵ Irish Water (2021).

¹²⁶ Irish Water (2021).

There is an ongoing issue with security of water supply in the Dublin and Mid-East Regions. Consultation with IW has revealed that a supply demand deficit linked to population growth, leakage and climate change remains the primary challenge to the delivery of a safe, secure, sustainable and reliable water supply¹²⁷.

5.9.2.2 Drinking Water Quality

Irish Water is responsible for providing and developing public water services; and ensuring drinking water quality meets the standards in the Drinking Water Regulations. The EPA is the drinking water quality regulator, responsible for enforcing the Drinking Water Regulations.

The latest Drinking Water Quality in Public Supplies 2019¹²⁸ was published by the EPA in 2020. The report outlines the most important issues which should be addressed on a national level, to protect and improve public drinking water supplies, these are:

- delays in fixing significant problems at supplies;
- to keep water free of harmful bacteria (disinfection);
- minimise harmful disinfection by products (trihalomethanes);
- eliminate lead from the network;
- prevent pesticides from entering waters; and
- manage risks to our public water supplies.

The reports notes that the quality of drinking water in public supplies remains high. Over the 12 years of the EPA's Remedial Action Lists (RALs)¹²⁹, the number of supplies on the List has decreased from year to year. Effective disinfection is the most fundamental part of the water treatment process and the part with the greatest potential to impact on public health.

As of Q2 in 2021, 53 no. supplies remain on the RAL¹³⁰. However, none of the water Dublin Region Water Supply Schemes were on the RAL.

¹²⁷ DCC (2020a).

¹²⁸ EPA (2020h).

¹²⁹ Under Section 58 of the Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992.

¹³⁰ EPA (2021m).

5.9.3 Wastewater Services

The EPA's Water Quality in Ireland 2013-2018¹³¹ highlights that one of the key causes of water pollution is from point sources including discharges from wastewater treatment plants.

There have been significant changes in responsibilities for water supply and wastewater treatment services. As of January 2014 Irish Water replaced local authorities as a single provider of water supply and wastewater services.

Dublin City's wastewater is currently treated at Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Plant (WwTP). Planning permissions for a major upgrade at Ringsend WwTP were granted in 2012 and 2019, respectively. The upgrade is currently underway and will facilitate the existing plant meeting future wastewater treatment requirements, which will allow for growth in both population and industry. The project is being delivered on a phased basis, and when works are complete in 2025, Ringsend will have the capacity to treat the wastewater for a population equivalent of 2.4 million while achieving the standards of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive.

The Greater Dublin Drainage (GDD) Project involves the development of a new regional wastewater treatment facility and associated infrastructure including pipelines to serve the Greater Dublin Area (GDA) and parts of the surrounding counties of Kildare and Meath. The GDD project is acknowledged as a critical piece of national infrastructure and has been identified in the National Planning Framework (NPF) as a National Strategic Outcome of the National Development Plan. The project will have the capacity to provide wastewater treatment for the equivalent of half a million people to support the needs of a growing population and economy in Dublin and the surrounding counties, whilst also contributing to system resilience and flexibility.

The GDD project will assist the Dublin local authorities in delivering on their plans for future development; not just in terms of local spatial planning policy but also in supporting consolidation of the metropolitan area, sustainable population growth, economic prosperity and continued confidence for investors in the long-term. An Bord Pleanála granted a Strategic Infrastructure Development permission for GDD in 2019, but that decision was quashed (in November 2020) following legal challenge. Nevertheless, the GDD remains a key part of Irish Water's investment in new wastewater infrastructure in the greater Dublin area.

¹³¹ EPA (2019c).

The GDD and Ringsend WwTP Project are critically important infrastructure given their objective to provide long-term sustainable wastewater drainage and treatment to support the continued development of the Greater Dublin Area.

5.9.3.1 Surface Water Drainage

Surface water can be proactively managed through measures such as Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS). SuDS can minimise the quantity and increase the quality of surface water runoff as well as mitigating adverse impacts of climate change.

SuDS such as green roofs, permeable paving and attenuation areas contribute towards slowing surface water run-off, thereby alleviating flooding and helping to clean the water before it reaches our rivers. This 'green infrastructure approach' has an increasing role to play in surface water management, reducing reliance on more traditional hard engineered solutions and contributing to flood management, climate action and measures to enable WFD compliance.

Significant developments permitted in the city since the adoption of the 2016 Plan have been required to use SuDS, such as green roofs, rainwater harvesting, permeable paving and Stormwater Management Plans, in order to reduce surface water run-off¹³².

Irish Water Drainage Area Plans (DAPs) are being progressed for wastewater networks in Dublin City. These studies model the existing sewer network / future scenarios and will develop solutions to overcome current constraints.

- **City Centre Sewerage Scheme DAP** - work on this plan is ongoing and is expected to be complete by the end of 2021.
- **Ringsend Main Lift Pumping Station DAP** - Work on this will be ongoing over the next few years. Estimated to be completed in 2025.
- **Sutton Pumping Station DAP** - Part of the city's sewage flows to this strategic station in Sutton which, then pumps forward to the Ringsend plant. Work on this plan will take a number of years to complete estimated date for full completion of the plan is 2025.

5.9.4 Utilities

Gas and electricity are the energy utilities which have traditionally supported homes and businesses across Dublin City.

¹³² DCC (2020a).

ESB Networks and EirGrid are the utility providers responsible for the **electricity** distribution and transmission systems. EirGrid manages the higher capacity electricity network which supply's power to industry and businesses that use large amounts of energy and electricity, whilst the ESB manages and operates the distribution network supplying electricity to homes, businesses, schools and institutions.

The Dublin region is the major load centre on the Irish transmission system, accounting for approximately one third of total electricity demand. The Dublin Port hinterland and Poolbeg Peninsula is an electricity generation and transmission / distribution network hub.

EirGrid has a number of ongoing and planned projects in the Greater Dublin Area for the purpose of reinforcing the transmission and distribution networks. The projects that are specific to Dublin City Council's area are as follows:

- Inchicore 220 kV Station Upgrade;
- Belcamp - Shellybanks New 220 kV Cable;
- Inchicore - Maynooth No. 1 and 2 220 kV Line Upgrade; and
- Poolbeg 220 kV Station - Installation of 100 Mvar Voltage Support.

Gas Networks Ireland (GNI) are the utility provider responsible for the supply, transmission and distribution of natural gas. GNI operates and maintains a modern gas network in Dublin City whilst Ervia is responsible for the delivery of gas infrastructure and services through GNI.

5.9.4.1 Public Lighting

Public lighting is an important component of placemaking and is essential for the operation of the city. While the city is generally an illuminated area, excessive light pollution can arise when external lighting is not properly designed or managed. Light pollution can arise when external lighting is poorly designed and / or managed, leading to inappropriate or unwanted light spillage, sky glow and glare. This can have negative impacts on general amenities and wildlife.

High artificial lighting levels can have negative impacts on the occurrence of bat species, particularly light sensitive species such as those species associated with woodland like the Long-eared and Whiskered Bats, or the Daubenton's Bat, which forages over waterbodies. In the case of any lighting proposals in the vicinity of woodlands or waterbodies their potential impacts on bat species should therefore always be carefully assessed.

5.9.5 Energy

The Department of Environment is responsible for the development of Ireland's energy and climate policies. Ireland's long-term energy policy framework is set out in the 2015 Energy White Paper, Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030. The Paper sets out a framework to guide Irish energy policy in the period up to 2030 and sets out a vision for a transformation of Ireland's energy systems.

In 2014 the European Council adopted a new framework, the 2030 Climate and Energy Framework, which includes EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period from 2021 to 2030. The 2030 framework proposes new targets and measures to make the EU's economy and energy system more competitive, secure and sustainable¹³³. The 2030 framework aims to help the EU address issues such as:

- taking the next step towards the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80-95% below 1990 level by 2050;
- high energy prices and the EU economy's vulnerability to future price rises, especially for oil and gas;
- the EU's dependence on energy imports, often from politically unstable areas;
- the need to replace and upgrade energy infrastructure and provide a stable regulatory framework for potential investors; and
- agree on a greenhouse gas reduction target for 2030.

The built environment accounted for 12.7% of Ireland's greenhouse gases in 2017. It is important that we improve the energy efficiency of our buildings, including homes, workplaces and schools, by meeting higher energy performance standards and by increasing retrofit activity. This will reduce Ireland's dependence on fossil fuels, but will also improve our living standards by making our buildings healthier, safer, and less costly to heat.

The National Energy & Climate Plan (NECP) 2021-2030¹³⁴ takes into account energy and climate policies developed to date, demographic and economic growth (outlined in Project 2040) and includes all of the climate and energy measures set out in the NDP 2018-2027.

¹³³ European Council (2017).

¹³⁴ DCCA (2018).

5.9.5.1 Dublin Regional Energy Masterplan

CODEMA (City of Dublin Energy Management Agency) is developing the Dublin Region Energy Masterplan, which will develop evidence-based, and costed pathways for the Dublin region to achieve its carbon emission reduction targets to 2030 and 2050, building on the energy areas identified in the Spatial Energy Demand Analyses (SEDAs) for the four Dublin local authority areas¹³⁵.

5.9.5.2 Renewable Energy Potential

In December 2018, the recast Renewable Energy Directive 2018/2001/EU entered into force, as part of the Clean Energy for all Europeans package. Renewable energy sources are defined as renewable non-fossil energy sources such as, but not limited to wind, solar, geothermal, wave, tidal, hydropower, biomass, landfill gas, sewage treatment plant gas, bio-gases and bio-char (i.e. the thermal treatment of natural organic materials in an oxygen-limited environment).

Central to the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions will be the continued transition from the use of fossil fuels as an energy source to a more renewable energy focused system which harnesses the potential from energy sources appropriate in Dublin City such as biomass and solar power¹³⁶.

DCC works with CODEMA which aims to accelerate Dublin's low-carbon transition in order to mitigate the effects of climate change and improve the lives of citizens.

5.9.5.3 Geothermal

Geothermal energy is solar energy stored in the form of heat within the earth's surface, heating the soil itself or groundwater beneath the surface. It is used to produce heat to meet building heating requirements, and can produce both space and hot water heating, but is most commonly used for low-temperature space heating. The makeup of the soil and bedrock in Dublin City will affect the suitability and potential to exploit geothermal resources¹³⁷.

Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) provides information on ground source heat energy (geothermal), sometimes called shallow geothermal energy, which can be collected from the ground and boosted with heat pumps. Geothermal energy can be harnessed, or collected, using different types of collector systems:

¹³⁵ DCC (2021a).

¹³⁶ DCC (2020e).

¹³⁷ CODEMA (2015).

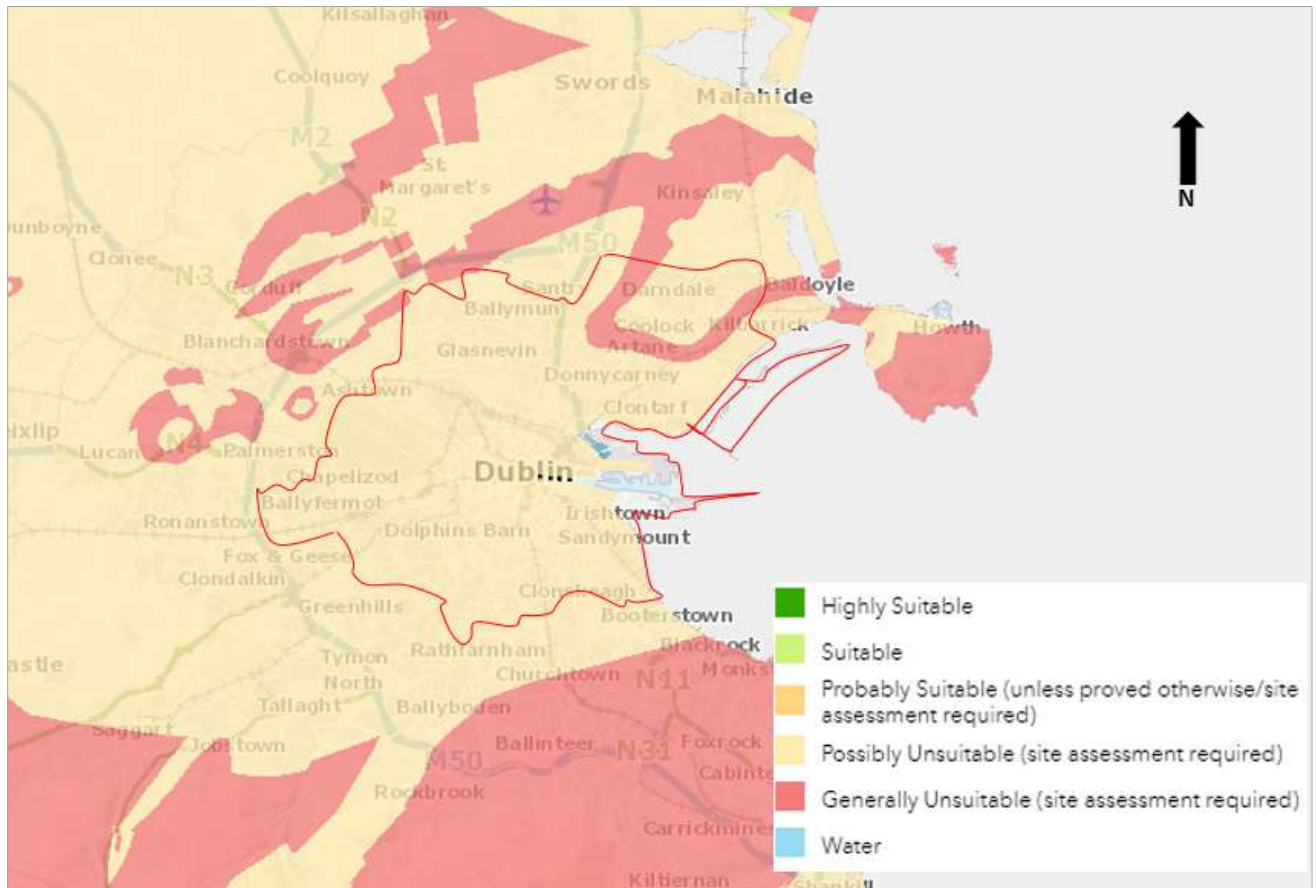
- Closed loop collectors are systems where heat is extracted from the ground (or cooling is gained) by pumping a heat exchange fluid through closed pipes within the ground. The pipes can be installed borehole(s) (vertical closed loop) or laid out horizontally (horizontal closed loop).
- Open loop ground source heat systems operate by taking heat energy from abstracted groundwater using a heat pump. The volume of groundwater that can be abstracted from a borehole or taken from a spring each day (the 'yield') determines the total amount of heat energy available, and therefore the size of heat pump that can be used and the size of building that can be heated.

The GSI ground source heating / cooling suitability maps indicate which type of ground source heat collector is most compatible with the geology below a site.

The GSI suitability maps use a suitability rating ranging from 1 (worst) to 5 (best) for each type of heat collector / cooling system. Figure 5.16 shows the GSI geothermal suitability mapping for open loop domestic / small commercial uses in Dublin City. The Dublin City area is generally unsuitable, with no areas classified as highly suitable or suitable within Dublin for shallow geothermal open-loop systems.

The analysis for horizontal and vertical closed-loop shallow geothermal systems shows some very small areas highlighted as suitable, but mainly show Dublin City as being possibly suitable and generally unsuitable.

Figure 5.16: GSI Geothermal Suitability Map for Dublin City - Open Loop Domestic Uses¹³⁸



5.9.5.4 Wind Energy

In 2018 Wind provided 85% of Ireland’s renewable electricity and 30% of the total electricity demand¹³⁹.

In Dublin City, due to the lack of space, low altitude and turbulence and disruption of laminar flow caused by buildings and other obstructions, on-shore wind is not well suited to most parts of the city. The only wind farm listed on the SEAI wind mapping system located within the DCC boundaries is the small installation located at Father Collins Park installed by DCC.

Potential also exists for the production of electricity from large scale offshore wind energy facilities off the coast of Dublin City in the Irish Sea¹⁴⁰.

¹³⁸ GSI (2021).

¹³⁹ SEAI (2021).

¹⁴⁰ DCC (2021a).

5.9.5.5 Hydro-Electric

Hydro-electric power involves the production of electricity through a generator which is powered by the force of moving water.

The largest hydro sites in Ireland are found at Ardnacrusha, Cathleen's Falls and Pollaphuca, the latter being fed by the River Liffey¹⁴¹. Suitable sites are sites where there is a running flow of water year round, where this flow has a high fall height (or head height), and where re-routing the water resource through a turbine will not have a negative effect on the environment.

Dublin City has three main rivers, the Tolka, the Liffey and the Dodder, and other smaller mainly underground rivers. Dublin City is quite a flat land area, and so head heights on these waterways will not be very substantial¹⁴². Mountainous areas, closer to the Dublin Mountains, would be more suitable.

5.9.5.6 Solar

The sun is a reliable source of heat and light. There are three basic approaches used today to harness and gain maximum benefit of solar energy in buildings. These are Passive Solar; Active Solar Heating; and Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems.

Analysis of actual PV installations in Dublin City, the solar resources in Dublin allow approximately 800-1000kWh/m²/year to be produced with a south facing installation. Solar power has real potential in Dublin City. Solar PV can be installed in new developments, or retrofitted on to existing buildings.

5.9.5.7 District Heat and Waste Heat

The NPF deals with district heating under the theme of waste management, stating that 'District heating networks will be developed, where technically feasible and cost effective, to assist in meeting renewable heat targets and reduce Ireland's GHG emissions'.

District Heating networks typically use locally sourced heat energy, and distribute it to local homes and businesses, therefore reducing Dublin's reliance on imported energy and fuel. District heating utilises low carbon heat sources such as renewable energy and waste heat recovery, reducing Dublin's CO₂ emissions, while achieving energy efficiency and climate change mitigation.

¹⁴¹ CODEMA (2015).

¹⁴² CODEMA (2015).

A key project in Dublin City that has contributed towards the decarbonisation of the electricity supply is the Covanta Waste-to-Energy Facility, which became fully operational on 30 November 2017. This facility converts waste that cannot be reused or recycled into clean energy. The facility has the capacity to deliver 90 megawatts of heat, equivalent to the heating needs of 50,000 to 80,000 homes in the city.

According to CODEMA, Dublin City has enough waste heat to provide for 1.75 times the total heating demand of the city's buildings. Furthermore, CODEMA's Spatial Energy Demand Analysis (SEDA), identified that over 75% of Dublin City areas have heat densities high enough to be considered feasible for connection to district heating systems.

5.9.5.8 Decarbonising Zones

A Decarbonising Zone is a spatial area identified by the local authority, in which a range of climate mitigation measures can co-exist to address local low carbon energy, greenhouse gas emissions and climate needs.

Dublin City Council has identified Ringsend / Irishtown as a Decarbonising Zone and work is progressing in conjunction with CODEMA and CARO on an implementation plan to provide for the development demonstrator projects which will harnessing a range of energies technologies and initiatives¹⁴³.

5.9.6 Telecommunications

The Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 introduced the concept of the Smart Dublin Framework as a means of using technological innovation to address priority challenges facing Dublin by using the City as a test-bed for such technologies.

The National Broadband Plan (2019) seeks to deliver high-speed broadband services to all businesses and households across Ireland ensuring that those living and working in rural areas have the same digital access and opportunities as those in rural areas. Since its publication, significant investment has been made in upgrading and modernising networks which support the provision of broadband and telecommunications services, with significant additional investment expected over the coming years.

¹⁴³ DCC (2021a).

The National Digital Strategy (2018) is intended to assist Ireland in maximising the socio-economic benefits from the digitisation trend and has informed both the NPF and the RSES.

DCC owns a substantial telecoms ducting network in the Dublin Docklands area. This network is of economic importance, providing telecoms services to some of the world's largest financial services companies and a growing cluster of the most successful high tech companies in the digital media and internet sectors. DCC have continued to work on putting in place a more robust system to manage the current infrastructure and to develop the network into a world class telecoms infrastructure – by installing an open access platform - in order to meet future demands.

5.9.7 Transport

Transport is fundamental to how we live and work. A well performing transport system is essential to the functioning of society and the economy as a whole. The maintenance and delivery of an efficient, integrated and coherent transport network is essential to the future economic, social and physical development of the city.

The Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP) for the Dublin metropolitan area sets out a 12-year strategic planning and investment framework for the area to 2031, with a long term horizon to 2040 to align with the timeframe of the NPF. MASP comprises an integrated land-use and transportation strategy and identifies strategic corridors based on their capacity to achieve compact sustainable and sequential growth along key public transport corridors.

The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport is launching a review Ireland's Sustainable Mobility (Active Travel and Public Transport) Policy (public consultation closed in early 2020). A review of the public transport policy is needed to “ensure services are sustainable into the future and are meeting the needs of a modern economy”.

Increasing capacity on public transport including bus corridors, DART, suburban railway lines and Luas will continue to reduce the reliance on private car usage and provide opportunities for people to alter their travel behaviour and increase modal shift to more sustainable modes. Promoting modal change also encourages active travel (i.e. walking and cycling) in general and as a means to access public transport routes. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need to accelerate a shift to active travel in particular, with a consequent upscaling in infrastructure provision for pedestrians and cyclists.

Transport infrastructure in the city has the potential to support reductions in energy demand from the transport sector, including through electrification of modes. Emissions from transport account for approximately 20% of CO₂ emissions at national level.

The most recent cordon counts of November 2019¹⁴⁴ indicate a significant increase in active travel as well as a reduction in the use of the private car in the area enclosed by the two canals from the period 2006-2019. Currently, 72% of people travel into the City by sustainable modes¹⁴⁵.

5.9.7.1 Transport Projects

The National Planning Framework, Project Ireland 2040 and the Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area (GDA) 2016-2035 have set out a number of transport projects that will serve the Plan Area. Three key projects include:

- The Bus Connects project with a targeted timeline of 2021 - 2023.
- The extended Luas Tram line to Finglas anticipated to be delivered by 2028.
- Metro train line from the City to the Airport and Swords with a targeted delivery date of between 2021 and 2027.

Table 5.7 below outlines the projects are included in the NTA's Transport Strategy for the GDA 2016-2035.

¹⁴⁴ NTA / DCC Canal Cordon Counts, November 2019.

¹⁴⁵ DCC (2021a).

Table 5.7: Projects in the NTA's Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area

Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area	
Heavy Rail Infrastructure	
Reopen the Phoenix Park Tunnel Link for passenger services, which will link the Kildare / Cork line to the City centre.	Develop a new train control centre to manage the operation of the rail network.
Complete the City centre Re-signalling programme, (to provide additional train paths through the City centre).	Construct additional train stations in developing areas with sufficient demand.
Implement the DART Expansion Programme, which will provide DART services as far north as Drogheda; to Hazelhatch on the Kildare Line ¹⁴⁶ ; to Maynooth in the west and to the M3 Parkway.	Implement a programme of station upgrades and enhancement.
	Ensure an appropriate level of train fleet, of an appropriate standard, to operate on the rail network.
Light Rail Infrastructure	
New Metro North (Metrolink) - from the south City centre to Swords and serving Dublin Airport.	Extension of LUAS Green Line to Bray, providing a second rail alternative to Bray.
LUAS Green Line Capacity Enhancement - between St. Stephen's Green and Bride's Glen (in advance of Metro South).	Extension of LUAS Cross City to Finglas.
	LUAS Cross City connecting St. Stephen's Green to Broombridge.
Metro South - LUAS Green Line Capacity Upgrade from the south City centre to Bride's Glen, completing a full north-south high-capacity high-frequency cross-city rail corridor.	LUAS to Lucan - high capacity link to the Lucan's large residential area with the City centre.
	LUAS Red Line extension to Poolbeg – linking the north Docklands to the south of the Liffey.
Road Infrastructure	
Development of a road link from the southern end of the Dublin Port Tunnel to the South Port area.	Various signage, safety interventions, junction improvements and local reconfigurations on the national road network.
Provision of additional service areas on the national road network in line with national policy.	

¹⁴⁶ including a tunnel connection from the Kildare Line to link with the Northern / South-Eastern Line known as Dart Underground.

5.9.7.2 Public Transport

Public transport is crucial for the city and the region as it has the greatest potential to move the highest volume of people, and the delivery of public transport infrastructure in co-operation with the relevant transport agencies continues to be of utmost importance.

Dublin City, has been successful in changing travel behaviour over time, particularly with regard to commuting by private car, the mode share for which was 28% end of 2019, meaning that 72% of people travelled into the city by sustainable modes in that time¹⁴⁷. The existing public transport network currently comprises bus, DART and the LUAS lines.

In recent years, the city has benefited from improvements in public transport, such as improvements in the bus network and expansion of the LUAS network, all of which has contributed to a 50% mode share for public transport¹⁴⁸.

The **DART** line runs through the Dublin City Council area from Malahide in the north (Fingal) to Greystones in the south (County Wicklow). Implementation of the **DART+ Programme**¹⁴⁹, will see expansion of the existing DART network from c.50km to 150km through the electrification and upgrade of existing lines transforming commuter train travel in the Greater Dublin Area (GDA). This transformative programme will deliver frequent, modern, electrified services between Dublin City Centre (Connolly and Spencer Dock) and Maynooth and M3 Parkway; Hazelhatch and Celbridge; Drogheda and Greystones.

There are two existing **LUAS** lines running through the DCC area. The Red Line runs in an east-west direction through the city centre, north of the River Liffey, before travelling south-west to Tallaght, with a line to Citywest and Saggart. The Green Line runs from Bride's Glen (Cherrywood) and Sandyford through Stephen's Green and the City centre to Broombridge. The LUAS Green line intersects with the Red Line at O'Connell Street / Abbey Street¹⁵⁰.

¹⁴⁷ DCC (2020c).

¹⁴⁸ DCC (2020c).

¹⁴⁹ Iarnród Éireann (2021).

¹⁵⁰ DCC (2020c).

The proposed **Metro Link**¹⁵¹ proposes a high-capacity, high-frequency rail line running primarily underground from Swords to Charlemont, linking Dublin Airport, Irish Rail, DART, Dublin Bus and LUAS services. The proposed c. 19km Metro Link will have 16 stations.

The COVID-19 pandemic has necessitated a swift change in how people move around the city over a short period. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need to accelerate a shift to active travel in particular. There been widespread acknowledgement that current transport trends are unsustainable and in order to meet future travel demand, change is needed.

5.9.7.3 Cycling and Walking Infrastructure

Cycling and walking is environmentally friendly, fuel-efficient and a healthy mode of transport to work, school, shopping and for recreational purposes. Active walking and cycle infrastructure supports active health initiatives and healthy communities and significantly assist our transition to a lower carbon society.

Within Dublin City, the cycle network continues to be expanded and work is progressing on the road and bridge infrastructure projects identified. The pedestrian network continues to be improved and expanded and construction is due to commence shortly on several city centre public realm projects.

Cycling and walking have also increased in the period 2006-2019. An examination of the cordon counts shows that there has been a significant increase in active travel demonstrated by a 171% increase in cycling within the area enclosed by the two canals in the 13-year period from 2006 to 2019. Walking has also continued to increase year on year with almost double the number of people walking across the canal than those cycling in November 2019, a 44.3% increase since 2006¹⁵².

With respect to the DCC administrative area, the most recent launch of the NTA's National Cycle Network was the Royal Canal Premium Cycle Route Phase 2 scheme which officially opened to the public in July 2020. The Dublin City section of the Greenway will provide a high quality walking and cycling route of over 7km linking Ashtown to the North Quays at the Samuel Beckett Bridge once completed.

¹⁵¹ METRO LINK (2021).

¹⁵² DCC (2020c).

The city has continued to prioritise public realm with the launch of the corporate public realm masterplan for the city core The Heart of the City in 2016. The Heart of the City, aims for a pedestrian friendly city core where more space, permeability and opportunities for routes for pedestrians are promoted.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the temporary reallocation of additional space for pedestrians and cyclists appears to have been generally welcomed although it is acknowledged that this has presented challenges in some areas as kerb side servicing has been impacted. In particular, the city centre is the most challenging area for pedestrians having regard to the volume of people moving around the city. Over 90% of people moving in the city core are doing so on foot. There is currently insufficient space to accommodate normal (COVID-19 notwithstanding) pedestrian flows.

5.9.8 Dublin Port

Dublin Port continues to play a significant role in the economy of the city. Dublin Port handles almost 50% of all trade in the Republic of Ireland and is a key strategic access point for Ireland and the Dublin area.

The RSES notes the importance of high quality international connectivity to support enterprise and economic development. Dublin Port is a significant economic generator for the city both in terms of trade and tourism.

In 2019, Dublin Port had a throughput of over 1.9 million passengers, 158 no. cruise liners and dealt with 9.4 million tonnes of exports. In 2015, permission was granted for the Alexander Basin Redevelopment Project. Construction is now well underway for the c. €230 million infrastructural investment at the port, along with conservation works related to the port's Victorian industrial heritage. The redevelopment comprises significant landside restructuring to quays and berths etc. to facilitate larger vessels and also enhance the port's current cruise vessel experience. The investment will help future-proof the port in terms of being able to facilitate larger sized vessels into the future (in terms of both length and draft) and provide for increased capacity¹⁵³.

¹⁵³ DCC (2020d).

Permission has also recently been granted by An Bord Pleanála for the MP2 Project, the second major capital development project from Dublin Port's Masterplan 2040, for phased development works within existing port lands in the north eastern part of the port estate¹⁵⁴.

5.9.9 Waste Management

One of the key drivers for a sustainable economy is the concept of a 'circular' economy. A circular economy aims to reduce waste and ensure that materials are used as efficiently as possible. A circular economy involves:

- getting the most from products by using them as fully as possible;
- sharing items with others to re-use where possible; and
- increasing the levels of recycling to at least recover the value of the materials used to make these products¹⁵⁵.

For businesses: a circular economy reduces costs, improves the raw material supply chain and offers opportunities such as new business models and markets.

For individuals: a circular economy offers a sustainable lifestyle with reduced environmental impact and lower household bills.

The European Commission's Circular Economy Action Plan: A New Circular Economy Action Plan for a Cleaner More Competitive Europe, March 2020, forms one of the main blocks of the European Green Deal. A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy¹⁵⁶ was published in 2020 and outlines Ireland's National Waste Policy for 2020-2025.

The Eastern-Midlands Region (EMR) Waste Management Plan 2015-2021 provides a framework for the prevention and management of waste in a sustainable manner in 12 no. local authority areas. The Eastern-Midlands Region comprises Dublin City Council, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal, South Dublin, Kildare, Louth, Laois, Longford, Meath, Offaly, Westmeath and Wicklow County Councils.

The three key objectives of the Eastern-Midlands Region Waste Management Plan are:

¹⁵⁴ DCC (2020d).

¹⁵⁵ EPA (2020i).

¹⁵⁶ DCCA (2020).

1. Prevent waste: a reduction of one per cent per annum in the amount of household waste generated over the period of the plan.
2. More recycling: increase the recycle rate of domestic and commercial waste from 40 to 50 per cent by 2020.
3. Further reduce landfill: eliminate all unprocessed waste going to landfill from 2016.

5.9.9.1 Dublin City Waste Management / Litter Management

The Covanta Waste-to-Energy Facility at Poolbeg is a significant part of the waste management infrastructure of the city. Since coming online in 2017, the facility has processed over 2,000,000 tonnes of waste, which could not otherwise be recovered or recycled - the majority coming from the greater Dublin area.

The city's waste collection is undertaken by private operators and includes the following kerbside services: residual, mixed / dry recyclable and organic waste (food waste and light garden waste) collections.

In 2016, the implementation of the Council's 2016-2018 Litter Management Plan put an increased emphasis on smart evidence-based resource deployment. The Plan led to novel initiatives including an upgrade of the city's public litter bins to smart solar-compactor bins.

In 2020, DCC published the Litter Management Plan 2020-2022¹⁵⁷. The plan aims to encourage the recycling of additional waste streams and to improve community access to waste management services by increasing the supply of local facilities (including textile recycling centres). The plan also seeks to introduce compartmentalised waste and recycling bins on-street / in public spaces and to encourage the provision of recycling facilities in all new residential and commercial developments.

5.9.10 Minerals and Aggregates

Notwithstanding the developed urban nature of the Plan area, it is worth noting that there are a number of 'mineral localities' within the DCC administrative area. These townlands include: Pelletstown (non-metallic), Crumlin (non-metallic), Rathland West (non-metallic), Rathgar (non-metallic) Clontarf (non-metallic), Elmpark (metallic) and Clontarf (metallic).

¹⁵⁷ This Plan was informed by The EMR Waste Management Plan which was jointly prepared by the local authorities of the region.

Geological Survey, Ireland (GSI) have a suite of data sources available that would be useful in planning and assessing individual projects with regard to the environmental topic(s) of soil and / or material assets. These include:

- Aggregate Potential Mapping;
- Quaternary and Physiographic mapping;
- Bedrock mapping; and
- National Aquifer and Recharge mapping.

5.9.11 Green Infrastructure

Green and blue infrastructure plays an essential role in creating a more healthy and liveable city. These natural assets provide a platform for community activities, social interaction, recreation and physical activity, providing sustainable drainage solutions, facilitating biodiversity and wildlife habitats, carbon capture and creating connectivity.

The current limitations and social distancing requirements brought about as a result of COVID-19 have further highlighted the continuing need for the provision and access to these assets in our urban areas. Dublin City's Strategic Green Network is outlined in Section 5.2.5.1.

5.9.12 Material Assets Issues

The development of the Draft Plan will result in increasing demand for water, wastewater treatment, waste management, transport infrastructure/links and energy and telecommunications services.

Existing material assets issues / pressures and threats within and adjacent to the Dublin City administrative area, include:

- **Water Supply** - ongoing issues with security of water supply in the Dublin and Mid-East Regions for existing users.
- **Water Supply** - on-going investment in water conservation / leak detection and upgrades to water main infrastructure.
- **Water Supply and Wastewater Services** - new developments, (including housing, offices and retail development), will generate pressure on existing water and wastewater sources to meet demands.
- **Wastewater Services** - new developments, should only be permitted where there is adequate capacity in the wastewater infrastructure in accordance with urban wastewater

treatment disposal requirements and standards. Currently, municipal wastewater discharges are creating significant pressure on the receiving waterbodies.

- **Energy** - reduction of reliance on fossil fuels, increased use of renewable energy resources.
- **Telecommunications** - the rollout of connectivity in the urban environment can be complex. Lack of coordination between infrastructure and utility providers can lead to the spatially inefficient and uncoordinated provision of utilities and connectivity infrastructure.
- **Transport** - the movement of people is key to the success of new development and areas, where adequate transport infrastructure (i.e. road, rail, cycle and pedestrian routes) to these developments and accessibility throughout the development / area (safe footpath and cycle paths) is fundamental to the development of Dublin City.
- **Transport / Climate Change** - addressing Climate Change through Sustainable Mobility. Delivering sustainable and liveable communities, including minimising the need to travel and ensuring that development takes place where active travel can successfully be promoted and there is access to high quality public transport networks.
- **Waste** - population growth and development, and challenges in providing sustainable recycling infrastructure continues to put pressures on the local authorities to provide better waste management and access to waste services. According to CSO figures, some 500,000 homes in Ireland do not implement waste prevention practices¹⁵⁸.
- **Light Pollution** - can arise when external lighting is not properly designed or managed which can in turn lead to inappropriate or excessive light spillage.
- **Utilities** - provision, protect and maintenance of adequate utilities to support existing and envisaged development.

¹⁵⁸ CSO (2016).

6 Strategic Environmental Objectives

6.1 Introduction

Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) are methodological measures derived from environmental protection objectives established at international and / or national level (e.g. through EU Directives). SEOs are used as standards against which the provisions of the Plan can be evaluated, in order to identify areas in which significant adverse impacts are likely to occur, if unmitigated.

Therefore, the primary objective of the SEA is to provide for a high level of environmental protection and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of the Dublin City Development Plan (2022-2028).

The SEA Directive requires the identification of environmental protection objectives - SEOs. These SEOs assist in the prediction, description and monitoring of impacts on the environment as a result of the Plan. Indicators allow impacts to be assessed and highlighted in a simple and effective manner. Indicators can also be used to form the basis of a monitoring programme for the Plan, see Chapter 10 (Monitoring Measures), the results of which will inform the next Plan Review and other studies.

Thus to achieve the aim of assessing and improving the environmental performance of the Plan, a number of Environmental Objectives, specific to each environmental topic have been formulated, refer to Table 6.1. These SEOs are a fundamental part of the SEA process.

The SEOs are derived through consultation between the Planning Authority, the report authors (guided by SEA guidelines, incorporating where relevant international, national and regional policies which govern environmental protection / conservation) and are based on the overall strategy of the Planning Authority to safeguard the environmental integrity of the Development Plan area and to develop its functional area in a sustainable manner.

SEOs are distinct from the objectives within the Plan, although they will often overlap and are developed from international, national and regional policies which generally govern environmental protection objectives. The SEOs are used to assess the proposed development strategies of the Draft Plan, its policies and objectives, in order to evaluate and identify where conflicts may occur, see Chapter 8 (Strategic Environmental Assessment).

The development of these objectives ensures that the SEA focuses only on those issues that are most relevant and of significance to the Plan.

The SEA objectives are separate to the policies and objectives contained within the Plan. The SEA objectives have been divided into environmental topics, with at least one objective for each topic:

- Biodiversity (Flora & Fauna) (B);
- Population & Human Health (PHH);
- Soils & Geology (SG);
- Water (W);
- Air Quality & Noise (AN);
- Climate Change (CC);
- Cultural Heritage (CH);
- Landscape & Visual (LV): and
- Material Assets (MA).

Table 6.1: SEOs for the Draft Plan

Theme	Draft SEO
Biodiversity (Flora & Fauna) (B)	(B_1) Preserve, protect, maintain and where appropriate, restore the terrestrial, aquatic and soil biodiversity, of international, EU and nationally designated sites, protected species and habitats.
	(B_2) Ensure no adverse effects on the integrity of any European site, regarding its qualifying interests, associated conservation status, structure and function.
	(B_3) Maintain and where appropriate, enhance the biodiversity value of local designated and non-designated ecological and heritage areas, which function as stepping stones for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species.
	(B_4) Enhance biodiversity in line with the National Biodiversity Strategy and its targets.
Population & Human Health (PHH)	(PHH_1) Promote economic growth to encourage retention of working age population and funding of sustainable development and environmental protection.
	(PHH_2) Provide high quality residential, community, working and recreational environments with access to sustainable transport options.
	(PHH_3) Ensure that existing population and planned growth is linked with the required infrastructure and the services.
	(PHH_4) Protect human health and well-being from environment-related pressures.
Soils & Geology (SG)	(SG_1) Safeguard sensitive soil, resources and geological heritage sites against pollution and degradation.
	(SG_2) Promote the sustainable use of infill and brownfield sites over the use of greenfield within the city.
	(SG_3) Safeguard designated geological sites.
Water Quality (W)	(W_1) Protect and where necessary improve and maintain water quality and the management of watercourses and groundwater and coastal waters in compliance with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and Marine Strategy Framework Directive objectives and measures.

Theme	Draft SEO
	<p>(W_2) Avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding and areas that are vulnerable to current and future erosion.</p>
	<p>(W_3) Integrate sustainable water management solutions (such as SuDS, porous surfacing and green roofs) into development proposals.</p>
<p>Air Quality & Noise (AN)</p>	<p>(AN_1) 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 and industry.</p>
	<p>(AN_2) Minimise travel related emissions and encourage a modal change from car to more sustainable forms of transport.</p>
	<p>(AN_3) Aim to meet Air Quality Directive standards for the protection of human health - Air Quality Directive.</p>
	<p>(AN_4) Significantly decrease noise emissions associated with traffic and transport and other noise related industry etc.</p>
<p>Climate Change (CC)</p>	<p>(CC_1) Minimise contribution to Climate Change by adopting mitigation and adaptation measures.</p>
	<p>(CC_2) Integrate sustainable design solutions into the city's infrastructure (e.g. energy efficient buildings; green infrastructure).</p>
	<p>(CC_3) Contribute towards the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in line with national targets.</p>
	<p>(CC_4) Encourage and promote development resilient to the effects of climate change.</p>
	<p>(CC_5) Promote the use of renewable energy, energy efficient development and increased use of public transport.</p>
<p>Cultural Heritage (CH)</p>	<p>(CH_1) Protect places, features, buildings and landscapes of cultural, archaeological and / or architectural heritage from impact as a result of development.</p>
<p>Landscape & Visual (LV)</p>	<p>(LV_1) Protect and maintain the special qualities of the landscape character of Dublin City, especially with regard to areas of high amenity - River Liffey, Royal Canal, Grand Canal and coastline.</p>

Theme	Draft SEO
Material Assets (MA)	(MA_1) Make best use of existing infrastructure, promote the sustainable development of new infrastructure to match population distribution and protect existing assets, to meet the needs of Dublin City’s population.
	(MA_2) Promote the circular economy, reduce waste, and increase energy efficiencies.
	(MA_3) Ensure there is adequate sewerage and drainage infrastructure in place to support new development.
	(MA_4) A reduction in energy demand from the transport sector and support moves to electrification of road and rail transport modes.

7 Description of Alternatives

7.1 Introduction

Article 5 of the SEA Directive requires the consideration of reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme and the significant environmental effects of the alternatives proposed. Therefore, consideration and evaluation of the likely environmental consequences of alternative development plan strategies is an important aspect of the SEA process.

In accordance with SEA guidelines the alternatives put forward should be reasonable, realistic and capable of implementation. They should also be in line with the appropriate strategic level at which the plan will be implemented within the national planning hierarchy. The Draft Plan 2022-2028 is framed within a policy context set by a hierarchy of National and Regional level strategic plans as well as the Irish and European legislative framework. Therefore, the options for alternatives are limited by these higher level plans, and a 'do-nothing' scenario situation has not been included as it is neither reasonable nor realistic.

The alternatives proposed have been assessed against the established Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs), as set out in Chapter 6, relating to aspects of the environment likely to be affected by the Plan's implementation. The evaluation process resulted in the identification of potential impacts and informed the selection of the preferred development scenario for the Draft Plan. This evaluation sought to understand whether each alternative was likely to improve, conflict with, or have a neutral interaction with the environment of the city.

The Vision for the city has been developed in line with International, National and Regional policy provisions alongside the Dublin City Council (DCC) corporate plan mission:

Within the next 10 years, Dublin will have an established international reputation as one of Europe's most sustainable, dynamic and resourceful city regions. Dublin, through the shared vision of its citizens and civic leaders, will be a beautiful, compact city, with a distinct character, a vibrant culture and a diverse, smart, green, innovation-based economy. It will be a socially inclusive city of urban neighbourhoods based on the principles of the 15-minute city, all connected by an exemplary public transport, cycling and walking system and interwoven with a high quality bio-diverse, green space network. In short, the vision is for a capital city where people will seek to live, work, experience, invest and socialise, as a matter of choice.

In line with these policy provisions the strategic vision is informed by the core strategy and population targets set for the city. In allocating and planning for such future growth and development within the city, the Plan aims to positively ‘guide and manage the city’s evolution to ensure that it develops in a sustainable and climate resilient manner in accordance with national and regional policy. High quality ‘placemaking’ will be required to ensure a compact city where people want to live and work.’

Key goals set out in the Plan will ensure that the city is:

- ‘liveable and inclusive;
- resilient and environmentally sustainable;
- healthy, integrated and connected;
- compact and efficient in its use of resources; and
- strong economically with a vibrant cultural life.’

7.1.1 Limitations in Available Alternatives

The Draft Plan is required to be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), which specifies various types of objectives that must be provided for by the Plan and in accordance with higher-level national, regional and statutory planning provisions. Therefore, alternatives available for the Draft Plan are significantly limited by the requirements of plans such as the National Planning Framework (NPF), Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Eastern and Midland Region, the Dublin Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP), NTA Transport Strategy 2016-2035, and Statutory Planning Guidelines.

7.1.2 National Planning Framework

The National Planning Framework (NPF) is a 20-year, high-level strategy to guide development and investment in Ireland¹⁵⁹.

The NPF makes a strong commitment to sustainable land management and resource efficiency in order to support the transition to a low carbon society. It sets out a regional focused strategy for managing growth and providing a counterbalance to the established concentration of growth in the Greater Dublin Area. The NPF acknowledges the critical role that Dublin City plays in the country’s competitiveness as the country’s leading global city of scale, and supports Dublin’s

¹⁵⁹ DHPLG (2018).

growth in jobs and population, anticipating that the City and suburbs will accommodate an extra 235,000 to 293,000 people by 2040.

The NPF identifies ten National Strategic Outcomes (NSOs) for the future growth and sustainable development of Ireland to 2040. These outcomes have been a central consideration in shaping the new Dublin City Development Plan. The Outcomes in the NPF are realised through a series of National Policy Objectives (NPOs) with which the Dublin City Development Plan must be consistent with.



Source: Ireland 2040 National Planning Framework

Compact growth is the first NSO and it has particular significance for spatial planning policy, requiring at least half of all future housing and employment growth in Dublin to be located within and close to the existing ‘built-up’ area of the city – specifically within the canals and the M50 ring which will require the progressive relocation of less-intensive land uses outside of this built-up area.

This growth strategy will allow better use of underutilised serviced land and buildings, including infill and brownfield land, with more high-quality and higher-density mixed-use development

accompanied by enhanced amenities, education, health and social services; all supported by sustainable mobility.

The NPF sets out that securing compact and sustainable growth requires a focus on the liveability of urban places, continuous regeneration of existing built up areas, tackling legacies such as concentrations of disadvantage in certain areas, and linking regeneration and redevelopment initiatives to climate action. The NPF also sets out a series of growth enablers for Dublin, which have informed the policy approach in the plan.

The NPF provides a series of National Policy Objectives (NPOs), a number of which are relevant to the consideration of alternatives and have informed the core strategy for the Draft Plan:

- **NPO 3b** seeks the delivery of at least half of all new homes to be targeted in the five main cities within their existing built-up footprints.
- **NPO 72a, 72b and 73a** are considered to be interlinked and largely deal with the NPF ‘tiered approach’ to zoned lands that are serviced, classified as Tier 1: Serviced Zoned Lands and zoned lands that are serviceable during the life of the development plan, classified as Tier 2: Serviceable Zoned Land.

7.1.3 Eastern and Midlands Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031

Dublin City is within the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly Area (EMRA) and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES)¹⁶⁰ for this area. The RSES sets out a strategic plan and investment framework to shape the development of, and to manage planning in, the region. The RSES also integrates NPF objectives and the growth and settlement strategy at the regional level, ensuring coordination between the NPF and the Dublin City Development Plan.

The RSES identifies the region’s challenges as the need to sustain economic growth whilst transitioning to a low carbon society and; the need to align population growth with the location of homes and jobs whilst creating healthy attractive places and an enhanced quality of life. The RSES further endorses the NPF’s principles of consolidation, brownfield development, densification and compact growth.

The RSES is underpinned by three key principles namely: placemaking; climate action; and sustainable economic opportunity and growth. The Strategy includes 16 Regional Strategic Outcomes (RSOs) which are broadly aligned with the National Strategic Outcomes of the NPF.

¹⁶⁰ Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly

The RSES sets out the vision for growth (homes and jobs) and Regional Policy Objectives (RPOs) for the Region to the year 2031 and seeks a population increase of circa 100,000 people by 2031 in Dublin City.

Therefore the policies and objectives of the Draft Plan must align with the RSOs and the core strategy of the Draft Plan is underpinned by the population targets set out in the RSES.

7.1.4 Dublin Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan

The RSES includes a more detailed Dublin Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP) which identifies strategic development and employment areas for population and employment growth, in addition to more generalised consolidation and re-intensification of infill, brownfield and underutilised lands within Dublin City and its suburbs.

The MASP identifies a number of large scale strategic sites (strategic development lands), based on key corridors that will deliver significant development (housing and employment development) up to the year 2031. Strategic development lands within the City Council's area identified in the RSES by EMRA are:

A. Strategic Development Areas

Multi-Modal Location - City Centre within the M50

- **Residential:** Docklands and City Centre, Naas Road, north east inner city lands, Parkwest – Cherry Orchard, Ballymun, Ashtown-Pelletstown and St. James – Heuston Lands.
- **Employment:** Docklands and Poolbeg, Diageo lands and St. James and Grangegorman campus, Naas Road.

DART Corridor – (North South)

- **Residential:** North Fringe (Clongriffin / Belmayne)
- **Employment:** North Fringe Mixed Use Centres

B. Strategic Employment Lands

Multi-Modal Location – City Centre and Docklands

- Docklands, Poolbeg and North East Inner City, City Centre (Grangegorman and St. James-Diageo lands)
- Intensification of Industrial lands

- DART Corridor- (South West Corridor)
- Naas Road.

The MASP supports a sequential approach to residential development with a primary focus on the consolidation of sites within or contiguous to Dublin City and Suburbs.

The Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy of the Draft Plan must align with the strategic development lands detailed in the RSES / MASP.

7.1.5 Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035

The NTA Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area¹⁶¹ provides a framework for a sustainable transport network for the long term. Three key projects include:

- The Bus Connects project with a targeted timeline of 2021 – 2023.
- The extended Luas Tram line to Finglas anticipated to be delivered by 2028.
- Metro train line from the City to the Airport and Swords with a targeted delivery date of between 2021 and 2027.

Over the course of the development plan, it is expected that these key infrastructural projects will either be delivered or be at an advanced stage of design / planning.

Therefore, the alignment of future growth and key public transport infrastructure is a key consideration of the Draft Plan.

7.1.6 Statutory Planning Guidelines

The Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government has issued a range of guidelines which planning authorities are required to have regard to in carrying out their functions, including in the preparation of the Development Plans. These guidelines cover a wide range of issues including building height, residential density and design, development management, childcare facilities and environmental assessment.

The Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) published the Housing Supply Target Methodology for Development Planning, (December 2020)¹⁶², with Projected Housing Demand by Local Authority Area 2020 – 2031 ESRI NPF Scenario Housing Supply Target. It

¹⁶¹ NTA (2016).

¹⁶² DHLGH (2020).

contains housing supply targets for each individual local authority. The Draft Plan must align with the housing requirement figures for the Dublin City area.

Full cognisance of these guidelines and all relevant strategic planning policy requirements is to be had when framing the policies and objectives of the Draft Plan (as set out in Appendix 14 of the Draft Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028).

7.2 Alternative Plan Scenarios

Taking the requirements of the NPF, RSES and Planning Guidelines, the projected Housing Demand for the Plan period (2022-2028) is 40,138 residential units.

As noted above, the selection of alternatives to the approach for the new Plan is constrained by the requirement to comply with the policies and objectives of the National Planning Framework, RSES and other National Guidelines, all of which have been subject to SEA. Likewise consideration of a 'do-nothing' alternative is not considered as this is not reasonable for a Development Plan.

Alternative 1: Focused on Identified Growth Centres.

Development is focused on strategically located and well-serviced areas identified throughout the city which are capable of delivering appropriate growth either through the development of brownfield or greenfield sites or through the regeneration of the existing built city. The identified areas include the city-centre mixed use zoning areas, Strategic Development Zones, Strategic Development Regeneration Areas and Key Urban Villages.

In the longer term, on phased basis and in accordance with RSES, the Core Strategy includes the bringing forward of lands at Naas Road and Glasnevin subject to feasibility outcomes / investment requirements etc.

Alternative 2: Market-led Growth.

Promote the development of the city in a market-led manner, which would involve a dispersed model of spatial growth throughout the city. The location, nature and density of new development in the city would be influenced primarily by market demand and driven by economic market forces.

Alternative 3: Phased Approach with Selected Growth Concentration.

Phased delivery of growth targeted within existing the SDRA/KDC/SDZ areas. Growth in other areas, including Z5 city centre areas, would be of lower priority.

7.3 Assessment of Alternatives

This section provides a comparative evaluation / assessment of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing available alternatives in Table 7.1. This determination sought to understand whether each alternative was likely to improve, conflict with, or have a neutral interaction with the receiving environment. Through the consideration of the Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs), the assessment queries and responds to the following questions:

- The whole of the city area is considered a 'core area' and is a key economic driver for the region and state as a whole. Therefore, additionally constraining or phasing of growth beyond the requirements of the NPF / RSES (as per Alternative 3), would be unnecessarily restrictive and potentially counterproductive in achieving required sustainable growth for homes and jobs.
- Alternative 2 is likely to provide for required growth within the required timeframes. However, this growth would be delivered in a dispersed manner across lower priority, less appropriate locations with poorer transport connectivity.
- Alternative 1 provides for a balance, delivering required growth in the optimum locations within the timeframe of the plan.
- Being focused on growth centres and the city centre, Alternative 1 reduces the need to travel and encourages and supports modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel. While Alternative 3 encourages modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel, it would potentially undermine support for such initiatives in the city centre. Alternative 2 would likely provide for more dispersed growth, which would be unlikely to encourage modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel.
- Alternatives 1 and 3 would enable and support key transport infrastructure improvements, while Alternative 2 would undermine such initiatives.
- Alternatives 1 and 3 would assist in protecting and enhancing natural habitats, wildlife, biodiversity, soils and geodiversity where possible. However, the dispersed nature of growth under Alternative 2 would likely be more challenging for biodiversity and conservation of soil and minimisation of waste.
- Alternatives 1 and 3 would promote brownfield development. Alternative 2 would promote more greenfield development.

- Alternatives 1 and 3 would protect and enhance archaeology and heritage assets, and areas of sensitive landscape. Alternative 2 would likely be more challenging in terms of protecting and enhancing cultural, heritage and landscape assets.
- Alternatives 1 and 3 minimise and reduce the potential for exposure of people to noise, air and light pollution. Alternative 2 would likely increase potential for exposure of people to noise, air and light pollution.
- Alternatives 1 and 3 respond to the likelihood of predicted climate change events and to incorporating of climate change adaption initiatives. Alternative 2 would be less capable of incorporation of climate change adaption initiatives and to responding to predicted climate change events.
- Alternatives 1 and 3 support provision of adequate infrastructure to ensure the sustainable supply of water and disposal of sewerage. The dispersed nature of Alternative 2 would increase challenges in relation to enhancing measures for supply of water and disposal of sewerage.

7.4 Preferred Option

Growth focused on identified strategic areas as per Alternative 1, builds on a long-term approach and vision for sustainable development in Dublin City initiated in previous plans and projected into the future. This alternative supports and enhances initiatives that respond to climate change and climate change adaptation and investment in key infrastructure and transport measures, including modal shift to more sustainable transport modes.

A 'market-led' approach as set out in Alternative 2 would over time achieve a level of consolidation, albeit in an ad hoc or dispersed manner, but not necessarily in the required locations close to public transport or services. All areas of the city would be potentially available for increases in density, including the suburbs, outer city, environmentally more vulnerable areas, etc. Alternative 2 would lead to dispersed growth within the city which would undermine existing and planned investments in key transport and infrastructure developments and the concept of the compact city. Potentially this would lead to diminution in biodiversity and green infrastructure, and adverse impacts on cultural heritage and landscape assets.

The phasing of development of lands within the administrative area of Dublin City Council as provided for in Alternative 3, is not favoured as the lands within Dublin are considered to be the 'core area' of the city region. As such all of the lands within Dublin City could be considered in a

first phase and it is not appropriate to impose phasing on the development of lands which are the key driver of economic growth within the state. It is not considered appropriate to artificially constrain the delivery of development on lands.

Following the evaluation and assessment, the preferred strategic alternative for the approach to the Draft Plan is **Alternative 1: Growth focused on Identified Growth Centres**. This is based on the following:

- consistent with the requirements of the NPF and RSES;
- Supports the existing urban centre;
- maintains and enhances all existing development, within a connected city context;
- prioritises growth in strategic well-serviced areas capable of delivering appropriate and sustainable development; and
- promotes smarter travel policies, reduction in commuting, with increased walking and cycling.

Table 7.1: Assessment of Plan Alternatives (Against SEOs in Chapter 6)

Alternative Considered	Positive	Negative	Uncertain	Neutral
<u>Alternative 1: Focused on Identified Growth Centres</u>	B_1, B_2, PHH_1, PHH_2, PHH_3, PHH_4, SG_1, SG_2, SG_3, W_2, AN_1, AN_2, CC_1, CC_2, CH_1, LV_1, MA_1, MA_3, MA_4		B_3	B_4, W_1, W_3, AN_3, AN_4, CC_3, CC_4, CC_5, MA_2
<u>Alternative 2: Market-Led Approach</u>		B_3, PHH_3, SG_1, SG_2, CH_1, LV_1, MA_1, MA_4	B_1, B_2, B_4, PHH_1, PHH_2, PHH_4, SG_3, W_1, W_2, AN_1, AN_2, AN_3, AN_4, CC_1, CC_2, CC_3, MA_3	W_3, CC_4, CC_5, MA_2,
<u>Alternative 3: Phased Approach with Selected Growth Concentration</u>	B_1, B_2, PHH_3, PHH_4, SG_1, SG_2, SG_3, W_2, AN_1, AN_2, CC_1, CC_2, CH_1, LV_1, MA_3		PHH_1, PHH_2, B_3, MA_1, MA_4	B_4, W_1, W_3, AN_3, AN_4, CC_3, CC_4, CC_5, MA_2

8 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

8.1 Introduction

The SEA process ensures that the environment is central to all decisions on the future development of Dublin City.

The purpose of this chapter is to highlight the potential conflicts, if they are present, between the stated objectives contained in the Draft Plan with the SEA Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs). Furthermore the assessment examines the potential impact arising from the Plan's implementation of its policies and objectives on sensitive environmental receptors.

The process of SEA and the Plan formulation is an iterative one and as such environmental considerations have informed all stages of plan preparation carried out to date in order for the potential for significant adverse effects arising from implementation of the plan to be minimised. Nonetheless, it is possible that some individual plan objectives will create such effects. Where the environmental assessment identifies significant adverse effects, consideration is given in the first instance to preventing such impacts and where this is not possible for stated reasons, to lessen or offset those effects through mitigation measures outlined in Chapter 9 (Mitigation Measures) of this report.

In accordance with SEA Guidelines the assessment identifies 'impact' under four headings. Firstly the quality of impact is addressed using the following terms:

Potential Positive Impact - a change which improves the quality of the environment.

Potential Negative Impact - a change which reduces or lessens the quality of the environment.

Uncertain Impact - the nature of any impact cannot be ascertained at this stage.

Neutral or No Relationship - a change which does not affect the quality of the environment.

In some instances there is little or no relationship between the various Plan policies / objectives and the respective environmental receptor. Where this occurs, the potential impact is regarded as neutral and no further discussion is deemed necessary.

Each of the policies and objectives of the Draft Plan have been screened for their impact and where a neutral impact is noted no further discussion is provided within this report. Similarly, where a potential conflict exists between a SEO and the policy / objective, this is noted and appropriate mitigation proposed. This format allows for the assessment to focus on the potential

positive and negative impacts and proceed to a discussion on their significance and duration. Thus it is a more robust, more focused approach to understanding the potential - impacts associated with the implementation of the Draft Plan.

8.2 Environmental Assessment

This section provides a strategic assessment of the likely environmental effects of implementing the policies and objectives of the Draft Plan. The assessment, which identifies potential positive, neutral, uncertain and / or negative effects, is presented in full in Table A8.1 in Appendix A1 and in summary in Tables 8.1 to 8.11 below.

The assessment has considered the full extent of the Draft Plan, including the written Plan, and associated land-use maps and appendices. The Draft Plan includes for Appendices A.01 to A.18 as follows:

- A.01 Housing Strategy and HNDA;
- A.02 Retail Strategy;
- A.03 Height Strategy;
- A.04 Development Plan Mandatory Requirements;
- A.05 Transport;
- A.06 Conservation;
- A.07 Waste Storage;
- A.08 Seveso;
- A.09 Basement Impact Assessment;
- A.10 Infrastructure Capacity Assessment;
- A.11 Green Roofs;
- A.12 SuDS Guidance;
- A.13 Surface Water Management;
- A. 14 S28 Compliance;
- A.15 Land Use Definitions;
- A.16 Sunlight and Daylight;
- A.17 Advertising and Signage Strategy; and
- A.18 Ancillary Residential Accommodation

The appendices are environmentally positive and the associated policies and objectives in relation to the Appendices are included in the Main Written Statement section of the Draft Plan and are assessed in the Environmental Report / SEA.

It is acknowledged that the Plan sits in a hierarchy of documents setting out national and public policy land use planning, infrastructure, sustainable development, tourism, climate action, environmental protection environmental management etc. These policy documents include the:

- National Planning Framework (NPF);
- National Development Plan (NDP);
- National Mitigation Plan;
- National Adaptation Framework;
- Climate Action Plan;
- Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area; and
- Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Eastern and Midland Region etc.

These higher level plans have been subject to their own environmental assessment processes, where relevant, and already provide for various development and environmental protection measures that have been incorporated into the Draft Plan. Lower tier plans and projects must be consistent and comply with the provisions of the Development Plan and will also be subject to their own plan-level SEA and AA / project level EIA and AA requirements as relevant.

As identified in Table A8.1 (refer to Appendix A1) the majority of the policies and objectives of the Draft Plan have a potential neutral / positive or positive environmental effect. However, a number of the policies and objectives have a potential uncertain effect and a small number have a potentially negative effect. The potentially uncertain and potentially negative policies and objectives will be mitigated using protective policies and objectives included in the Draft Plan. Refer to Chapter 9 (Mitigation Measures) and Table 9.1 for the list of protective policies and objectives outlined the Draft Plan.

The Draft Plan includes a wide range of policies and objectives for sustainable development and environmental protection of the city. As set out in Table A8.1 in Appendix A1 and Tables 8.1 to 8.11 below, the majority of these policies and objectives will have potentially Positive or a Neutral impact on the environment, or otherwise have No Direct Relationship. In addition, the Draft Plan contains a significant number of policies and objectives which by their drafting and substance are protective of environmental factors or the environment as a whole. The protective policies and objectives also assist in the mitigation of potential negative effects of other policies and objectives (as set out in Table A8.1 in Appendix A1 and Chapter 9: Mitigation).

Examples of potential environmentally positive policies and objectives included in the Draft Plan:

Chapter 3: CA28 Climate Action and Green Infrastructure: To protect, connect and expand the city's Green Infrastructure while optimising the climate change adaptation and mitigation services it provides.

Chapter 9: SI5 Safeguarding of Public Water Services: To work in conjunction with Irish Water to safeguard existing water and drainage infrastructure by protecting existing wayleaves and buffer zones around public water service infrastructure.

Chapter 9: SI7 Water Quality Status: To promote and maintain the achievement of at least good status in all water bodies in the city.

Chapter 9: SIO6 Groundwater Protection: To protect ground water resources in Dublin city and to implement the recommendations contained in any Groundwater Protection Scheme prepared under EU Ground Water Directives.

Chapter 9: SI27 Sustainable Waste Management: To support the principles of the circular economy, good waste management and the implementation of best practice in relation to waste management in order for Dublin city and the Region to become self-sufficient in terms of resource and waste management and to provide a waste management infrastructure that supports this objective.

Chapter 9: SI34 Management of Air Quality: To monitor, pro-actively manage and improve air quality in the city through integrated land use and spatial planning measures to avoid, mitigate and minimise unacceptable levels of air pollution in accordance with national and EU policy Directives on air quality and, where appropriate, drive compliance with established targets.

Chapter 9: SI36 Noise Management: To support pro-active management of noise in the city through measures such as appropriate road surfaces to avoid, mitigate, minimise noise in accordance with good practice, relevant legislation and in line with the Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan 2018-2023 and subsequent plans.

Chapter 10: GI9 European Union Natura 2000 Sites: To conserve, manage, protect and restore the favourable conservation condition of all qualifying interest/special conservation interests of all European sites designated, or proposed to be designated, under the EU Birds and Habitats Directives, as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) (European / Natura 2000 sites).

Chapter 10: GI14 Ecological / Wildlife Corridors: To maintain and strengthen the integrity of the city's ecological corridors and stepping stones which enable species to move through the city, by increasing their connectivity [to be shown in the proposed Green Infrastructure Strategy] under Article 10 of the EU Habitats Directive. Development proposals should not compromise their ecological functions and should realise opportunities to contribute to enhancing the nature conservation value of them by landscaping that provides complementary habitats. An Ecological Impact Assessment will be required for any proposed development likely to have a significant impact on habitats and species of interest on or adjacent an ecological corridor.

Chapter 10: GIO12 Geological Sites: To recognise the importance of County Geological Sites and to protect the character and integrity of these sites / features.

Chapter 11: BHA23 Climate Action: To co-operate with other agencies in the investigation of climate change on the fabric of historic buildings and to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce the vulnerability of heritage in line with the National Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage. (2020)

Chapter 11: BHA019 Built Heritage and Archaeology: To provide for the protection, preservation and promotion of the built heritage, including architectural heritage and archaeological heritage and support the in situ presentation and interpretation of archaeological finds within new developments.

Some of the policies and objectives propose or support development, which may also include for potential positive environmental effects (e.g. new greenways, renewable energy, etc.) however, depending on the location of such development, potential for negative environmental impacts cannot be ruled out and as such, the assessment is Uncertain. Potential for uncertain impacts most likely arise on biodiversity, soils, water, cultural heritage and landscape, though some may be more limited or wide-ranging.

Examples of policies and objectives in the Draft Plan which have an uncertain environmental aspect:

Chapter 3: CA10 Energy from Renewable Sources: To support the production of energy from renewable sources, such as from solar energy, hydro energy, wave/tidal energy, geothermal, wind energy, combined heat and power (CHP), heat energy distribution such

as district heating/cooling systems, and any other renewable energy sources, subject to normal planning and environmental considerations

Chapter 3: CA26 Flood Risk Assessment and Adaptation: To address flood risk at strategic level through the process of Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, and through improvements to the city's flood defences.

Chapter 4: SC7 Dublin Port: To support and recognise the important national and regional role of Dublin Port in the economic life of the city and region and to facilitate port activities and development, having regard to the Dublin Port Masterplan 2012-2040.

Chapter 5: QHSNO5 Peripheral Open Space Study: To undertake a study of peripheral open space areas in the North Central Area to examine their potential for intensification for infill development, enhanced greening and creation of urban streetscapes.

A small number of the policies and objectives that propose or support development, are likely to give rise to adverse environmental effects and these have been assessed as having a potential Negative Impact. The impacts may relate to all environmental factors to a limited range of such factors. These policies and objectives usually relate to larger scale development such as linear infrastructure or to developments with specific environmental considerations, e.g. burial ground developments.

Examples of policies and objectives in the Draft Plan which have potentially negative environmental aspects:

Chapter 6: CEE24 The Marine Sector: To support the development of the marine sector including the development, where appropriate, of land-based infrastructure, which facilitates marine activity, and the diversification or regeneration of marine industries.

Chapter 8: SMT28 National Road Projects: To protect national road projects as per the NTA Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016 – 2035 and its review including the provision of a Southern Port Access Route to Poolbeg.

Chapter 8: SMT023 Road, Street and Bridge Schemes: To initiate and/or implement the following street/road schemes and bridges within the six year period of the Development Plan, subject to the availability of funding and environmental requirements and compliance with the 'Principles of Road Development' set out in the NTA Transport Strategy.

Roads and Streets

- River Road
- Belmayne Main Street
- Sean Moore Road
- Cherry Orchard Link Road
- Richmond Road
- Collins Avenue Extension
- Blackhorse Avenue
- Cappagh Road
- St. Margaret's Link Road
- Northern Cross/Belcamp Lane
- Santry Avenue Link Road
- Newtown Avenue

Bridges

- Dodder Public Transport Bridge, linked with BusConnects 16 proposals.
- Bridge from North Wall Quay at Point Depot (Point Bridge) and the widening of Tom Clarke Bridge, improve pedestrian and cycling facilities at the crossing point as well as accommodating additional public transport routes in conjunction with the Dodder Bridge.
- Pedestrian/cycle bridge crossing the Liffey between the Samuel Beckett Bridge and the Tom Clarke Bridge.
- Liffey Valley Park pedestrian/cycle bridge.
- Pedestrian/Cycle Bridge across River Liffey from Irish National War Memorial Gardens/Islandbridge to the Chapelizod Road, Islandbridge
- Cycle/pedestrian bridges that emerge as part of the evolving Strategic Cycle Network and Strategic Green Infrastructure Network.
- Broadstone to Grand Canal pedestrian/cycle bridge.

Chapter 9: SIO30 Facilitating Offshore Renewable Energy: To support the sustainable development of Ireland's offshore renewable energy resources in accordance with the National Marine Planning Framework (2021) and Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan (2019) and its successor, including any associated domestic and international grid connection enhancements.

Table 8.1: Chapter 2 - Core Strategy

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
Potential Positive Impact	CSO4 Programme for the Preparation of Local Area Plans/Village Improvement Plans; CSO5 Programme for the Preparation of Local Environmental Improvement Plans; CSO6 Active Land Management Register and Database; CSO7 Promote Delivery of Residential Development and Compact Growth; CSO8 Promote Active Land Management; CSO9 Vacant Sites; CSO10 Support the Development of Brownfield, Vacant and Regeneration Sites; CSO11 Derelict Sites Act and Compulsory Purchase; CSO12 Seek Funding for the Delivery of Compact Growth; CSO13 Kilmainham and Inchicore Development Strategy Projects; CSO14 Co-ordinated Approach to Future Development of Strategic Growth Areas; CSO15 Progress Report on the Implementation of the Development Plan.
Potential Uncertain Impact	CSO1 Feasibility Study and Local Statutory Plan for Z6 Zoned Lands at Glasnevin; CSO2 Local Statutory Plan for lands at Kylemore Road/Naas Road and Ballymount; CSO3 Local Statutory Plan for the North East Inner City (NEIC).

Table 8.2: Chapter 3 - Climate Action

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
Potential Positive Impact	CA1 National Climate Action Policy; CA2 Mitigation and Adaptation; CA01 DCC Climate Change Action Plan; CA02 Variation of Development Plan to Reflect New Guidance / Legislation; CA03 Quantification of Greenhouse Gases; CA04 Regional Strategy for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging; CA3 Climate Resilient Settlement Patterns, Urban Forms and Mobility; CA4 Climate Mitigation and Adaptation in Strategic Growth Areas; CA5 Retrofitting and Reuse of Existing Buildings; CA6 Energy Efficiency in Existing Buildings; CA7 Climate Mitigation Actions in the Built Environment; CA8 Climate Adaptation Actions in the Built Environment; CA9 Climate Action Energy Statement; CA16 Supporting the Potential of District Heating in Dublin City; CA17 Capture & Utilisation of Waste Heat; CA18 Decarbonising Zones; CA19 Strategic Energy Zones; CA20 Sustainable Energy Communities; CA21 Dublin Regional Energy Masterplan; CA22 Circular Economy; CA23 Waste Management Plans for Construction & Demolition Projects; CA24 Electric Vehicles; CA25 Flood and Water Resource Resilience; CA27 Natural Flood Risk Mitigation; CA28 Climate Action and Green Infrastructure; CA29 Coastal Zone Management.
Potential Uncertain Impact	CA10 Energy from Renewable Sources; CA11 Micro-Renewable Energy Production; CA12 Offshore Wind-Energy Production; CA13 Geothermal Energy; CA15 Dublin District Heating System (DDHS); CA26 Flood Risk Assessment and Adaptation.

Table 8.3: Chapter 4 - Shape and Structure of the City

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
Potential Positive Impact	SC2 City’s Character; SC3 Mixed Use Development; SC4 Recreational and Cultural Events; SC5 Urban Design and Architectural Principles; SC6 Docklands; SC9 Key Urban Villages, Urban Villages and Neighbourhood Centres; SC10 Urban Density; SC12 Housing Mix; SC13 Green Infrastructure; SC17 Building Height; SC18 Landmark Buildings; SC19 High Quality Architecture; SC21 Architectural Design; SC22 Historical Architectural Character; SC23 Design Statements.
Potential Uncertain Impact	SC1 Consolidation of the Inner City; SC7 Dublin Port; SC8 Development of the Inner Suburbs; SC11 Compact Growth; SC16 Building Height Locations; SC18 Landmark Buildings.
Potential Neutral or No Relationship	SC14 Building Height Strategy; SC15 Building Height Uses; SC20 Urban Design.

Table 8.4: Chapter 5 - Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
Potential Positive Impact	QHSN1 National and Regional Policy; QHSN2 National Guidelines; QHSN3 Housing Strategy and HNDAs; QHSN4 Key Regeneration Areas; QHSN6 Upper Floors; QHSN7 Reduction of Vacancy; QHSN8 Active Land Management; QHSN9 Urban Density; QHSNO1 Land Development Agency; QHSNO4 Densification of Suburbs; QHSNO6 Upper Floor Building Design; QHSN10 15 Minute City; QHSN11 Neighbourhood Development; QHSN12 Healthy Dublin City Framework and the Healthy Ireland Framework 2019-2025; QHSN13 High Quality Living Environment; QHSN14 Dublin City Council’s Integration Strategy 2021-2025; QHSN15 Accessible Built Environment; QHSN16 Sustainable Neighbourhoods; QHSN17 Needs of an Ageing Population; QHSN18 Youth Friendly City; QHSNO6 Upper Floor Building Design; QHSN19 Community Facilities for People with Specific Planning and Design Needs; QHSN20 Gated Residential Development; QHSNO7 Addressing Dementia; QHSN21 Adaptable and Flexible Housing; QHSN22 Independent Living; QHSN23 Reconfiguration of Family Homes; QHSNO8 Women’s and Girl’s Safety in the Public Realm; QHSNO9 Intergenerational Models of Housing; QHSN24 Housing for People with Disabilities; QHSN25 Dublin City Council’s Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability 2016; QHSNO8 Universal Design; QHSN26 Homeless Action Plan Framework for Dublin 2019-2021; QHSN27 Temporary Homeless Accommodation and Support Services; QHSN28 Dublin City Council Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024; QHSN29 Traveller Culture; QHSN30 Domestic Violence Refuges; QHSN31 Emergency Accommodation; QHSN32 Social, Affordable Purchase and Cost Rental Housing; QHSN33 Diversity of Housing Type and Tenure; QHSN34 High Quality Apartment Development; QHSN35 Houses and Apartments; QHSN36 Housing and Apartment Mix; QHSN37 Management; QHSN38 Build to Rent Accommodation; QHSN39 Built to Rent Accommodation;

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
	QHSN40 Built to Rent Accommodation; QHSN41 Shared Accommodation/Co-living; QHSN42 Build to rent/student accommodation/co-living development; QHSN45 High Quality Neighbourhood & Community Facilities; QHSN46 Community & Social Audit; QHSN47 Phasing; QHSN48 Inclusive Social & Community Infrastructure; QHSN49 Amenities and Retail; QHSNO9 Community Infrastructure Audit SDRAs; QHSNO10 Community Safety Strategy; QHSNO11 Culture Near You Tool; QHSN50 Sláintecare Plan; QHSN52 Shared use of Educational Facilities; QHSNO12 Assess Need for New or Expanded Educational Facilities; QHSNO13 The Provision of Schools and the Planning System: A Code of Practice for Planning Authorities (2008); QHSN53 Childcare Facilities; QHSNO14 Assess Need for New or Expanded Educational Facilities; QHSNO15 The Provision of Schools and the Planning System: A Code of Practice for Planning Authorities (2008); QHSNO16 Pre-School Facilities; QHSN54 Places of Worship and Multi-faith Facilities; QHSN56 Culture in Regeneration; QHSN57 City's Library Service; QHSN58 Community Facilities.
Potential Uncertain Impact	QHSN5 Urban Consolidation; QHSNO2 Lands at Alfie Byrne Road; QHSNO3 Darndale; QHSNO5 Peripheral Open Space Study; QHSN43 Third-Level Student Accommodation; QHSN44 Houseboats; QHSN51 Education Provision; QHSN55 Burial Grounds.
Potential Neutral or No Relationship	QHSNO17 Ballymun Library.

Table 8.5: Chapter 6 - City Economy and Enterprise

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
Potential Positive Impact	CEE1 Dublin's Role as the National Economic Engine; CEE2 Positive Approach to the Economic Impact of Applications; CEE3 Promoting and Facilitating Foreign Direct Investment; CEE4 Promoting and Facilitating Indigenous Enterprise Growth; CEE5 Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor; CEE6 Dublin as an EU Capital City; CEE11 Key District Centres and Neighbourhood Centres Key Urban Villages; CEE12 Transition to a Low Carbon, Climate Resilient City Economy; CEE13 Towards a Green and Circular Economy; CEE14 Quality of Place; CEE15 The Local Enterprise Office and the Local Economic and Community Plan; CEE16 Social Innovation and Enterprise; CEE17 Quality of Life; CEE18 Agencies Engaged in Employment and Training Programmes; CEE20 Vacant Sites; CEE22 New Growth Sectors; CEE23 Smart Dublin; CEE25 Data Centres; CEE26 Tourism in Dublin; CEE31 Strategic Role of Hospital Complexes; CEE32 Education and the City Economy; CEE33 Access to Education; CEE34 Craft Enterprises; CEE35 Dublin Port.
Potential Negative Impact	CEE24 The Marine Sector.

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
Potential Uncertain Impact	CEE7 Strategic and Targeted Employment Growth CEE8 The City Centre CEE9 The Docklands CEE10 The Outer City CEE19 Regeneration Areas CEE21 Supply of Commercial Space and Redevelopment of Office Stock CEE27 Tourism Initiatives CEE28 Tourism Accommodation CE29 Event Venues CEE30 Hospitals & Health-care.
Potential Neutral or No Relationship	CEO1 Study on the Supply and Demand for Hotels, Aparthotels and Hostels.

Table 8.6: Chapter 7 - City Centre, Urban Villages and Retail

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
Potential Positive Impact	CCUV1 Retail Planning Guidelines; CCUV2 Retail Hierarchy; CCUV3 Sequential Approach; CCUV4 The Role of Retail; CCUV5 Retail Design Brief; CCUV6 Large Scale Retail / Mixed Use Developments; CCUV7 Variety in Shopping Offer; CCUV8 Competition & Innovation; CCUV9 Independent Retailing; CCUV10 Specialist Shops; CCUV11 Omni-Channel Retail; CCUV12 Shopfront Design; CCUV13 Vacant Units; CCUV14 Adult Shops, Betting Shops and Gaming Arcades; CCUVO1 Support Preparation of New Retail Strategy for the Region; CCUVO2 Consultation with Adjoining Local Authorities; CCUVO3 Monitoring / Review of Retail Floorspace Provision; CCUV15 Premier Shopping Area; CCUV16 Category 1 and Category 2 Streets; CCUV17 Diversity the City Centre; CCUVO4 WeareDublinTown; CCUVO7 Marketing the City Centre; CCUV08 Review of Architectural Conservation Areas / Areas of Special Planning Control; CCUV20 Mixed Use Key Urban Villages / Urban Villages; CCUV21 Scale of Retail Development in Key Urban Villages / Urban Villages; CCUV23 Active Uses; CCUV24 Co - Working Hubs; CCUV25 Neighbourhood Centres / Local Shopping; CCUV26 New Growth Areas; CCUVO9 Town Centre Health Check; CCUV28 Provision of Retail Services; CCUV29 Retail Warehousing and Retail Parks; CCUV30 Cafes / Restaurants; CCUV31 Food and Beverage Clusters; CCUV32 Outdoor Dining; CCUV33 Support for Markets; CCUV34 Moore Street Market; CCUV36 New Development; CCUV37 Plan Active and Healthy Streets; CCUV38 High Quality Streets and Spaces; CCUV39 Permeable / Legible / Connected Public Realm; CCUV40 Public Safety; CCUV41 New Infrastructure Development; CCUV42 Public Realm - Key Urban Villages / Urban Villages; CCUV43 New Development; CCUVO14 City Centre Public Realm Strategy; CCUVO16 Improve Links North / South; CCUVO18 Linking Office and Culture Clusters to the Retail Core; CCUV45 Removal of Unauthorised Advertisements; CCUV46 Provide and Expand a Coherent Designed Pedestrian Wayfinding Signage System; CCUVO20 Audit of Redundant Signage; CCUVO21 Manage Pedestrian Wayfinding System.
Potential Uncertain Impact	CCUV18 Residential Development; CCUV19 Parking and Retail Core; CCUVO5 Underutilised and Inactive City Centre Streets; CCUVO6 Car Parks and Last Mile Delivery; CCUV22 Intensification; CCUVO10 Shopfront Improvement Scheme;

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
	CCUV27 Provision of Convenience Retail; CCUVO11 Victorian Fruit and Vegetable Market; CCUVO12 Iveagh Market; CCUV35 Night Time Economy; CCUVO13 Civic Spine / College Green; CCUVO15 Public Realm Plans / Masterplans; CCUVO17 Streets and Lane Dublin 1; CCUVO19 Civic Amenities; CCUV44 Advertising Structures.

Table 8.7: Chapter 8 - Sustainable Movement and Transport

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
Potential Positive Impact	SMT1 Modal Shift and Compact Growth; SMT2 Decarbonising Transport; SMT01 Transition to More Sustainable Travel Modes; SMT3 Integrated Transport Network; SMT5 Mobility Hubs; SMT6 Mobility Management and Travel Planning; SMT7 Travel Plans for New and Existing Developments; SMT8 Public Realm Enhancements; SMT9 Public Realm in New Developments; SMT10 Pedestrian Network; SMT02 Improving the Pedestrian Network; SMT11 Pedestrians and Public Realm; SMT12 Urban Villages and the 15 Minute City; SMT13 City Centre Road Space; SMT05 Review of the City Centre Transport Study; SMT06 Servicing/Logistics Strategy; SMT15 Walking, Cycling and Active Travel; SMT16 Active Travel Initiatives; SMT17 The Pedestrian Environment; SMT18 Integration of Active Travel with Public Transport; SMT09 Walkability Audits; SMT011 Design Standards for Cycle Parking in Developments; SMT19 Walking and Cycling for School Trips; SMT016 Green Roofs on Bus Shelters; SMT22 Shared Mobility and Adaptive Infrastructure; SMT018 Shared Bike Schemes and Micro-Mobility Schemes; SMT23 On-Street Parking; SMT24 Commuter, Shopping, Business and Leisure Parking; SMT25 Car Parking in Residential and Mixed Use Developments; SMT019 Elimination of ‘Free’ On-Street Parking; SMT020 Control Supply and Price of Public Parking; SMT29 Transport Tunnels; SMT30 Design Manual for Urban Roads and Street; SMT31 Street and Road Design; SMT32 Traffic Calming and Self-Regulation Street Environments; SMT029 Traffic Signal Control; SMT030 Speed Limits and Traffic Calmed Areas; SMT031 Review of Traffic Management and Calming Plans; SMT032 Environmental and Road Safety Impacts of Traffic in the City.
Potential Negative Impact	SMT28 National Road Projects; SMT023 Road, Street and Bridge Schemes.
Potential Uncertain Impact	SMT4 Integration of Public Transport Services and Development; SMT14 ‘Last-Mile’ Delivery; SMT07 Review of Temporary Pedestrian and Cycling Improvement Interventions; SMT08 Cycling Infrastructure and Routes; SMT010 Cycle Parking Spaces; SMT012 Cycle Parking Facilities; SMT013 River Liffey Boardwalk Cycle Parking Facilities; SMT20 Key Sustainable Transport Projects; SMT21 Rail Network and Freight Transport; SMT014 Additional Rail Stations; SMT015 ‘Park and Ride’ Services; SMT017 Cross Guns Bridge; SMT26 Repurposing of Multi-Storey Car Parks; SMT27 Expansion of the EV Charging Network; SMT021 Feasibility Study of Residential and Non-Residential Car Parking Provision; SMT024 Investigate Feasibility of Pedestrian/Cycle Connections; SMT025 Tolka Park Pedestrian/Cycle Connection; SMT026

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
	Coolock Lane to Oscar Traynor Road Pedestrian/Cycle Connections; SMTO27 Summerhill Pedestrian/Cycle Connection; SMTO28 Dominick Street Lower Pedestrian/Cycle Connection.
Potential Neutral or No Relationship	SMTO3 Public On-Street Accessible Parking Bays; ST04 Taxi Ranks.

Table 8.8: Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
Potential Positive Impact	SI1 Support for Irish Water; SI2 Integrating Water Services with Development; SI3 Separation of Foul and Surface Water Drainage Systems; SI4 Drainage Infrastructure Design Standards; SI5 Safeguarding of Public Water Services Infrastructure; SI6 Water Conservation; SIO1 Commitment to Working in Partnership with Irish Water; SIO2 Wastewater Waste Treatment; SIO3 Irish Water Conservation Measures; SI7 Water Quality Status; SI8 Physical Condition of Waterbodies; SI9 Groundwater Pollution; SI10 Managing development within & adjacent to River Corridors; SI11 Managing Development within & adjacent to Camac River Corridor; SI12 River Restoration in Strategic Development and Regeneration Areas; SIO4 River Basin Management Plan; SIO5 River Basin Management Plan; SIO6 Groundwater Protection; SIO8 River Restoration Strategies/ Masterplans; SIO9 Planning for Nature-based Water Management; SI13 Minimising Flood Risk; SI14 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment; SI15 Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment; SI16 Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment; SI18 Protection of Flood Alleviation Infrastructure; SI20 Basement Flood Risk Management; SI21 Managing Surface Water Flood Risk; SIO10 OPW Flood Relief Maintenance; SIO11 Cross-Boundary Flood Management; SI22 Sustainable Drainage Systems; SI23 Green Blue Roofs; SI24 Control of Paving of Private Driveways / Vehicular Entrances / Grassed Areas; SI25 Surface Water Management; SI26 Taking in Charge of Private Drainage Infrastructure; SIO13 New Surface Water Infrastructure; SI27 Sustainable Waste Management; SI28 Sustainable Waste Management; SI29 Segregated Storage and Collection of Waste Streams; SI30 Waste Management in Apartment Schemes; SI31 Provision of Public Recycling Facilities in Large Retail Developments; SI32 Litter Management Plan; SIO15 Waste Management Education; SIO16 Eastern-Midlands Region Waste Management Plan; SI33 Remediation of Contaminated Sites; SIO19 Consultation with Regional Waste Management Office; SIO20 Managing Contamination Risk from Existing Infrastructure; SI34 Management of Air Quality; SIO21 Air Quality Data Collection; SIO22 City Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Network; SI35 Ambient Noise Quality; SI36 Noise Management; SI37 Noise Sensitive Development; SI38 Noise Sensitive Development; SI39 Protection of Designated Quiet Areas; SI40 Dublin Airport Noise Zones and other Noise Plans; SIO23 Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan; SIO24 Noise Monitoring and Enforcement; SI42 Light Pollution; SI43 Energy Efficient Lighting; SI44 COMAH Establishments / SEVESO; SI46 Open Access / Operator

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
	Neutral Host Connectivity; SI47 Future-Proofing for Digital Connectivity Requirement; SI48 Sharing and Co-Location of Digital Connectivity Infrastructure; SIO25 Ducting / Dig Once; SIO26 Digital Connectivity Infrastructure Provision on Council Capital Projects/ Public Projects; SIO29 Smart Grid.
Potential Negative Impact	SIO30 Facilitating Offshore Renewable Energy.
Potential Uncertain Impact	SIO7 River Restoration Flagship Projects; SI17 Catchment-Based Flood Risk Management Plans; SI19 Provision and Upgrading of Flood Alleviation Assets; SIO12 OPW Catchment-Based Flood Risk; SIO14 Local Recycling / Reuse Infrastructure; SIO17 Innovative Waste Management Solution; SIO18 Community Food Waste Composting; SI41 Lighting Standards; SIO27 National Broadband Plan; SI49 Support for Energy Utilities; SI50 Undergrounding of Energy Utility Infrastructure; SI51 Renewable Energy Use and Generation; SI52 Poolbeg Peninsula Strategic Sustainable Infrastructure Hub; SIO28 Eirgrid Development Strategy.

Table 8.9: Chapter 10 - Green Infrastructure and Recreation

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
Potential Positive Impact	GI1 Green Infrastructure Assets; GI2 Connectivity; GI3 Multi-functionality; GI4 Accessibility; GI5 Greening of Public Realm / Streets; GI6 New Development / New Growth Areas; GI7 Connecting Greening Elements in Site Design; GIO1 Green Roof Guidance Document (2021); GIO2 Preparation of a Green Infrastructure Strategy for Dublin City; GIO3 Current and Future Greening Strategies; GIO4 Engage with Community; GIO5 Design Guide for Public Open Space; GI9 European Union Natura 2000 Sites; GI10 Flora and Fauna Protected under National & European Legislation Located Outside Designated Areas; GI11 Proposed Natural Heritage Areas; GI12 National and International Sites for Nature Conservation; GI13 Areas of Ecological Importance for Protected Species; GI14 Ecological / Wildlife Corridors; GI15 Inland and Sea Fisheries; GI16 Habitat Creation and New Development; GI17 Habitat Restoration; GI18 Minimise Impact – Light and Noise; GIO7 National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021; GIO8 Draft Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan 2021 – 2025; GIO9 Invasive Alien Species GIO10 All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021 – 2025; GIO11 North Bull Island Management Plan and Nature Reserve Action Plan 2020 – 2025; GIO12 Geological Sites; GIO13 Dublin City Habitat Map and Database; GIO14 Further Nature Reserves; GI19 Protect and Enhance Landscapes; GI20 Views and Prospects; GI21 Promote City Landscape; GI22 Managed Access; GI23 European Landscape Convention; GIO15 National Landscape Strategy 2015-2025; GIO16 Landscape Character Assessment; GIO17 Views and Prospects Study; GIO18 Landscape Conservation Areas Review; GIO19 North Bull Island National Special Amenity Area (SAA); GIO20 Liffey Valley & Phoenix Park Proposed SAA; GIO21 Protection and Connectivity of the Dublin Mountains with Dublin City; GI24 Multi-Functionality; GI25 Open Space

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
	<p>Provision (sq. m.) per 1,000 Persons Benchmark; GI26 Securing Acquisition of Additional Public Open Space; GI27 Addressing Public Open Space Deficits in Identified Areas; GI28 New Residential Development; GIO22 Dublin City Parks Strategy; GIO23 Manage / Protect / Enhance Parks; GIO24 Public Open Space Audit; GIO26 Management Plans; GIO27 Phoenix Park Management Plan; GIO28 Urban Farming and Food Production; GIO29 Scully’s Field; GIO30 Fitzwilliam Square and Four Masters Park; GI29 Protect Character of River Corridors; GI30 Maintain and Improve Connectivity of Freshwater and Estuarine Habitats/ EU Birds and Habitats Directives; GI31 Protect and Improve Ecological Status of Rivers under the EU Water Framework Directive; GI33 River Liffey; GI34 New Development and Public Open Space along River Corridors; GIO32 Liffey Vale House Education Centre; GIO33 Working with Agencies; GIO34 Water Animation Strategy Docklands; GI35 General Protection of Coastal Zone; GI37 Protection and Management of Dublin Bay; GI38 Marine Pollution and MSF Directive; GI39 Interpretation, Awareness and Public Engagement; GIO36 Bathing Beaches and Blue Flag Status; GIO38 Dublin Bay UNESCO Biosphere Conservation and Research Strategy; GIO39 National Marine Planning Framework; GI40 Tree Planting – General; GI41 Protect Existing Trees as Part of New Development; GI42 Tree Management; GI43 Hedgerows; GI44 Resilient Urban Forest; GIO40 Forthcoming Dublin City Tree Strategy 2021; GIO41 Trees as Wildlife Corridor or ‘Stepping Stones’; GIO42 Urban Tree Canopy Plan; GI45 National Physical Activity Plan 2016; GI46 To Improve and Upgrade / Provide Access to Sports / Recreational Facilities; GI49 Protection of Existing and Established Sport and Recreational Facilities; GI50 Fenced Playing Pitches on Existing Open Space; GI51 Children’s Playing Facilities – General; GI52 Children’s Playing Facilities in New Residential Developments; GIO43 National Public Health Policy; GIO44 Active Cities Project; GIO45 Playing Fields Study; GIO46 Liaising with Sporting Organisations; GIO48 Dublin City Play Strategy ‘Pollinating Play’ 2020; GIO49 Play Friendly Communities; GIO50 STRIDE: 2017 – 2020; GIO55 Marrowbone Lane Depot.</p>
<p>Potential Uncertain Impact</p>	<p>GI8 Metropolitan Greenways; GIO6 Metropolitan and Local Greenways; GIO25 Facilities and Amenities in Parks/Public Open Spaces; GI32 Linear Parks and Recreational Use of Waterways Aspects; GIO31 North City Walk; GI36 Recreational and Tourism Amenities; GIO35 Providing Coastal Recreational Amenities; GIO37 Dublin Bay Discovery Centre; GI47 Private Recreational Lands; GI48 Multiple Use of Sports and Recreational Facilities; GIO47 Multi Sports Hub in Conjunction with Fingal County Council; GIO51 Dalymount Park; GIO52 Informal recreational Space – Undeveloped Land; GIO53 Water Sports and Leisure Activities; GIO54 Olympic Standard Velodrome.</p>
<p>Potential Neutral or No Relationship</p>	<p>GI53 Public Rights of Way; GIO56 Public Rights of Way.</p>

Table 8.10: Chapter 11 - Built Heritage and Archaeology

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
<p>Potential Positive Impact</p>	<p>BHA1 Record of Protected Structures; BHA2 Development of Protected Structures; BHA3 Loss of Protected Structures; BHA4 Ministerial Recommendations; BHA5 Demolition of Regional Rated Building on NIAH; BHA6 Buildings on Historic Maps; BHAO1 Buildings-at-Risk Register; BHA7 Architectural Conservation Areas; BHA8 Demolition in an ACA; BHAO2 Designation of ACAs; BHAO4 Bewley’s Oriental Café; BHA9 Conservation Areas; BHA10 Demolition in a Conservation Area; BHA11 Rehabilitation and Reuse of Existing Older Buildings; BHA12 Industrial, Military and Maritime, Canal-side and Rural Heritage; BHA13 Maritime Heritage and Maritime Villages; BHA14 Mews; BHAO5 Mews; BHA15 Twentieth Century Buildings and Structures; BHAO6 Twentieth Century Buildings and Structures and the RPS; BHAO7 Arts and Crafts Housing on Griffith Avenue; BHA16 Industrial Heritage; BHA17 Industrial Heritage of Waterways, Canals and Rivers; BHAO8 Industrial Heritage and the RPS; BHA18 Historic Ground Surfaces, Street Furniture and Public Realm; BHA19 Historic Street Furniture and the RPS; BHA20 Ghost Heritage Signs; BHA21 Retrofitting Sustainability Measures; BHA22 Upgrading Environmental Performance; BHA23 Climate Action; BHAO9 Community Monuments Fund; BHA24 Reuse and Refurbishment of Historic Buildings; BHA25 Loss of Upper Floor Access; BHA26 Archaeological Heritage; BHAO10 Conservation Plans; BHAO11 Dublin City Archaeological Archive; BHAO12 Findings of Licenced Archaeological Activity; BHAO13 Management Plan; BHAO14 Viking Dublin; BHAO15 Civic Museum; BHAO16 City Wall and City Defences; BHAO17 Tourism; BHAO18 OPW Heritage Sites and Assets; BHAO19 Built Heritage and Archaeology; BHA27 Dublin City Heritage Plan; BHA28 Historic Place and Street Names; BHA29 World Heritage Nomination; BHA30 Moore Street National Monument; BHA31 St. Sepulchre’s Palace Complex; BHA33 Water Related Heritage Strategies; BHA33 Dublin Port Heritage Quarter.</p>
<p>Uncertain Impact</p>	<p>BHAO3 Areas of Special Planning Control.</p>

Table 8.11: Chapter 12 - Culture

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
<p>Potential Positive Impact</p>	<p>CU1 Shared Vision for Culture; CU2 Cultural Infrastructure; CU3 Dublin UNESCO City of Literature; CU4 Cultural Resources; CU5 Investing in our Culture, Language and Heritage 2018-2027; CUO1 Museum of Dublin; CUO2 Dublin Fire Brigade Museum; CUO3 Dublin Music Resource Centre and Museum; CUO4 Chatham Row; CUO5 Cultural Forum; CUO5 Arts & Culture Infrastructure; CU7 Cultural Clusters and Hubs; CU8 South Georgian Quarter Cultural Hub; CU9 Parnell Square & North Inner City Cultural Cluster; CUO9 14-17 Moore St; CUO13 Dublin 8 Regeneration; CU10 Temple Bar Cultural Hub; CUO15 Planning Applications within Temple Bar; CUO16 Variety and Diversity of Retail of Temple Bar; CUO17 Temple Bar as a Mixed Use Cultural Quarter; CUO18 National Photographic Archive; CU11 Cultural Facilities</p>

SEA Assessment	Draft Plan Policies and Objectives
	<p>within Docklands; CUO19 Implementation of the North Lotts & Grand Canal Dock SDZ & Poolbeg West SDZ Requirements; CU12 Cultural Spaces and Facilities; CU13 Protection of Cultural Uses; CU14 Cultural Uses in Developments on Former Industrial Lands; CU15 Cultural Uses in the Design & Uses of Side Streets; CU16 Temporary Use for Cultural Provision; CU17 Design of Cultural & Arts Facilities; CUO21 Masterplans; CUO22 SDRAs; CUO23 Demolition or Replacement of a Use of Cultural Value; CUO24 Toolkit Guide to Workspace; CUO25 Reuse of Vacant Space; COU26 Co-Design and Audits; CUO27 Artist Studios; CUO28 Artist Live-work Space; CU18 Music as a Key Cultural Asset CUO30; Industrial Estate Regeneration Areas; CU19 Audio Visual Sector; CU21 Night Time Economy Task Force Report; CU23 Performance and Entertainment Spaces; CUO34 Noise Impacts; CUO36 Victorian and Edwardian Public Houses; CUO37 Street Art; CUO38 Music and Dance; CUO39 Canvas Spaces; CU24 Civic Arts & Cultural Spaces in Urban Villages; CU25 Libraries; CUO40 Cultural & Artistic Space Audit; CUO41 Buildings within Communities for Arts & Cultural Spaces; CUO42 Inclusivity; CUO43 Accessibility; CUO44 Multilingualism Community Infrastructure; CU26 Irish Language; CU27 Traditional Arts; CUO45 Dublin Gaeltacht; CUO46 Irish Medium Education; CUO48 Key Venues & Cultural Facilities; CUO49 Irish language on Shopfronts; CUO50 Naming of new developments; CU28 Promotion of Irish Language; CUO51 Dublin City Language and Cultural Hub; CUO52 Irish Language Quarter; CU29 Public Realm for Cultural Events; CU30 Life Worth Living Taskforce; CUO53 Percent for Arts Scheme; CUO54 Public Art; CUO55 Commemorative Art and Monuments.</p>
<p>Potential Uncertain Impact</p>	<p>CU6 Abbey Theatre; CUO7 City Library CUO8; Poetry Ireland; CUO10 Convent and Magdalene Laundry building on Sean McDermott St.; CUO11 Cultural Spaces in Dublin 8; CUO12 Heritage Network and Trail; CUO14 Museum/Heritage Facility at Inchicore Works; CUO20 Poolbeg Hotel, Harbour and Power Station Complex; CUO29 Music Rehearsal Spaces; CUO31 Music Venues; CUO33 Audio and Visual Community Spaces; CU20 Cultural Activities in the Evening; CU22 Range of Cultural and Amenity Options; CUO35 Purpose Spaces for Evening and Night Time Activities; CUO47 Na Píobairí Uilleann.</p>
<p>Potential Neutral or No Relationship</p>	<p>CUO32 Audio-Visual Sector.</p>

8.3 Climate Mitigation and Adaption in the Draft Plan

Climate Change, and considerations around Climate Mitigation and Adaption are to the forefront of the Draft Plan and specifically addressed in Chapter 3 - Climate Action. The Plan incorporates specific Climate Action polices (CA1, CA2, CA3, CA4) and objectives (CAO1, CAO2, CAO3) which support implementation of International and National objectives on climate action, transition to a climate resilient low carbon county, and alignment with the Climate Action Plan 2021 and Dublin City Council Climate Action Plan.

8.4 Interrelationship between Environmental Factors

The SEA Environmental Report to include information on the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, fauna, flora, population, human health, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. Likely significant effects on environmental factors is set out in Table A8.1 in Appendix A1 and Section 8.2 above. Table 8.12 below identifies where there are significant interrelationships between the environmental factors. The implementation of the Plan will not affect the interrelationships between these components.

Table 8.12: Interrelationship between Environmental Factors

Component	Biodiversity	Population & Human Health	Soils & Geology	Water Quality	Air, Noise & Climate	Cultural Heritage	Landscape & Visual	Material Assets
Biodiversity		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Population & Human Health			Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Soils & Geology				Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Water Quality					Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Air, Noise & Climate						Yes	Yes	Yes
Cultural Heritage							Yes	Yes
Landscape & Visual								Yes
Material Assets								

8.5 Cumulative Impacts

The environment is both complex and dynamic and the various elements of the environment interact in an equally complex and dynamic manner. The permutations can be numerous, however, at a basic level the principal interactions can be either qualified or quantified in most instances.

As noted in the EPA publication, 'Good Practice Guidance on Cumulative Effects Assessment in Strategic Environmental Assessment', in Ireland, "key cumulative effects - where environmental receptors are at, or near, their thresholds or their capacity to assimilate more change - include climate change; water management, including flood risk management; air quality; and biodiversity, including peatlands and wetlands. Land-use change over time is irrevocably changing Ireland's landscape." There may also be more locally significant cumulative effects; for example, loss of tranquillity and amenity affecting people's health and wellbeing.

There are two types of potential cumulative effects that have been considered:

- **Potential intra-Plan cumulative effects** - these arise from the interactions between different types of potential environmental effects resulting from a plan, programme, etc. Refer to Section 8.4.
- **Potential inter-Plan cumulative effects** - these arise when the effects of the implementation of one plan occur in combination with those of other plans, programmes, developments, etc.

Potential inter-Plan cumulative effects: Other policies, plans and programmes that have been considered by the assessment of effects include those which are detailed in Chapters 4 and 5 of this report. Plans and programmes from various sectors will interact with the Plan, including those relating to land-use planning. These plans and programmes are subject to their own environmental assessment requirements as relevant. However, examples include:

- Project Ireland 2040 - National Planning Framework.
- Project Ireland 2040 - National Development Plan 2021-2030.
- Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region.
- South Dublin, Fingal and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plans.
- Local Area Plans within the city and adjoining the city.

- Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021, and the Local Economic and Community Plans of adjoining authorities.
- Eastern-Midlands Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021.
- National River Basin Management Plan (2018-2021).
- Groundwater Pollution Reduction Programmes.
- Surface Water Pollution Reduction Programmes.
- Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans.
- Climate Action Plan 2021.
- Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.
- Climate policy, plans and programmes (e.g. the National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development, Low Carbon Development Act 2015 and White Paper Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015, the National Adaptation Framework 2018 and SDCC Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2019-2024).
- Water services, waste management, transport and energy infrastructure plans (e.g. Irish Water's Water Services Strategic Plan / Capital Investment Programme, Eastern Regional Waste Management Plan).
- Energy policy, plans and programmes (e.g. Grid25 and associated Implementation Programme, Ireland's National Renewable Energy Action Plan 2010, Strategy for Renewable Energy 2012-2020, Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan, National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030 and the Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework).

Potential cumulative / in-combination effects include:

- A potential cumulative effect on surface water and groundwater status due to new developments, housing, agricultural and forestry.
- A potential cumulative effect on habitat loss / damage arising from new development / infrastructure.
- A potential cumulative effect on flood risk by, due to development of sites or obstruction of flood paths / plain.
- A potential cumulative effect on enhancing ecological connectivity, contributing towards sustainable mobility, arising from linear developments, such as those relating to Green Infrastructure.

- A contribution towards greenhouse gas and other emissions to air (from transport) (in combination with plans and programmes from all sectors, including transport) as a result of facilitating development which must be accompanied by road capacity.
- A need for water and wastewater treatment capacity arising from new developments and the associated potential adverse effects.
- A positive contribution towards reductions in travel related greenhouse gas and other emissions to air, as a result of facilitating, sustainable compact growth and sustainable transport mobility shift.
- In combination with plans / programmes from all sectors potential adverse effects on all environmental components arising from all development (e.g. residential, infrastructural). However, these plans / programmes are required to comply with environmental legislation and undergo SEA and AA as relevant comply with environmental legislation while projects are subject to EIA and AA, as relevant.

These environmental effect have the potential, (if unmitigated), to result in an environmental change within Dublin City, but also beyond. However, many of the issues covered by the Plan provisions are regional issues which are considered by the Regional Assembly, Eastern and Midlands RSES and by the numerous planning authorities across the region.

8.6 Appropriate Assessment

Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment (AA) has been undertaken alongside the preparation of the Draft Plan and SEA and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).

Under the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 1992/43/EEC), the requirement for AA is provided. A Natura Impact Report (NIR) has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and in accordance with the requirements of Council Directive 1992/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.

The NIR assesses the effects of the Draft Plan on European sites designated for certain habitats and species. The conclusion of the NIR is that:

“This NIR of the Draft Plan, represents an iterative stage in the ongoing process, and has examined and analysed, with respect to those European sites within the zone of influence of the Draft Plan, the potential impact sources and pathways, how these could impact on

the European sites' qualifying interests/ special conservation interest species and whether the predicted impacts would adversely affect the integrity of those European sites.

It has been objectively concluded by Scott Cawley Ltd., following an examination, analysis and evaluation of the relevant information, including in particular the nature of the predicted impacts associated with the Draft Plan, and that the implementation of mitigatory measures identified in Section 8 of the Draft Plan (at this stage of the iterative process) that the Draft Plan will not adversely affect (either directly or indirectly) the integrity of any European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.”

8.7 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has been undertaken alongside the preparation of the Draft Plan, the SEA and the NIR.

The SFRA is required by 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (2009) and associated Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government Circular PL2/2014. The recommendations from this SFRA have been integrated into the Draft Plan.

8.8 Overall Evaluation

Dublin City Council has prepared the Draft Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 and has integrated recommendations arising from the SEA, AA and SFRA processes into the Draft Plan. Section 8.2 and Table A8.1 (refer to Appendix A1) provides a detailed overall evaluation of the environmental effects arising from the Plan. The effects take account of potential in-combination / cumulative effects arising from implementation of the Plan. Potentially significant adverse environmental effects (if unmitigated) arising from implementation of the Plan are detailed, as are appropriate and detailed mitigation measures (refer Chapter 9). Taking into account, inter alia, the detailed mitigation which has been integrated into the Plan (including that which is identified at Chapter 9), it has been determined that significant residual adverse environmental effects will not occur. Requirements for monitoring of potential environmental impacts during the implementation of the Plan are set out in Chapter 10.

9 Mitigation Measures

9.1 Introduction

The quality of the environment within the Plan area is an important issue for consideration by Dublin City Council (DCC). To achieve a sustainable society it must be protected, preserved and enhanced where necessary. Dublin City is characterised by its predominantly urban fabric, its diverse styles of building of varying heights and its green infrastructure. The city landscape consists of the public and private landscape and it fulfils an array of environmental, ecological, social, recreational and aesthetic functions of the developing city. This has been recognised throughout the SEA and Plan process and the Draft Plan is framed within ideals of sustainability throughout its vibrant communities, dynamic economy and unique cultural and natural heritage.

Article 5 of the SEA Directive requires that mitigation measures be proposed for significant adverse effects identified on the environment as a result of the implementation of the Plan. The SEA is an iterative process prepared in tandem with the formulation of objectives of the Draft Plan. While not always possible to achieve, it is the aim of the process to ensure that sensitive environmental receptors are given adequate and appropriate consideration throughout.

Environmental considerations have informed the preparation of the Draft Plan and therefore, the objectives of the Plan have been framed to avoid potential adverse impacts, wherever possible. A key aspect of the SEA has been the identification of uncertain or potential negative effects of the Draft Plan (as presented in Chapter 8 (Strategic Environmental Assessment) of this Report).

Uncertain and potentially negative environmental effects are associated with development (residential areas, industry, amenity, recreation, etc.) provision of infrastructure (wastewater, water, utilities, etc.), transport (roads, rail, greenways, etc.) and other land uses (renewable energy, flood protection, etc.). Once identified, the mitigation stage identified, amended and / or included protective objectives as required to avoid or mitigate these uncertain or potential negative effects. The mitigation process which is set out in Table 9.1 will ensure that implementation of the Plan will have a neutral to positive impact on the environment as a whole.

In addition, within the Plan there are references to the requirement for an AA where a proposal for development may impact on the integrity or long-term conservation status of a protected Natura 2000 sites. A full assessment of potential impacts on Natura 2000 sites, including the

incorporation of mitigation measures, if required, is presented in the Natura Impact Report (NIR) which accompanies the preparation of the Draft Plan.

9.2 Development Management

DCC in its role as Planning Authority is responsible for the management of development within its functional area. The planning process is the principal mechanism available to the Local Authority to control development, and ultimately, to prevent adverse environment impacts.

Any application for planning permission for a new development, extension to existing development or intensification or change of use will be assessed in terms of its potential impact on existing adjacent developments, existing land uses and / or the surrounding environment / landscape. DCC will operate the statutory planning system in a balanced and fair manner, ensuring that the objectives presented within the Plan are fully adhered to.

Proposals for development contravening the Plan will not proceed outside of the material contravention process.

Table 9.1: Mitigation Measures - List of Protective Policies and Objectives in the Draft Plan

No.	Policy / Objective
CA1 National Climate Action Policy	To support the implementation of national objectives on climate change including the ‘Climate Action Plan 2019 to Tackle Climate Breakdown’, the ‘National Adaptation Framework’ 2018 and the ‘National Energy and Climate Plan for Ireland 2021-2030’ and other relevant policy and legislation.
CA2 Mitigation and Adaptation	To prioritise measures to address climate change by way of both effective mitigation and adaptation responses in accordance with available guidance and best practice.
CA03 Quantification of GHG	To support the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) in identifying a robust method for quantifying the relative GHG impacts of alternative spatial planning policies as part of the European Union ESPON ‘QGasSP’ research programme.
CA3 Climate Resilient Settlement Patterns, Urban Forms and Mobility	To support the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient city by seeking sustainable settlement patterns, urban forms and mobility in accordance with the National Planning Framework 2018 and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019.
CA4 Climate Mitigation and Adaptation in Strategic Growth Areas	To ensure that new development in strategic growth areas (including Strategic Development and Regeneration Areas) integrates appropriate climate mitigation and adaptation measures.
CA6 Energy Efficiency in Existing Buildings	To support high levels of energy conservation, energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources in existing buildings, including retro-fitting of appropriate energy efficiency measures in the existing building stock, and to actively retrofit Dublin Council housing stock to a B2 Building Energy Rating (BER) in line with the Government’s Housing for All Plan retrofit targets for 2030.
CA7 Climate Mitigation Actions in the Built Environment	<p>To promote low carbon development in the city which will seek to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and which will meet the highest feasible environmental standards during construction and occupation. New development should generally demonstrate/provide for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. building layout and design which maximises daylight, natural ventilation, active transport and public transport use; b. sustainable building/services/site design to maximise energy efficiency; c. sensitive energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings; d. energy efficiency, energy conservation, and the increased use of renewable energy in existing and new developments;

No.	Policy / Objective
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. on-site renewable energy infrastructure and renewable energy; f. minimising the generation of site and construction waste and maximising reuse or recycling; g. the use of construction materials that have low to zero embodied energy and CO2 emissions; and connection to (existing and planned) decentralised energy networks including the Dublin District Heating System where feasible.
CA8 Climate Adaptation Actions in the Built Environment	<p>Development proposals should demonstrate sustainable design principles for new buildings/services/site. The Council will promote and support development which is resilient to climate change. This would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. measures such as green roofs and green walls to reduce internal overheating and the urban heat island effect; b. ensuring the efficient use of natural resources (including water) and making the most of natural systems both within and around buildings; c. minimising pollution by reducing surface water runoff through increasing permeable surfaces and use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS); d. reducing flood risk, damage to property from extreme events– residential, public and commercial; e. reducing risks from temperature extremes and extreme weather events to critical infrastructure such as roads, communication networks, the water/drainage network, and energy supply; f. promoting and protecting biodiversity and green infrastructure.
CA20 Sustainable Energy Communities	To support the ongoing efforts and future development of Sustainable Energy Communities in Dublin City through the SEAI ‘Sustainable Energy Communities’ Initiative.
CA22 Circular Economy	To support the shift towards the circular economy approach as set out in ‘a Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy 2020 to 2025, Ireland’s National Waste Policy, or as updated.
CA23 Waste Management Plans for Construction & Demolition Projects	To have regard to existing Best Practice Guidance on Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects as well as any future updates to these guidelines in order to ensure the consistent application of planning requirements.
CA25 Flood & Water Resource Resilience	To support the delivery of soft, green and grey adaptation measures to enhance flood and water resource resilience in the city and support the delivery of grey adaptation measures to enhance flood and water resource resilience where necessary.
CA28 Climate Action and Green Infrastructure	To protect, connect and expand the city’s Green Infrastructure while optimising the climate change adaptation and mitigation services it provides.

No.	Policy / Objective
CA29 Coastal Zone Management	To support coastal zone management measures for adapting to climate change which include restoration of degraded ecosystems, increased flood resilience, water quality improvement, habitat conservation and provision of amenities for the residents and visitors of Dublin City.
SC13 Green Infrastructure	To recognise and promote Green Infrastructure and landscape as a key mechanism to address climate change and as an integral part of the form and structure of the city, including streets and public spaces.
SC19 High Quality Architecture	To promote development which positively contributes to the city’s built and natural environment, promotes healthy placemaking and incorporates exemplar standards of high-quality, sustainable and inclusive urban design and architecture befitting the city’s environment and heritage and its diverse range of locally distinctive neighbourhoods.
SC21 Architectural Design	To promote and facilitate innovation in architectural design to produce contemporary buildings which contribute to the city’s character and which mitigates and is resilient to, the impacts of climate change.
SC22 Historical Architectural Character	To promote understanding of the city’s historical architectural character to facilitate new development which is in harmony with the city’s historical spaces and structures.
QHSN2 National Guidelines	To have regard to the DEHLG Guidelines on ‘Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities – Best Practice Guidelines for Delivering Homes Sustaining Communities’ (2007), ‘Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments’ (2020), ‘Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas’ and the accompanying ‘Urban Design Manual: A Best Practice Guide’ (2009), Housing Options for our Aging Population 2020 and the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets’ (DMURS) (2019).
QHSN8 Active Land Management	To promote residential development addressing any shortfall in housing provision through active land management, which will include land acquisition to assist regeneration and meet public housing needs, and a co-ordinated planned approach to developing appropriately zoned lands at key locations including regeneration areas, vacant sites and underutilised sites.
QHSN12 Healthy Dublin City Framework and the Healthy Ireland Framework 2019-2025	To support the Healthy Dublin City Framework and the Healthy Ireland Framework 2019-2025 in promoting a long-term vision of improving the physical and mental health and well-being of the population at all stages of life.
QHSN14 Dublin City Council’s Integration Strategy 2021-2025	Having regard to the Migrant Integration Strategy 2017-2020 and any subsequent review, to support minority groups, including non-Irish nationals and Travellers in relation to their social, cultural and community needs in an integrated manner through the implementation of Dublin City Council’s Integration Strategy 2021-2025 and promote active participation consistent with the objectives of the RSES.

No.	Policy / Objective
QHSN15 Accessible Built Environment	To promote built environments and outdoor shared spaces which are accessible to all. New developments must be in accordance with the seven principles of Universal Design as advocated by the National Disability Authority, Building For Everyone: A Universal Design Approach 2012.
QHSN16 Sustainable Neighbourhoods	To promote sustainable neighbourhoods which cater to the needs of persons in all stages of their lifecycle, i.e. children, people of working age, older people and people with disabilities.
QHSN17 Needs of an Ageing Population	To support the needs of an ageing population in the community with reference to housing, mobility and the public realm having regard to Age Friendly Ireland's 'Age Friendly Principles and Guidelines for the Planning Authority 2020', the Draft Dublin City Age Friendly Strategy 2020-2025 and Housing Options for our Aging Population 2020.
QHSN18 Youth Friendly City	To promote and support a youth friendly city including the delivery of facilities for children and young people, to include the delivery of youth targeted social, community and recreational infrastructure. To promote a built environment in the inner city, developing areas and Strategic Development Regeneration Areas which support the physical and emotional well-being of children and young people. To promote policies and objectives that have regard to the Children and Young People's Plans prepared by the Dublin City North and Dublin City South Children and Young People's Services Committees and any future DCC Youth Friendly City Strategy including any future youth homeless strategy.
QHSN21 Adaptable and Flexible Housing	To ensure that all new housing is designed in a way that is adaptable and flexible to the changing needs of the homeowner as set out in the Lifetime Homes Guidance contained in Section 5.2 of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government 'Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities – Best Practice Guidelines for Delivering Homes Sustaining Communities' (2007).
QHSN24 Housing for People with Disabilities	To support access, for people with disabilities, to the appropriate range of housing and related support services, delivered in an integrated and sustainable manner, which promotes equality of opportunity, individual choice and independent living. To support the provision of specific purpose-built accommodation, including assisted/supported living units, lifetime housing, and adaptation of existing properties.
QHSN25 Dublin City Council's Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability 2016	To support and facilitate the implementation of Dublin City Council's Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability 2016 or any subsequent review.
QHSN26 Homeless Action Plan	To support the implementation of the Homeless Action Plan Framework for Dublin 2019-2021 or any subsequent review and support related initiatives to address homelessness.

No.	Policy / Objective
QHSN29 Traveller Culture	To recognise the separate identity, culture, tradition and history of the Travelling people and to reduce the levels of disadvantage that Travellers experience.
QHSN30 Domestic Violence Refuges	To proactively facilitate and support Túsla, the Child and Family Agency, service providers and other relevant agencies in the provision of domestic violence refuges in the city and work towards the realisation of one refuge space for every 10,000 people, as per the recommendation of the Istanbul Convention, particularly when initiating planning on larger regeneration lands.
QHSN31 Emergency Accommodation	To facilitate and support relevant agencies in the development of emergency accommodation that is socially inclusive, including hostels for homeless individuals of all genders. Applications for emergency temporary accommodation including applications made by public bodies will be requested to submit evidence to demonstrate that there is not an over-concentration of emergency accommodation within an area, including a map showing all such facilities within a 0.75km radius of the proposed location of the new facility.
QHSN32 Social, Affordable Purchase and Cost Rental Housing	To promote the provision of social, affordable purchase, cost rental and rental housing in accordance with the Council’s Housing Strategy, Part V of the Planning and Development Act, as amended by the Affordable Housing Act 2021 and government policy as outlined in the DHPLG ‘Social Housing Strategy 2020’ and support the realisation of public housing.
QHSN35 Houses and Apartments	To ensure that new houses and apartments provide for the needs of family accommodation with a satisfactory level of residential amenity in accordance with the standards for residential accommodation.
QHSN48 Inclusive Social & Community Infrastructure	To support the development of social and community infrastructure that is inclusive and accessible in its design and provides for needs of persons with disabilities, older people, migrant communities and children and adults with additional needs including the sensory needs of the neurodiverse.
CEE12 Transition to a Low Carbon, Climate Resilient	To support the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient city economy, as part of, and in tandem with, increased climate action mitigation and adaptation measures.
CCUV08 Review of ACA / Areas of Special Planning Control	To review the Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs) pertaining to the retail core so that they reflect the approach for Category 2 Streets with particular regard to complementary non-retail uses. To prepare / update Areas of Special Planning Control for the city as and where appropriate and necessary.

No.	Policy / Objective
CCUV34 Moore Street Market	To recognise the unique importance of Moore Street Market to the history and culture of the city and to ensure its protection, renewal and enhancement in cooperation with the traders.
SMT6 Mobility Management and Travel Planning	To promote best practice mobility management and travel planning through the requirement for proactive mobility strategies for new developments focussed on promoting and providing for active travel and public transport use while managing vehicular traffic and servicing activity.
SMT10 Pedestrian Network	To protect, improve and expand on the pedestrian network inclusive of facilities for people with mobility impairment and/or disabilities, including the elderly and people with children, linking key public buildings, shopping streets, public transport points and tourist and recreational attractions.
SI1 Support for Irish Water	To support and facilitate Irish Water in the provision of high quality drinking water, water conservation and drainage infrastructure and to promote the ongoing upgrade and expansion of water supply and wastewater services to meet the future needs of the city and the Region
SI2 Integrating Water Services	To ensure that development is permitted in tandem with available water supply and wastewater treatment and to manage development, so that new schemes are permitted only where adequate capacity or resources exist or will become available within the life of a planning permission.
SI3 Separation of Foul and Surface Water Drainage	To require all new development to provide separate foul and surface water drainage systems.
SI4 Drainage	To require new private development sewers which are intended to connect to the public drainage system to comply with the requirements of the Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works and/ or Irish Water foul sewer specification (where applicable).
SI5 Safeguarding of Public Water Services	To work in conjunction with Irish Water to safeguard existing water and drainage infrastructure by protecting existing wayleaves and buffer zones around public water service infrastructure.
SI6 Water Conservation	To require all developments to incorporate best practice water conservation and demand management measures in order to promote water conservation by all water users and minimise the pressure for water drawdown, wastage of water supply and reduced availability of water resources.

No.	Policy / Objective
SIO1 Commitment to Working in Partnership with Irish Water	To support Irish Water in the implementation of the Water Services Strategic Plan (2015) and National Water Resources Plan (2021) for Ireland’s public water supplies and to work closely with Irish Water to facilitate the timely delivery of the public water services required to realise the core strategy growth targets of this plan in accordance with the Draft Water Services Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2018).
SI7 Water Quality Status	To promote and maintain the achievement of at least good status in all water bodies in the city.
SI9 Groundwater Pollution	To promote the progressive reduction of pollution of groundwater.
SI11 Managing Development	To manage all development within and adjacent to the Camac River Corridor in a way that enhances the ecological functioning and water quality of the river and aligns with the principles for river restoration.
SI12 River Restoration in Strategic Development and Regeneration Areas	To provide opportunities for enhanced river corridors in the following Strategic Development and Regeneration Areas (SDRAs) in order to harness significant opportunities for river restoration where feasible....
SIO4 River Basin Management Plan	To implement the EU Water Framework Directive through the implementation of the appropriate River Basin Management Plan and Programme of Measures and individual river restoration strategies where available.
SIO6 Groundwater Protection	To protect ground water resources in Dublin city and to implement the recommendations contained in any Groundwater Protection Scheme prepared under EU Ground Water Directives.
SIO9 Planning for Nature-based Water Management	To undertake Rainwater Management Plans for each river catchment and as part of this, include a study of relevant zoned lands within the city in order to ensure that sufficient land is provided for nature-based water management.
SI13 Minimising Flood Risk	To minimise the flood risk in Dublin City from all other sources of flooding as far as is practicable, including fluvial, reservoirs and dams, and the piped water system.
SI14 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	To implement and comply fully with the recommendations of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared as part of the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 and to have regard to the Flood Risk Management Guidelines (2009), as revised by Circular PL 2/2014, when assessing planning applications and in the preparation of statutory and non-statutory plans.
SI15 Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment	All development proposals shall carry out, to an appropriate level of detail, a Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment (SSFRA) that shall demonstrate compliance with:

No.	Policy / Objective
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Planning System and Flood Risk Management, Guidelines for Planning Authorities, Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (2009), as revised by Circular PL 2/2014, and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) as prepared by this Development Plan. • The application of the sequential approach, with avoidance of development in areas at risk of flooding as a priority. Where the Justification Test for Plan Making and Development Management have been passed, the SSFRA will address all potential sources of flood risk and will consider residual risks including climate change. The SSFRA will include site-specific mitigation measures, flood-resilient design and construction, and any necessary management measures (the SFRA and Appendix B4 of the above mentioned national guidelines refer). Attention shall be given in the site-specific flood risk assessment to building design and creating a successful interface with the public realm through good design that addresses flood concerns but also maintains appealing functional streetscapes.
SI17 Catchment-Based Flood Risk Management Plans	To assist the OPW in implementing catchment-based Flood Risk Management Plans for rivers, coastlines and estuaries in the Dublin City area, including planned investment measures for managing and reducing flood risk, and have regard to their provisions / recommendations.
SI18 Protection of Flood Alleviation	To put in place adequate measures to protect the integrity of flood alleviation infrastructure in Dublin City and to ensure new developments or temporary removal of any flood alleviation asset does not increase flood risk, while ensuring that new flood alleviation infrastructure has due regard to nature conservation, natural assets, open space and amenity values.
SI21 Managing Surface Water Flood Risk	To minimise flood risk arising from pluvial (surface water) flooding in the city by promoting the use of natural or nature-based flood risk management measures as a priority and by requiring the use of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) to minimise and limit the extent of hard surfacing and paving, and requiring the use of sustainable drainage techniques, where appropriate, for new development or for extensions to existing developments, in order to reduce the potential impact of existing and predicted flooding risk and to deliver wider environmental and biodiversity benefits.
SIO10 OPW Flood Relief Maintenance	To support and facilitate the OPW in its duty to maintain flood relief schemes completed under the Arterial Drainage Acts, 1945-1995, including the schemes in Carysfort Maretimo Stream, River Dodder (Tidal), River Tolka, River Wad (Clanmoyle), South Campshires and Spencer Dock.
SI22 Sustainable Drainage Systems	To require the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) in all new developments, where appropriate, as set out in the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (Vol 2: New Development)/ Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works. Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) should incorporate nature-based solutions and be designed in accordance with the Dublin City Council Sustainable Drainage Design and Evaluation Guide (2021) which is summarised in Appendix 12. SuDS should protect and enhance water quality through treatment at source while enhancing biodiversity and amenity.

No.	Policy / Objective
SI23 Green Blue Roofs	To require all new developments with roof areas in excess of 100 sq. metres to provide for a green blue roof designed in accordance with the requirements of Dublin City Council’s Green and Blue Roof Guide (2021) which is summarised in Appendix 11.
SI24 Control of Paving	To require that all surface water run-off from new / extended domestic driveways, repaired/ replacement driveways and vehicular entrances (where such development is not exempted from the requirement to obtain planning permission) is managed through the use of SuDS, ensuring no increase in surface water discharges to the public drainage network (for further guidance please refer to Appendices 5 and 12).
SI25 Surface Water Management	To require the preparation of a Surface Water Management Plan as part of all new developments in accordance with the requirements of Appendix 13 – the Council’s Surface Water Management Guidance.
SI26 Taking in Charge of Private Drainage Infrastructure	To require that all new surface water infrastructure within public or private developments be constructed in accordance with the standards set out within the Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works, irrespective of the management and maintenance regime proposed for the development or whether or not the development is intended to be taken in charge, in full or in part (i.e. infrastructure shall be to designed to taking in charge standards).
SIO13 New Surface Water Infrastructure	To provide for new and improved surface water public networks, including projects undertaken in conjunction with Irish Water where applicable / where required, in order to reduce pollution and negative impacts on receiving waters to allow for more sustainable development.
SI27 Sustainable Waste Management	To support the principles of the circular economy, good waste management and the implementation of best practice in relation to waste management in order for Dublin City and the Region to become self-sufficient in terms of resource and waste management and to provide a waste management infrastructure that supports this objective.

No.	Policy / Objective
SIO16 Eastern-Midlands Region Waste Management Plan	To support the implementation of the Eastern-Midlands Regional Waste Management Plan 2015–2021 and any subsequent plans in order to facilitate the transition from a waste management economy towards a circular economy.
SI32 Litter Management Plan	To support the implementation of the Dublin City Council Litter Management Plan 2020-2022 and subsequent plans through enforcement of the litter bye-laws, street cleaning and education and awareness campaigns.
SI33 Remediation of Contaminated Sites	That all potentially contaminated sites shall be remediated to internationally accepted standards prior to redevelopment. Any unearthed contaminants will require some form of remediation measures which may require a licence from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
SIO19 Consultation with Regional Waste Management Office	To liaise with the Regional Waste Management Office when considering proposals for the development of brownfield sites that require the offsite disposal of contaminated waste.
SIO20 Managing Contamination Risk from Existing Infrastructure.	To proactively manage the contamination risks arising from existing infrastructure by encouraging the upgrading/ replacement of such infrastructure and the remediation of the affected sites, where appropriate.
SI34 Management of Air Quality	To monitor, pro-actively manage and improve air quality in the city through integrated land use and spatial planning measures to avoid, mitigate and minimise unacceptable levels of air pollution in accordance with national and EU policy Directives on air quality and, where appropriate, promote compliance with established targets.
SIO21 Air Quality Data Collection	To reduce harmful emissions and to achieve and maintain good air quality in the city by working with the Dublin local authorities and relevant agencies in the collection of local data through the Dublin City ambient air quality monitoring network.
SIO22 City Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Network	To maintain and manage a Dublin City ambient air quality monitoring network in conjunction with the EPA and to make available to the public the resulting air quality measurements through the https://dublincityairandnoise.ie/ website
SI35 Ambient Noise Quality	To seek to preserve and maintain noise quality in the city in accordance with good practice and relevant legislation.
SI36 Noise Management	To support pro-active management of noise in the city through measures to avoid, mitigate, minimise noise in accordance with good practice, relevant legislation an in line with the Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan 2018-2023 and subsequent plans.

No.	Policy / Objective
SI37 Noise Sensitive Development	To give careful consideration to the location, design and construction of noise-sensitive developments, including the horizontal and vertical layout of apartment schemes, so as to ensure they are protected from major noise sources, where practical, and to minimise the potential for noise disturbance.
SI39 Protection of Designated Quiet Areas	To protect the designated Quiet Areas within the city from increased exposure to noise.
SI40 Dublin Airport Noise Zones and other Noise Plans	To take account of the Dublin Airport Local Area Plan (2020) and Noise Action Plan for Dublin Airport 2019-2023 as part of the development management process in order to protect noise sensitive development whilst facilitating the continued operation of Dublin Airport; and to develop similar appropriate plans for areas adjacent to Dublin Port.
SIO23 Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan	To support the implementation of the Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan 2018–2023 and subsequent plans in co-operation with the other Dublin local authorities.
SIO24 Noise Monitoring and Enforcement	To support and facilitate the monitoring and enforcement by the environmental health department of noise reduction measures in areas experiencing excess noise.
SI42 Light Pollution	To not allow unnecessary, inappropriate or excessive artificial lighting and to ensure that the design of public and external lighting proposals minimises light spillage or pollution and has due regard to the character, environmental sensitivity and residential amenity of the surrounding area.
SI44 COMAH Establishments / SEVESO	To have regard to the provisions of the SEVESO III Directive (2012/18/EU) relating to the control of major accident hazards involving dangerous substances and its objectives to prevent major accidents and limit the consequences of such accidents. Dublin City Council will have regard to the provisions of the Directive and recommendations of the HSA in the assessment of all planning applications located on, or impacted by, COMAH establishments in accordance with Guidance on Technical Land-use Planning Advice: for planning authorities and operators of COMAH establishments (2021).
SI50 Renewable Energy Use and Generation	To promote renewable energy generation, use and storage at appropriate locations within the built and natural environment to meet national objectives towards achieving a low carbon economy by 2050.

No.	Policy / Objective
SI52 Poolbeg Peninsula Strategic Sustainable Infrastructure Hub	To support the development of the Poolbeg peninsula as a Sustainable Energy and Infrastructure Hub for Dublin with a strategic role in accommodating the city’s critical hard infrastructure and to recognise the significant role that it plays in facilitating Dublin’s transition to a low carbon and climate resilient city.
GI1 Green Infrastructure Assets	To identify and protect the integrity of the city’s GI assets, as appropriate, and to enhance and expand the connectivity, multi-functionality, and accessibility of the city’s green infrastructure network, while addressing gaps in the network.
GI6 New Development / New Growth Areas	To integrate Green Infrastructure and an ecosystem services approach into new developments / new growth areas in the city that contributes to the city’s green infrastructure network by its extension and enhancement and that provides for the environmental resilience of new development.
GI7 Connecting Greening Elements in Site Design	To avoid the fragmentation of green spaces in site design and to link green spaces /greening elements to existing adjacent green infrastructure / the public realm where feasible and to provide for ecological functions.
GIO3 Current and Future Greening Strategies	To expand the preparation and implementation of urban greening strategies, with particular focus on key streets in the city area between the Royal and Grand Canals. To support the implementation of the: ‘Liberties Greening Strategy’ (2015), the ‘North East Inner City Greening Strategy’ (2018) and the ‘Stoneybatter Green Strategy’ (2021) and to implement the greening strategies in the Council’s Public Realm Strategies programme.
GIO5 Design Guide for Public Open Space	To implement the forthcoming Dublin City Council Parks, Public Open Space Design Guide.
GI9 European Union Natura 2000 Sites	To conserve, manage, protect and restore the favourable conservation condition of all qualifying interest/special conservation interests of all European sites designated, or proposed to be designated, under the EU Birds and Habitats Directives, as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) (European / Natura 2000 sites).
GI10 Flora and Fauna Protected under National & European Legislation Located Outside Designated Areas	To adequately protect flora and fauna (under the EU Habitats and Birds Directives, the Wildlife Acts 1976–2021, the Fisheries Acts 1959-2006 and the Flora (Protection) Order 2015 S.I No. 356 of 2015), wherever they occur within Dublin City, or have been identified as supporting the favourable conservation condition of any European sites.

No.	Policy / Objective
GI11 Proposed Natural Heritage Areas	To ensure the protection, conservation and enhancement of all areas of ecological importance for protected species, and especially those listed in the EU Birds and Habitats Directives, including those identified as supporting the favourable conservation condition of any European sites, in accordance with development standards set out in this plan.
GI12 National and International Sites for Nature Conservation	To protect sites for nature conservation as designated under the Ramsar Treaty for wetland sites, National Special Amenity Areas, National Nature Reserves, Important Bird Areas and Flora Protection Order Sites.
GI13 Areas of Ecological Importance for Protected Species	To have regard to the conservation and enhancement of all areas of ecological importance for protected species, especially those listed in the EU Birds and Habitats Directives, in accordance with development standards set out in this plan.
GI14 Ecological / Wildlife Corridors	To maintain and strengthen the integrity of the city’s ecological corridors and stepping stones which enable species to move through the city, by increasing their connectivity [to be shown in the proposed Green Infrastructure Strategy] under Article 10 of the EU Habitats Directive. Development proposals should not compromise their ecological functions and should realise opportunities to contribute to enhancing the nature conservation value of them by landscaping that provides complementary habitats. An Ecological Impact Assessment will be required for any proposed development likely to have a significant impact on habitats and species of interest on or adjacent an ecological corridor.
GI15 Inland and Sea Fisheries	To protect inland and sea fisheries and take full account of Inland Fisheries Ireland Guidelines ‘Planning for Watercourses in the Urban Environment’ 2020, when undertaking, approving or authorising development or works which may impact on rivers streams, watercourses, estuaries, shorelines and their associated habitats. To protect sea angling sites designated by Inland Fisheries Ireland at the North and South Bull Walls and at Dollymount and Sandymount Strands.
GI16 Habitat Creation and New Development	That new development should provide opportunities to incorporate biodiversity improvements through urban greening and the use of nature based infrastructural solutions that are of particular relevance and benefit in an urban context. Opportunities should be taken as part of new development to provide a net gain in biodiversity.
GI18 Minimise Impact – Light and Noise	To minimise the environmental impact of external lighting and noise at sensitive locations to achieve a sustainable balance between the needs of an area, the safety of walking and cycling routes and the protection of sensitive species such as bats (see also Section 9.5.9 Public & External Lighting).
GIO7 National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021	To support the management targets for nature conservation sites set out in the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017 (and as updated) and the objectives for local authorities to address threats to biodiversity.

No.	Policy / Objective
GIO8 Draft Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan 2021 - 2025	To support the implementation of the 'Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan 2021–2025' (or as updated), which sets out key themes and objectives for biodiversity conservation and restoration and measurable targets and actions, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders.
GIO9 Invasive Alien Species	To support measures to prevent the introduction of and to control the spread of invasive alien species in Dublin City in accordance with the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 and EU Regulations 1143/2014 and to implement the targets and actions set out in the Dublin City Invasive Alien Species Action Plan 2016 – 2020 (or as updated).
GIO10 All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021 - 2025	To have regard to the all-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021 – 2025 in the management of the Council’s open spaces, parks and roadside verges and to encourage the pollination of vacant, derelict and temporary sites through measures to protect and increase the populations of native wild bees and other pollinators.
GIO11 North Bull Island Management Plan and Nature Reserve Action Plan 2020 - 2025	To manage and maintain the North Bull Island National Nature Reserve (Recognition Order, 1988) in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service and to support the implementation of the North Bull Island Management Plan and Nature Reserve Action Plan 2020-2025 for the implementation of Management Objectives.
GIO12 Geological Sites	To recognise the importance of County Geological Sites and to protect the character and integrity of these sites / features.
GIO13 Dublin City Habitat Map and Database	To protect and improve connectivity of habitats and to prevent habitat loss and fragmentation through urban land use change, development and management through the use of the Dublin City Habitat Map and Database (2020, and updates) to inform planning decisions.
GIO14 Further Nature Reserves	To liaise and work with and support the National Parks and Wildlife Service in the designation of additional nature reserves and Natural Heritage Areas, and in the identification of opportunities for nature development.
GI19 Protect and Enhance Landscapes	To continue to protect and enhance the city’s landscape and seascape, the amenities of places and features of natural beauty and interest, through sustainable planning and design for both the existing community and for future generations in accordance with the National Landscape Strategy 2015 – 2025 and any updated strategy.
GI20 Views and Prospects	To protect and enhance views and prospects which contribute to the appreciation of landscape and natural heritage.
GI21 Promote City Landscape	To promote the city landscapes, including rivers, canals, Dublin Mountains and Dublin Bay, as a major resource for the city and forming core areas of the green infrastructure network.

No.	Policy / Objective
GI22 Managed Access	To provide managed access to landscape and amenity areas of Dublin City while ensuring their long-term protection and maintenance to limit degradation.
GI23 European Landscape Convention	To continue to protect and enhance landscape, including existing green spaces through sustainable planning and design for both the existing community and for future generations in accordance with the principles of the European Landscape Convention.
GIO15 National Landscape Strategy 2015-2025	To support and implement the objectives of the National Landscape Strategy 2015 – 2025 (and updates).
GIO16 Landscape Character Assessment	To prepare a Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) for Dublin City, during the lifetime of the plan in accordance with the National Landscape Strategy 2015 – 2025 and the forthcoming National Landscape Character Map and national guidance on local landscape character assessments.
GIO17 Views and Prospects Study	To undertake a ‘Views and Prospects’ study to identify and protect the key views and prospects of the city. Additional views and prospects may be identified through the development management process and local area plans.
GIO18 Landscape Conservation Areas Review	To investigate the suitability of designating St. Anne’s Park as a Landscape Conservation Area and to prepare a review to examine the potential for other Landscape Conservation Areas as appropriate during the timeframe of the Development Plan.
GIO21 Protection and Connectivity of the Dublin Mountains with Dublin City	To support, as part of the Dublin Mountain Partnership, the proper planning and development measures for the protection and connectivity of the Dublin Mountains with Dublin City. To prepare and implement strategies for the conservation and enhancement of the landscape, visual amenity and biodiversity of the Dublin Mountains, in partnership with South Dublin County Council and Dun-Laoghaire Rathdown County Council.
GIO22 Dublin City Parks Strategy	To support the implementation of the Dublin City Parks Strategy 2019 or as updated.
GIO23 Manage /Protect/Enhance Parks	To continue to manage and protect and/or enhance the city’s parks and public open spaces to meet the social, recreational, conservation and ecological needs of the city and to consider the development of appropriate complementary facilities which do not detract from the amenities of spaces.
GIO24 Public Open Space Audit	To support the preparation of a Public Open Space Audit for the City Centre Area.

No.	Policy / Objective
GIO26 Management Plans	To implement Conservation Management Plans for St. Anne’s Park, Merrion Square, Mountjoy Square, Palmerston Park, Herbert Park, Sandymount Green and Wolfe Tone Park and to prepare management plans for all designated flagship parks and Community Grade 1 and 2 Parks under the management of the City Council. It is an objective of the Council to support management plans for the St. Stephen’s Green and the Irish National War Memorial Gardens.
GIO27 Phoenix Park Management Plan	To support the implementation of the Phoenix Park Management Plan by the Office of Public Works so as to protect and conserve the historic landscape of the Phoenix Park and its archaeological, architectural and natural heritage whilst facilitating visitor access, education and interpretation, facilitating the sustainable use of the park’s resources for recreation and other appropriate activities, encouraging research and maintaining its sense of peace and tranquillity.
GI29 Protect Character of River Corridors	To protect, maintain, and enhance the watercourses and their river corridors in the city and to ensure that development does not cover or encroach upon rivers and their banks. To maintain natural river banks and restore them as part of any new development. The creation and/or enhancement of river corridors will be required and river restoration opportunities where possible will be supported to help improve water quality, and ecology, provide natural flood relief as well as providing amenity and leisure benefits.
GI30 Maintain and Improve Connectivity of Freshwater and Estuarine Habitats/ EU Birds & Habitats Directives	To conserve, maintain and restore freshwater and estuarine habitats which are of importance for species listed in the annexes of the EU Birds and Habitats Directives and to ensure connectivity of these in accordance with Article 10 of the EU Habitats Directive.
GI31 Protect and Improve Ecological Status of Rivers under the EU Water Framework Directive	To support the improvement of the ecological status of all rivers / waterbodies within the administrative area of Dublin City Council and those rivers identified in accordance with the River Basin Management Plan 2018 – 2021 and the next management plan to be produced under the 3rd river basin planning cycle (2022-2027), as required under the EU Water Framework Directive (see Chapter 9, Section 9.5.2 Urban Watercourses and Water Quality).
GI32 Linear Parks and Recreational Use of Waterways Aspects	To develop linear parks, sustainable riverine access, walkways, cycleways and water focused recreational, sporting and tourism amenities which enhance appreciation of rivers in a manner that ensures that any adverse environmental effects are avoided and ecological enhancements, where appropriate, are employed to ensure a net biodiversity gain. Where lands along the waterways are in private ownership, it shall be policy in any development proposal to secure public access along the waterway

No.	Policy / Objective
GI34 New Development and Public Open Space along River Corridors	To ensure that new development, in terms of siting and design, responds to the character, importance and setting of the city's rivers where the context allows, and to require public open space which is to be provided as part of new development, to supplement riparian buffer zones so as to support the attainment of 'good ecological status' or higher for water bodies, flood management, the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem functions.
GIO32 Liffey Vale House Education Centre	To develop an accessible biodiversity and education centre at Liffey Vale House for education and interpretation of the River Liffey, its ecosystem, history and culture.
GIO33 Working with Agencies	To liaise and work with relevant State agencies responsible for the city's waterways, including Waterways Ireland, Inland Fisheries Ireland, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Office of Public Works (OPW), The Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO), and Dublin Port Company.
GI35 General Protection of Coastal Zone	To protect and enhance the coast shoreline and marine environment as open space and valuable natural habitats.
GI37 Protection and Management of Dublin Bay	To ensure a co-ordinated approach to the protection of management of Dublin Bay with other State and Semi-State agencies through the Dublin Bay UNESCO Biosphere Partnership in line with its management plan for the sustainable development of Dublin Bay and the Lima Action Plan of the UNESCO MAB World Network of Biosphere Reserves.
GI38 Marine Pollution and MSF Directive	To support initiatives to reduce marine pollution in Dublin Bay in partnership with other organisations and to raise awareness by Bay users and the general public and also to have regard to the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EU).
GI39 Interpretation, Awareness and Public Engagement	To raise awareness of the international importance for nature conservation of Dublin Bay by improving information and interpretation of its biodiversity for recreational users and visitors. To increase public engagement and actions to conserve nature in line with the objectives of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.
GIO36 Bathing Beaches and Blue Flag Status	To maintain beaches for bathing at Dollymount, Sandymount, Merrion and Poolbeg/Shelly Banks to a high standard and to protect and improve water quality and bathing facilities in order to bring them to 'Blue Flag' standard.
GIO38 Dublin Bay UNESCO Biosphere Conservation and Research Strategy	To support the Biosphere as an international centre of excellence for education, training and research and the implementation of the Dublin Bay UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Conservation and Research Strategy, 2016 – 2020 (and updates).

No.	Policy / Objective
GIO39 National Marine Planning Framework	To comply with the policies and objectives of the National Marine Planning Framework as it relates to the city’s coastal zone (in the area between the mean high water mark and the near shore) with respect to the planning and resource management of the marine area.
GI41 Protect Existing Trees as Part of New Development	To protect existing trees as part of new development, particularly those that are of visual, biodiversity or amenity quality and significance. There will be a presumption in favour of retaining and safeguarding trees that make a valuable contribution to the environment.
GI42 Tree Management	To adopt a pro-active and systematic good practice approach to tree management with the aim of promoting good tree health, condition, diversity, public amenity and a balanced age-profile and as per Dublin City Tree Strategy 2021.
GIO41 Trees as Wildlife Corridor or ‘Stepping Stones’	To protect trees, hedgerows or groups of trees which function as wildlife corridors or ‘stepping stones’ in accordance with Article 10 of the EU Habitats Directive.
GIO42 Urban Tree Canopy Plan	To support the preparation of an Urban Tree Canopy Plan for the City Centre Area. To increase the tree canopy cover to a minimum of 10% in all areas with an emphasis in increasing the tree canopy cover in areas where there is a deficit, and a minimum of 5% each year in the city centre.
GI45 National Physical Activity Plan 2016	To improve the health and well-being of communities by increasing access to participation in sports, recreation and healthy activity in line with the National Physical Activity Plan 2016, the Healthy Ireland Framework 2019 – 2025 and the Sport Ireland Participation Plan 2021 – 2024.
GI49 Protection of Existing and Established Sport and Recreational Facilities	To protect existing and established sport and recreation facilities, including pitches, unless there is clear evidence that there is no long term need for the facility; unless the loss would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity or quality in an accessible and suitable location; or the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, or required to meet other open space deficiencies, the benefits of which would clearly outweigh the loss of the former or current use.
GI50 Fenced Playing Pitches on Existing Open Space	To protect public open space and to generally restrict the development of fenced playing pitches on existing open space areas where it would exclude the use of the open space for other amenity related purposes when matches are not in progress.
GI51 Children’s Playing Facilities - General	To seek the provision of children’s playing facilities that encompasses local and public places and spaces for play that are accessible and inclusive for children and young people of all ages, abilities and socio-economic backgrounds.
GI52 Children’s Playing Facilities in	To seek the provision of children’s playing facilities in new residential developments. To provide playgrounds to an appropriate standard of amenity, safety, and accessibility and to create safe and accessible places for socialising and informal play.

No.	Policy / Objective
New Residential Developments	
GIO44 Active Cities Project	To support the work of the Dublin City Sports & Wellbeing Partnership and the Dublin Active Cities Project in creating, maintaining and increasing the numbers of people, of all ages, gender and ability, participating in sport and physical activity in the city.
GIO48 Dublin City Play Strategy 'Pollinating Play' 2020	To support the implementation of the Draft Dublin City Play Strategy 'Pollinating Play' 2020 – 2025 which aims to provide inclusive and accessible play opportunities for children and young people and the integration of play provision and child friendly neighbourhoods.
GIO49 Play Friendly Communities	To support and encourage the development of play-friendly communities that provide time and space and permission for 'everyday street play', opportunities and experiences and play in urban public space.
BHA1 Record of Protected Structures	(a) To include those structures that are considered to be of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, technical or social interest in the Record of Protected Structures, and to remove those structures where protection is no longer warranted. To maintain and review the RPS whilst having regard to recommendations for additions to the RPS made by the Minister under Section 53 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

No.	Policy / Objective
BHA2 Development of Protected Structures	<p>That development will conserve and enhance Protected Structures and their curtilage and will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Ensure that any development proposals to Protected Structures, their curtilage and setting shall have regard to the ‘Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities’ 2011 published by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. (b) Protect structures included on the RPS from any works that would negatively impact their special character and appearance. (c) Ensure that works are carried out under supervision of a suitably qualified person with expertise in architectural conservation. (d) Ensure that any development, modification, alteration, or extension affecting a Protected Structure and/or its setting is sensitively sited and designed, and is appropriate in terms of the proposed scale, mass, height, density, layout and materials. (e) Ensure that the form and structural integrity of the Protected Structure is retained in any redevelopment and ensure that new development does not adversely impact the curtilage or the special character of the Protected Structure. (f) Respect the historic fabric and the special interest of the interior, including its plan form, hierarchy of spaces, structure and architectural detail, fixtures and fittings and materials. (g) Ensure that new and adapted uses are compatible with the architectural character and special interest(s) of the Protected Structure. (h) Protect and retain important elements of built heritage including historic gardens, stone walls, entrance gates and piers and any other associated curtilage features. (i) Ensure historic landscapes, gardens and trees (in good condition) associated with Protected Structures are protected from inappropriate development. <p>Have regard to ecological considerations for example, protection of species such as bats.</p>
BHA3 Loss of Protected Structures	<p>That the City Council will resist the total or substantial loss of Protected Structures in all but exceptional circumstances.</p>
BHAO1 Buildings-at-Risk Register	<p>To continue to maintain and proactively manage the Buildings-at-Risk Register of Protected Structures that are considered to be endangered or have the potential to become endangered through neglect, decay, damage and harm.</p>

No.	Policy / Objective
BHA7 Architectural Conservation Areas	<p>(a) To protect the special interest and character of all areas which have been designated as an Architectural Conservation Area (ACA). Development within or affecting an ACA must contribute positively to its character and distinctiveness, and take opportunities to protect and enhance the character and appearance of the area and its setting wherever possible. Development shall not harm buildings, spaces, original street patterns, archaeological sites, historic boundaries or features, which contribute positively to the ACA. Please refer to Appendix 6 for a full list of ACAs in Dublin City.</p> <p>(b) Ensure that all development proposals within an ACA contribute positively to the character and distinctiveness of the area and have full regard to the guidance set out in the Character Appraisals and Framework for each ACA.</p> <p>(c) Ensure that any new development or alteration of a building within an ACA or immediately adjoining an ACA is complementary and/or sympathetic to their context , sensitively designed and appropriate in terms of scale, height, mass, density, building lines and materials and that it protects and enhances the ACA. Contemporary design which is in harmony with the area will be encouraged.</p> <p>(d) Seek the retention of all features that contribute to the character of an ACA including boundary walls, railings, soft landscaping, traditional paving and street furniture.</p> <p>(e) Promote sensitive hard and soft landscaping works that contribute to the character and quality of the ACA.</p> <p>(f) Promote best conservation practice and encourage the use of appropriately qualified professional advisors, tradesmen and craftsmen, with recognised conservation expertise, for works to buildings of historic significance within Architectural Conservation Areas.</p> <p>All trees which contribute to the character and appearance of an Architectural Conservation Area, in the public realm, will be safeguarded, except where the tree is a threat to public safety, prevents universal access or requires removal to protect other specimens from disease.</p>
BHA02 Designation of ACAs	To identify and designate further Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs), within the identified priority areas in accordance with the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines, (2011).

No.	Policy / Objective
BHA9 Conservation Areas	<p>To protect the special interest and character of all Dublin’s Conservation Areas – identified under Z8, Z2 zoning objectives and denoted by red line conservation hatching on the zoning maps. Development within or affecting a conservation area must contribute positively to its character and distinctiveness and take opportunities to protect and enhance the character and appearance of the area and its setting, wherever possible.</p> <p>Enhancement opportunities may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Replacement or improvement of any building, feature or element which detracts from the character of the area or its setting. 2. Re-instatement of missing architectural detail or important features. 3. Improvement of open spaces and the wider public realm and reinstatement of historic routes and characteristic plot patterns. 4. Contemporary architecture of exceptional design quality, which is in harmony with the Conservation Area. 5. The repair and retention of shop and pub fronts of architectural interest. 6. Retention of buildings and features that contribute to the overall character and integrity of the conservation area. <p>Changes of use will be acceptable where in compliance with the zoning objectives and where they make a positive contribution to the character, function and appearance of the Conservation Areas and its setting. The Council will consider the contribution of existing uses to the special interest of an area when assessing change of use applications and will promote compatible uses which ensure future long-term viability.</p>
BHA11 Rehabilitation and Reuse of Existing Older Buildings	<p>(a) To retain, where appropriate, and encourage the rehabilitation and suitable adaptive reuse of existing older buildings/structures/features, which make a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the area and streetscape in preference to their demolition and redevelopment.</p> <p>(b) Encourage the retention and/or reinstatement of original fabric of our historic building stock such as windows, doors, roof coverings, shopfronts (including signage and associated features), pub fronts and other significant features.</p> <p>Ensure that appropriate materials are used to carry out any repairs to the historic fabric.</p>
BHA12 Industrial, Military and Maritime, Canal-side and Rural Heritage	<p>To promote the awareness of Dublin’s industrial, military and maritime, canal-side (including lock-keepers’ dwellings), rail and rural (vernacular) heritage.</p>
BHA13 Maritime Heritage and Maritime Villages	<p>To support maritime heritage in built form, to foster initiatives that give expression to the maritime heritage of Dublin City, including trails, features and public realm design and to promote and develop the character and heritage of coastal and maritime villages.</p>

No.	Policy / Objective
BHA15 Twentieth Century Buildings and Structures	<p>(a) To encourage the appropriate development of exemplar twentieth century buildings and structures to ensure their character is not compromised.</p> <p>To encourage the retention and reinstatement of internal and external features that contribute to the character of exemplar twentieth century buildings, such as roofscapes, boundary treatments, fenestration pattern, materials, and other features, fixtures and fittings (including furniture and art work) considered worthy of retention.</p>
BHA06 Twentieth Century Buildings, Structures, RPS	<p>To identify and protect exemplar buildings of the twentieth century; to categorise, prioritise, and, where appropriate, add to the Record of Protected Structures (RPS); to produce guidelines and offer advice for protection and appropriate refurbishment of such structures.</p>
BHA16 Industrial Heritage	<p>To have regard to the City’s industrial heritage and Dublin City Industrial Heritage Record (DCIHR) in the preparation of Local Area Plans and the assessment of planning applications. To review the DCHIR in accordance with Ministerial recommendations arising from the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) survey of Dublin City.</p>
BHA17 Industrial Heritage of Waterways, Canals and Rivers	<p>To support and promote a strategy for the protection and restoration of the industrial heritage of the City’s waterways, canals and rivers, including retaining features such as walls, weirs and millraces.</p>
BHA08 Industrial Heritage and the RPS	<p>To identify and protect further sites of industrial heritage; to categorise, prioritise and where, appropriate, add to the RPS.</p>
BHA18 Historic Ground Surfaces, Street Furniture and Public Realm	<p>(a) To protect, conserve and retain in situ historic elements of significance in the public realm including milestones, jostle stones, city ward stones, bollards, coal hole covers, gratings, boot scrapers, cast iron basement lights, street skylights and prisms, water troughs, street furniture, post boxes, lampposts, railings and historic ground surfaces including stone kerbs, pavement flags and setts and to promote conservation best practice and high standards for design, materials and workmanship in public realm improvements within areas of historic character, having regard to the national Advice Series on ‘Paving: The Conservation of Historic Ground Surfaces’ (2015).</p> <p>To maintain schedules of stone setts, historic kerbing and historic pavers/flags, and associated features in the public realm, to be protected, conserved or reintroduced (Appendix 6 and to update and review these schedules during the period of this plan.</p>
BHA19 Historic Street Furniture and the RPS	<p>To maintain a schedule of features in the public realm identified for protection in Appendix 6 whilst also having regard to recommendations for additions to the RPS made by the Minister for such structures under Section 53 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).</p>

No.	Policy / Objective
BHA22 Upgrading Environmental Performance	<p>To ensure a sustainable future for historic and other buildings subject to heritage protection, the City Council will encourage and support works to upgrade the environmental performance of the existing building stock that incorporates good standards of design and appearance. Where these works involve historic buildings subject to protection (this includes buildings referenced on the Record of Protected Structures and non-protected structures in an Architectural Conservation Area), the works shall not adversely affect the special interest of the structure and thus a sensitive approach will be required, taking into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The significance of the structure, and ▪ The extent of intervention, including impact on historic fabric, the technical requirements of a traditionally constructed building, visibility, siting and design. <p>The installation of renewable energy measures and equipment will be acceptable where sited and designed to minimise the visual impact and does not result in any significant loss of historic fabric or otherwise affect the significance of the structure.</p>
BHA23 Climate Action	<p>To co-operate with other agencies in the investigation of climate change on the fabric of historic buildings and to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce the vulnerability of heritage in line with the National Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage. (2020)</p>
BHA09 Community Monuments Fund	<p>To support the implementation of the Community Monuments Fund in order to ensure the monitoring and adaptation of archaeological monuments and mitigate against damage caused by climate change.</p>
BHA24 Reuse and Refurbishment of Historic Buildings	<p>Dublin City Council will positively encourage and facilitate the careful refurbishment of the historic built environment for sustainable and economically viable uses and support the implementation of the National Policy on Architecture as it relates to historic buildings, streetscapes, towns and villages, by ensuring the delivery of high quality architecture and quality place-making and by demonstrating best practice in the care and maintenance of historic properties in public ownership.</p>
BHA26 Archaeological Heritage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To protect and preserve Sites and Zones of Archaeological interest which have been identified in the Record of Monuments and Places and the Historic Environment Viewer (www.archaeology.ie). 2) To protect archaeological material in situ by ensuring that only minimal impact on archaeological layers is allowed, by way of re-use of standing buildings, the construction of light buildings, low impact foundation design, or the omission of basements (except in exceptional circumstances) in the Zones of Archaeological Interest. 3) To seek the preservation in situ (or where this is not possible or appropriate, as a minimum, preservation by record) of all archaeological monuments included in the Record of Monuments and Places, and of previously unknown sites, features and objects of archaeological interest that become revealed through development activity. In respect of decision

No.	Policy / Objective
	<p>making on development proposals affecting sites listed in the Record of Monuments and Places, the Council will have regard to the advice and/or recommendations of the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government.</p> <p>4) Development proposals within Sites and Zones of Archaeological Interest, of sites over 0.5 hectares size and of sites listed in the Dublin City Industrial Heritage Record, will be subject to consultation with the City Archaeologist and archaeological assessment prior to a planning application being lodged.</p> <p>5) To preserve known burial grounds and disused historic graveyards. Where disturbance of ancient or historic human remains is unavoidable, they will be excavated according to best archaeological practice and reburied or permanently curated.</p> <p>6) Preserve the character, setting and amenity of upstanding and below ground town wall defences.</p> <p>7) Development proposals in marine, lacustrine and riverine environments and areas of reclaimed land shall have regard to the Shipwreck Inventory maintained by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and be subject to an appropriate level of archaeological assessment.</p> <p>To have regard to national policy documents and guidelines relating to archaeology and to best practice guidance published by the Heritage Council, the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland and Transport Infrastructure Ireland.</p>
BHAO10 Conservation Plans	To prepare and implement conservation plans for National Monuments and Recorded Monuments in Dublin City Council ownership.
BHAO11 Dublin City Archaeological Archive	To maintain, develop and promote the Dublin City Archaeological Archive (DCAA) at Pearse Street Library and Archives.
BHAO13 Management Plan	To develop a long-term management plan to promote the conservation, management and interpretation of archaeological sites and monuments and to identify areas for strategic research.
BHAO16 City Wall and City Defences	To continue to preserve, and enhance the surviving section of the City Wall and City Defences- a National Monument, according to the recommendations of the City Walls Conservation Plan (2005)-with reference to the National Policy on Town Defences (2008).
BHAO19 Built Heritage and Archaeology	To provide for the protection, preservation and promotion of the built heritage, including architectural heritage and archaeological heritage and support the in situ presentation and interpretation of archaeological finds within new developments.
BHA27 Dublin City Heritage Plan	To implement the current Dublin City Heritage Plan and to support the preparation and implementation of the Dublin City Heritage Plan 2022-2026.

No.	Policy / Objective
BHA28 Historic Place and Street Names	To preserve historic place and street names and ensure that new street names reflect appropriate local archaeological, historical or cultural associations.
BHA32 Water Related Heritage Strategies	To support the creation and implementation of water-related heritage strategies in partnership with restoration and enhancement of river and canal corridors within the City.
CU1 Shared Vision for Culture	To lead and support the development of a shared vision for culture in the city in collaboration with cultural institutions and other cultural bodies in recognition of their key role and contribution to the cultural life of the City.
CU3 Dublin UNESCO City of Literature	To promote the vision of Dublin UNESCO City of Literature as a “City of Words”, and to support investment in expanded and upgraded cultural infrastructure that supports this vision.
CUO15 Variety and Diversity of Retail of Temple Bar	To seek to protect the variety and diversity of retail of Temple Bar which gives this hub its distinctive character.
CUO16 Temple Bar as a Mixed Use Cultural Quarter	To seek to maintain the role of Temple Bar as a mixed use cultural quarter and avoid the concentration of particular uses and retail facilities which would re-inforce particular activities in the area to the detriment of the cultural, residential and social functions of the area. Any application for further expansion of floor space for licenced premises, restaurants or the sale of food or alcohol for consumption off the premises, will have to demonstrate how such expansion will not have a detrimental impact on the character of the area.
CU13 Protection of Cultural Uses	To protect cultural uses within the City that have been negatively impacted by the Covid pandemic and seek to preserve such spaces so they are not lost to the city as a result of the economic impact of the extended closure during the pandemic.
CU18 Music as a Key Cultural Asset	To support music as a key cultural asset of Dublin City and seek the retention and expansion of venues and facilities that allow for expression and experience of music in a wide variety of forms to enhance the cultural life of the city.
CU23 Performance and Entertainment Spaces	To protect and support Dublin city’s cultural assets by facilitating the enhancement and/or growth of existing cultural spaces, including performance and entertainment spaces, while protecting the existing amenities of an area.
CUO33 Noise Impacts	All applications for short or longer term residential proposals (including hotels) that seek permission adjacent to established late night uses such as nightclubs/music venues/public houses/comedy clubs, shall be required to demonstrate in their application, how, firstly through the use of good design and layout; and secondly, through increased sound insulation; they have ensured their development will not cause negative impacts on the adjoining uses in the future.

No.	Policy / Objective
CUO35 Victorian and Edwardian Public Houses	To protect Dublin’s unique heritage of Victorian and Edwardian public houses as a central part of the city’s cultural offer, and resist changes of use that would result in the loss of such premises from their traditional role where they are open to public use.
CU25 Libraries	Support the expansion and growth of libraries as key community and cultural assets within communities; including in providing key spaces for communities to use for cultural and arts events, music, classes, history and experiences and services for the unemployed including job seeking skills and online learning and training.
CUO38 Cultural & Artistic Space Audit	To aim to undertake during the life of the development plan, an audit and implementation plan for each Electoral Area of the Council to assess the current and future needs with regards to cultural and artistic spaces and to set a series of actions, policy tools and initiatives to address identified shortfalls.
CUO41 Multilingualism Community Infrastructure	To promote the development and provision of multilingualism community infrastructure across the city and to provide for the needs of groups promoting multilingualism within communities.
CUO42 Inclusivity	To support greater inclusivity as part of the cultural experience and to support adaptation to existing facilities to address existing shortcomings. To support initiatives and investments in arts and cultural spaces that aim to promote increased cultural engagement for minority groups, people with disabilities, young people, socially excluded, members of the Travelling community and LGBTQ+ community members.
CUO43 Accessibility	To encourage disabled people to take part fully in the city's culture as consumers, creators, artists and workers by supporting a high standard of accessibility in new and existing cultural assets.
CU26 Irish Language	To continue supporting Gaeilge as part of our identity and as a living language within the City and to explore options for promoting Irish language and culture through policy and actions.
CU27 Traditional Arts	To support the traditional arts within the City including music, dance and sports and to support key language and cultural investment projects in the City. DCC supports the UNESCO recognition sought for Irish cultural heritage elements, including hurling, harping and piping which have already achieved protection.
CUO45 Dublin Gaeltacht	To support the promotion of the Irish language and support initiatives to establish Irish language network areas/ “Dublin Gaeltacht” in Dublin.
CUO46 Irish Medium Education	To continue to engage with Department of Education and Skills to support the growth in Irish medium education and to work with Department in providing facilities to meet demand within the city.

No.	Policy / Objective
CUO48 Key Venues & Cultural Facilities	To protect important key venues and cultural facilities (both public and private) within the city that give space for the expression of traditional music, song and dance. Where proposals for redevelopment of such spaces are made, the applicant will be required to address how these uses will be accommodated.
CUO51 Dublin City Language and Cultural Hub	To promote and support the development of a flagship Dublin City Language and Cultural Hub as outlined in the Project Ireland 2040 document, Infheistíocht inár gCultúr, inár dTeanga & inár nOidhreacht Investing in our Culture, Language & Heritage 2018-2027.
CUO52 Commemorative Art and Monuments	When commissioning commemorative art or monuments that consideration is given to increasing the representation of women and minorities.

10 Monitoring Programme

10.1 Introduction

The Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) requires that the Chief Executive (CE) of the Local Authority prepares a progress report on the implementation of the Plan. In this regard, Chapter 16 of Draft Plan sets out the principles in relation to monitoring, implementation and phasing.

Monitoring the implementation of the Draft Plan and any implications on the environment is also important so as to ensure that the environment is not adversely affected. This is a requirement under Article 10 of the SEA Directive, which states that monitoring must be carried out of the significant environmental effects directly related to the implementation of the Plan “in order to, inter alia, identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action.” If significant negative effects are identified, appropriate actions should be taken / put in place to mitigate the effects and to avoid the likelihood of these effects continuing.

Departmental Guidelines on SEA¹⁶³ recommend that monitoring does not necessarily require new research activity, but that existing sources of information can be used and the task of data collection can be shared. There is considerable environmental data available from Dublin City Council (DCC), in this respect, such as water quality, recycling rates etc. Other sources of information will be accessed to provide a comprehensive view of the impact of the implementation of the Plan. In this regard, the Local Authority will work with other agencies with environmental mandates to gather data for the purposes of monitoring the Plan. Therefore, while monitoring specific elements of the environment is not strictly the preserve of the Council, DCC will continue to liaise and work with the EPA, the NPWS, IFI as well as others in the pursuit of environmental conservation and protection through existing environmental monitoring procedures.

¹⁶³ Implementation of SEA Directive (2001/42/EC): Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment Guidelines for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities, 2004.

10.2 Monitoring Indicators

It is proposed to base monitoring on a series of indicators which measure changes in the environment, especially changes which are critical in terms of environmental quality, for example in relation to water quality status or air pollution levels. The indicators aim to simplify complex interrelationships and provide information about environmental issues which is easy to understand. A list of environmental indicators is provided in Table 10.1. The indicators are based on the SEOs presented in Chapter 6 (SEA Objectives) and have been derived from knowledge of the existing environmental issues within the Plan area and also from legislation, guidelines and higher level Plans.

Environmental indicator assessment during monitoring can show positive / neutral impacts or negative impacts on the environment. Where an indicator value highlights a positive / neutral impact on the environment, it is likely that the policies and objectives of the Plan are well defined with regard to the environment. Conversely, where the objectives of the Plan have a negative impact on the environment, it may be necessary to review the objectives of the Plan or to take some other form of intervention. For example, if an objective or policy is having a significant adverse impact, a variation may be considered during the lifetime of the Plan.

Measurements for indicators generally come from existing monitoring sources. Existing monitoring sources include those maintained by the relevant authorities including DCC, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and the Central Statistics Office (CSO).

10.3 Monitoring Targets

The SEA Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) are paired with specific targets. Environmental indicators are used to track the process in achieving the targets. Table 10.1 sets out the SEA Themes, Targets, Indicators and Data Sources / Responsibilities for the Draft Plan.

DCC is responsible for the ongoing review of targets and indicators, collating existing relevant monitored data, the preparation of reports outlining the monitoring of significant environmental (positive / negative) effects, corrective / remedial actions required, if any, and the publication of these reports.

10.4 Monitoring Frequency

Monitoring of environmental factors varies from on-going to annual or more depending on the particular factor. However, reporting on monitoring of the environmental performance of the new Plan will be carried on every two years from the Plan coming into effect.

Table 10.1: Environmental Monitoring Programme

Theme	Draft Targets	Draft Indicators	Data Sources and Responsibility
Biodiversity (Flora & Fauna) (B)	Maintain or enhance status of European Sites	Condition of European Sites	Consultation with the NPWS / DoHLGH
	Improve / update knowledge on features / sites of biodiversity value within the city	Number and nature of baseline studies / surveys commissioned / completed for biodiversity	DCC Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department
	All local level land use plans to include an ecosystem services approach and green / blue infrastructure provisions and as a minimum, to have regard to the required targets in relation to the conservation of European sites, other nature conservation sites, ecological networks, and protected species	Number of spatial plans that have incorporated ecosystem services content, mapping and policy to protect / promote ecosystem services when their relevant plans are either drafted or revised	Internal monitoring of preparation of local land use plans – multiple DCC Departments
	Screen for and undertake SEA and AA as relevant for plans and projects arising from Development	Number of new plans subject to SEA and / or AA	Internal monitoring of preparation of local land use plans – multiple DCC Departments
	Complete and implement Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan 2021-2025	Performance on achieving actions in adopted Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan	DCC Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department
	Develop and Implement Green Infrastructure Strategy / Roll out of Ecosystem Services approach for the City	Progress on: - No. of projects commenced - SuDS projects/ retrofitting - River restoration	Internal monitoring – multiple DCC Departments

Theme	Draft Targets	Draft Indicators	Data Sources and Responsibility	
		- other flagship projects		
	Managing Invasive Species in the City	Implementing/ Achieving actions/ targets of the Invasive Species Plan	DCC Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department	
Population & Human Health (PHH)	Improving the Attractiveness / Viability of and pedestrian activity in City Centre	Pedestrian Footfall Counts in City centre	DCC / We Are Dublin Town	
	Deliver / Sustain Economic Growth and Development	Population, labour force participation and unemployment data	DCC Planning and Development/ DCC Local Enterprise Office / CSO	
	Healthy Placemaking	Increase in the proportion of people reporting regular cycling / walking to school and work above 2016 CSO figures		DCC Environment and Transportation Department
		Land use plans to include specific reference / measures in relation to human health (e.g. measures for reduction in fossil fuel use in homes and transport, improve access to and provision of sports and recreation and amenity facilities, etc.), including LEIP's		Internal monitoring – multiple DCC Departments
		HIQA Health Data		HIQA
	Growth of Population in Areas Targeted for Growth & Development (Core Strategy)	Population growth data for city EDs		Central Statistics Office

Theme	Draft Targets	Draft Indicators	Data Sources and Responsibility
Soils & Geology (SG)	To achieve 50% growth in built-up area	Increase proportion of development of brownfield city/ suburban lands	DCC Planning & Property Department – Active Land Management (CSO6)
	Dispose of contaminated material in compliance with EPA guidance and waste management requirements	No. of incidences of non-compliant contamination breaches	DCC Environment and Transportation Department - Waste Management Division
	Proactively manage and prevent soil sealing / permeability	No. of SuDS retrofitting projects / initiatives Introduction of SuDS in new development areas (i.e. SDRAs)	Internal monitoring – multiple DCC Departments
Water Quality and Flooding (WQ&F)	Maintain / improve the status of surface water bodies in accordance with WFD requirements	Change of status of water bodies. Findings of reporting on the monitoring programme for the WFD Implementation of the objectives of the second cycle of the River Basin Management Plan by 2021 (and objectives as relevant) Water quality monitoring to enable WFD water body status classification Completion of river catchment projects Reduction in wastewater emissions per person per annum Changes in water quality before and after implementation of river catchment projects	DCC Environment and Transportation Department – Water Services Division

Theme	Draft Targets	Draft Indicators	Data Sources and Responsibility
	To Manage City’s Flood Risk through Provision and Upgrading of Flood Alleviation Assets	Progress on implementation of listed flood projects	DCC Environment and Transportation Department - Flood Projects and WFD Division
	Minimise/ manage developments in areas at risk of flooding	Planning application compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan SFRA Preparation of SWMPs Number of incidences of flooding of existing and new development	DCC Environment and Transportation Department - Flood Projects and WFD Division
Air Quality (AQ) and Climate (CC)	Improvement in Air Quality	Preparation of the Air Quality Management Plan for Dublin Agglomeration (2021+) No. apps referred to Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit re: compliance with noise/ air quality policy Proportion of journeys made by private fossil fuel-based car compared to 2016 National Travel Survey levels. Changes in NOx, SOx, PM10 and PM2.5 as part of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring	DCC Environment and Transportation Department - Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit EPA

Theme	Draft Targets	Draft Indicators	Data Sources and Responsibility
	Maintain/ Improve Acoustic Quality in the City	Preparation of Noise Maps in compliance with the EU Environmental Noise Directive (2021+) No. apps referred to Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit re: compliance with noise/ air quality policy	DCC Environment and Transportation Department - Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit
	Compliance with updated Covenant of Mayors CO2 emission reduction targets for the city	Number of applications submitted with Climate Action Energy Statements	DCC Planning and Development / DCC Environment and Transportation Department
		Number of applications for District Heating Enabled Development	
		Number of Decarbonisation Zones established	
		Number of EV charging points installed	
	Implement DCC Climate Action Plan	Positive process on specified actions	
Cultural Heritage (CH)	Protecting Built Heritage	No's additions/ deletions/ amendments to RPS No. ACA's adopted No's of Buildings at Risk files opened / closed	DCC Planning and Property Development Department - Heritage
	Protection/ Promotion of Culture	Culture Near You Tool – additions / deletions / public engagement	Dublin Culture Company

Theme	Draft Targets	Draft Indicators	Data Sources and Responsibility
Landscape & Visual (LV)	Improvement in the public realm and visual quality of the city.	Number of public realm improvement projects New Tree Planting, including Street tree planting	DCC Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department
	Protection of City's Landscapes	Park / Open Space Enhancement Projects Historic Landscape Enhancement Restoration Projects (e.g. historic squares)	DCC Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department
Material Assets (MA)	Protect and Provide for our Critical Infrastructure	No. of critical infrastructure projects No. of incidences of loss / poor service / impact on assets (potable water, wastewater management, flooding monitoring)	Multiple Departments / External Service Managers / Providers
	Increase in provision of public reuse and recycling facilities	Pilot Projects – composting / underground storage/ MODOs Percentage increase in number of registered / DCC facilities	DCC Environment and Transportation Department - Waste Management Division
	Reduce pressure on waste water system in city	DCC SuDS projects Enhancement projects (e.g. addressing combined sewers) Drainage Action Plans	DCC Environment and Transportation Department – Drainage Services / Irish Water
	Sustainable Transport	Modal shifts to more sustainable modes New public transport infrastructure Cycle infrastructure	DCC Environment and Transportation Department NTA
	Increase provision of parks and green links	New parks / upgraded parks New green route cycle paths	DCC Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department

Theme	Draft Targets	Draft Indicators	Data Sources and Responsibility
			/ DCC Environment and Transportation Department / NTA
	Integration of new designated development areas with critical infrastructure	Infrastructure upgrades as part of LAPs/ SDRAs	Multiple / DCC Planning and Property Development Department

11 Conclusion

The Draft Dublin City Development Plan ('Draft Plan') (2022-2028) with its supporting policies and objectives are key to the future sustainable development of the city. The Draft Plan aims to balance the needs of the future population with the preservation, conservation and enhancement of the environment. The Plan has a strong focus towards sustainability. The SEA process has been carried out in conjunction with the Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Draft Plan. This allows for an early indication of the potential environmental effects likely to occur as a result of the implementation of the Plan. As a result changes or alterations to the Draft Plan are made throughout the course of its preparation. Through this process of assessment and re-assessment, it was identified that particular objectives could potentially have a negative environmental impact on particular environmental receptors or on a number of them simultaneously. The benefit, therefore, of preparing the Draft Plan, the AA, and the Environment Report ensures that these issues are highlighted at an early stage in the process. This allows the potential negative impacts of the Draft Plan to be addressed early on and effectively eliminated and for drafting and inclusion of objectives and policies that are specific to the protection of the environment.

The chosen development strategy as set out in the Draft Plan has been assessed in terms of its overall sustainability and its potential to impact on the environment. The policies and objectives contained within the Draft Plan were assessed for likely significant environmental effects and indicate that the full implementation of the Plan will not result in a significant negative or adverse impact on the environmental resources within the county. Where potential for negative impacts on the environment was identified, mitigation measures have been proposed. It has been shown in this report the Draft Plan will have a neutral to positive impact on the environment as a whole.

In addition, the AA of the Draft Plan was prepared to give information on and assess the potential of the Plan to impact on sites of European scale ecological importance. The AA has concluded that assuming the successful implementation of the objectives of the Draft Plan in its current state, there will be no likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites in Dublin City and its environs, either by the Plan in isolation or in combination with other Plans and Projects pertaining to the area.

Various objectives have been integrated into the Plan through the SEA, SFRA and AA processes. The preparation of the Draft Plan, SEA, AA and SFRA has taken place concurrently and the findings of the AA and SFRA have informed both the Plan and the SEA.

Finally, at the outset of the assessment process, a number of environmental issues were identified. While these are and remain the key environmental challenges facing the Council over the lifetime of the Plan, they also have complex interrelationships with other environmental receptors. Therefore, the imperative is to promote a holistic, all-inclusive response towards the protection of the natural assets within the Plan area. For example, groundwater for human consumption can be improved if restrictions on inappropriate land uses and surface based activities are applied. Subsequently, efforts made to improve water quality also have beneficial impacts on soil quality, habitat conservation, landscape and visual quality etc. The potential synergies at play, if appropriately addressed, will lead to an improvement in the quality of life for the residents of the Plan area.

In summary, the assessment of the Draft Plan has concluded that its objectives are acceptable and represent a balanced and fair approach to the sustainable development of the city. Monitoring of the Plan throughout its lifetime will ensure that any potential adverse environmental impacts, unforeseen at this stage will be identified early, so as to prevent any deterioration of the environment. This Draft Plan, as currently presented, balances growth with environmental protection and can deliver a sustainable future for the inhabitants of the area.

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Appendix A1 – Table A8.1

Table A8.1: SEA Assessment of Policies and Objectives

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 2 - Core Strategy				
CSO1 Feasibility Study and Local Statutory Plan for Z6 Zoned Lands at Glasnevin	To prepare a feasibility study and a local statutory plan for the Z6 zoned lands at Glasnevin (Dublin Industrial Estate and environs) in consultation with the relevant stakeholders, including an infrastructural audit with costings and implementation strategy to enable sustainable regeneration and development.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CSO2 Local Statutory Plan for lands at Kylemore Road/Naas Road and Ballymount	To prepare a local statutory plan in conjunction with South Dublin County Council for lands at Kylemore Road/Naas Road and Ballymount lands to enable a co-ordinated and phased development on these lands over the medium to long term.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CSO3 Local Statutory Plan for the North East Inner City (NEIC)	To prepare a local statutory plan for the North East Inner City (NEIC) in conjunction with the relevant stakeholders.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CSO4 Programme for the Preparation of Local Area Plans/Village Improvement Plans	To implement a programme for the preparation of Local Area Plans/Village Improvement Plans and to prioritise areas in accordance with the strategic objectives of the core strategy including those areas which are experiencing or likely to experience large scale development and regeneration.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CSO5 Programme for the Preparation of Local Environmental Improvement Plans	To implement a programme for the preparation of Local Environmental Improvement Plans and to prioritise areas in accordance with the strategic objectives of the Core Strategy.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CSO6 Active Land Management Register and Database	To develop an active land management register and database for the city, which shall include mapping of brownfield and other lands, such as vacant, under-utilised or large undeveloped sites, tracking progress on planning applications and identification of barriers to development, with the aim of promoting and co-ordinating development on the lands identified.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CSO7 Promote Delivery of Residential Development and Compact Growth	To promote the delivery of residential development and compact growth through active land management measures and a co-ordinated approach to developing appropriately zoned lands aligned with key public transport infrastructure, including the SDRAs, vacant sites and underutilised areas.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CSO8 Promote Active Land Management	Promote Active Land Management including the Vacant Site Levy and the Living City Initiative as a means to encourage brownfield development and densification in the city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CSO9 Vacant Sites	To implement the vacant site levy for vacant development sites as appropriate in the city and to continue to make a publicly available register of vacant sites as set out in the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act, 2015 or any superseding Act.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CSO10 Support the Development of Brownfield, Vacant and Regeneration Sites	To prepare, where appropriate, masterplans and other non -statutory plans or strategies to actively encourage and support the development of brownfield, vacant and regeneration sites.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CSO11 Derelict Sites Act and Compulsory Purchase	To deliver development through the use of the Derelict Sites Act 1990 and through the compulsory purchase of land as part of active land management to achieve the objectives of compact growth and the proper planning and sustainable development of an area.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CSO12 Seek Funding for the Delivery of Compact Growth	To seek funding from appropriate sources including the URDF, to secure the delivery of compact growth and national and regional planning objectives.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 2 - Core Strategy				
CSO13 Kilmainham and Inchicore Development Strategy Projects	To seek funding under Call 3 of the URDF for the planning, detailed design and construction of the Kilmainham and Inchicore Development Strategy projects.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CSO14 Co-ordinated Approach to Future Development of Strategic Growth Areas	To facilitate a co-ordinated approach to the future development of strategic growth areas including the Naas Road area, lands at Dunsink and the Belmayne-Clongriffin area, with South Dublin County Council, Fingal County Council respectively and relevant stakeholders.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CSO15 Progress Report on the Implementation of the Development Plan	To prepare and publish a progress report on the implementation of the development plan within two years from the adoption of the development plan.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 3 - Climate Action				
CA1 National Climate Action Policy	To support the implementation of national objectives on climate change including the 'Climate Action Plan 2019 to Tackle Climate Breakdown', the 'National Adaptation Framework' 2018 and the 'National Energy and Climate Plan for Ireland 2021-2030' and other relevant policy and legislation.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CA2 Mitigation and Adaptation	To prioritise measures to address climate change by way of both effective mitigation and adaptation responses in accordance with available guidance and best practice.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CAO1 Dublin City Council Climate Change Action Plan	To implement Dublin City Council's 2019 Climate Change Action Plan in consultation and partnership with stakeholders including the Dublin Metropolitan Climate Action Regional Office (CARO), Codema, residents and elected representatives.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CAO2 Variation of Development Plan to Reflect New Guidance / Legislation	To consider a future variation(s) of the development plan, where required, to ensure consistency with the approach to climate action recommended in forthcoming ministerial guidelines, any other relevant guidelines and/or relevant legislation and government climate action policy.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CAO3 Quantification of Greenhouse Gases	To support the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) in identifying a robust method for quantifying the relative GHG impacts of alternative spatial planning policies as part of the European Union ESPON 'QGasSP' research programme.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CAO4 Regional Strategy for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging	To support and implement the forthcoming Regional Strategy for Electric Vehicle (EV) charging over the lifetime of the plan in order to facilitate the transition to low carbon vehicles required to achieve 2030 national targets.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CA3 Climate Resilient Settlement Patterns, Urban Forms and Mobility	To support the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient city by seeking sustainable settlement patterns, urban forms and mobility in accordance with the National Planning Framework 2018 and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CA4 Climate Mitigation and Adaptation in Strategic Growth Areas	To ensure that new development in strategic growth areas (including Strategic Development and Regeneration Areas) integrates appropriate climate mitigation and adaptation measures.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CA5 Retrofitting and Reuse of Existing Buildings	To promote and support the retrofitting and reuse of existing buildings rather than their demolition and reconstruction where possible.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CA6 Energy Efficiency in Existing Buildings	To support high levels of energy conservation, energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources in existing buildings, including retro-fitting of appropriate energy efficiency measures in the existing building stock, and to actively retrofit Dublin Council housing stock to a B2 Building Energy Rating (BER) in line with the Government's Housing for All Plan retrofit targets for 2030.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CA7 Climate Mitigation Actions in the Built Environment	To promote low carbon development in the city which will seek to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and which will meet the highest feasible environmental standards during construction and occupation. New development should generally demonstrate/provide for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. building layout and design which maximises daylight, natural ventilation, active transport and public transport use; b. sustainable building/services/site design to maximise energy efficiency; c. sensitive energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings; d. energy efficiency, energy conservation, and the increased use of renewable energy in existing and new developments; e. on-site renewable energy infrastructure and renewable energy; f. minimising the generation of site and construction waste and maximising reuse or recycling; 	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 3 - Climate Action				
	g. the use of construction materials that have low to zero embodied energy and CO2 emissions; and connection to (existing and planned) decentralised energy networks including the Dublin District Heating System where feasible.			
CA8 Climate Adaptation Actions in the Built Environment	<p>Development proposals should demonstrate sustainable design principles for new buildings/services/site. The Council will promote and support development which is resilient to climate change. This would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. measures such as green roofs and green walls to reduce internal overheating and the urban heat island effect; b. ensuring the efficient use of natural resources (including water) and making the most of natural systems both within and around buildings; c. minimising pollution by reducing surface water runoff through increasing permeable surfaces and use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS); d. reducing flood risk, damage to property from extreme events– residential, public and commercial; e. reducing risks from temperature extremes and extreme weather events to critical infrastructure such as roads, communication networks, the water/drainage network, and energy supply; f. promoting and protecting biodiversity and green infrastructure. 	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CA9 Climate Action Energy Statement	All new developments involving 30 residential units and/or more than 1,000 sq. m. of commercial floor space, or as otherwise required by the Planning Authority, will be required to submit a ' <i>Climate Action Energy Statement</i> ' as part of the overall Design Statement to demonstrate how low carbon energy and heating solutions, have been considered as part of the overall design and planning of the proposed development.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CA10 Energy from Renewable Sources	To support the production of energy from renewable sources, such as from solar energy, hydro energy, wave/tidal energy, geothermal, wind energy, combined heat and power (CHP), heat energy distribution such as district heating/cooling systems, and any other renewable energy sources, subject to normal planning and environmental considerations	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CA11 Micro-Renewable Energy Production	To support and encourage the development of small scale wind renewable facilities / micro-renewable energy production.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CA12 Offshore Wind-Energy Production	To support the implementation of the 2014 'Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan' (OREDPA) and to facilitate infrastructure such as grid facilities on the land side of any renewable energy proposals of the offshore wind resource, where appropriate, and having regard to the principles set out in the National Marine Planning Framework.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CA13 Geothermal Energy	To support the exploration for, and development of, geothermal energy resources having regard to emerging government policy on geothermal energy.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CA14 Waste Heat, District Heating & Decentralised Energy	To actively encourage the development of low carbon and highly efficient district heating and decentralised energy systems across the city utilising low carbon heat sources such as renewable energy and waste heat recovery and to promote the connection of new developments to district heating networks where such systems exist/can be developed in a given area.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CA15 Dublin District Heating System (DDHS)	To support the development and expansion of any necessary energy infrastructure which will deliver the low carbon Docklands and Poolbeg catchment of the Dublin District Heating System (DDHS) project including, its pipeline infrastructure and its energy centre with energy storage and back up heat production.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CA16 Supporting the Potential of District Heating in Dublin City	To support the potential of district heating in Dublin City: all Climate Action Energy Statements submitted to the Council (see Policy CA9) shall include an assessment of the technical, environmental and economic feasibility of district or block heating or cooling, particularly where it is based entirely or partially on energy from renewable and waste heat sources. In addition:	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 3 - Climate Action				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Action Energy Statements for significant new residential and commercial developments in Strategic Development and Regeneration Areas (SDRAs), will assess the feasibility of making the development 'district heating enabled' in order to facilitate a connection to an available or developing district heating network in the area. Climate Action Energy Statements for significant new residential and commercial developments in the Docklands SDRA will assess the feasibility of making the development 'district heating enabled' in order to facilitate a connection to the Dublin District Heating System. 			
CA17 Capture & Utilisation of Waste Heat	To encourage proposed and existing developments and facilities (such as data centres) to capture and utilise otherwise wasted heat, and use waste heat either on-site, or in an adjoining, and nearby sites, in compliance all relevant Energy Efficiency Regulations.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CA18 Decarbonising Zones	To support the specific policies and projects identified in the Decarbonisation Zone of Ringsend/Irishtown in order to address local low carbon energy, greenhouse gas emissions and climate needs and commit to establishing Decarbonising Zones in each LEA within the lifetime of this plan, with a view to designating all of Dublin City as a decarbonised zone by the end of this Development Plan.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CA19 Strategic Energy Zones	To support the designation of potential Strategic Energy Zones in the Dublin City Area in conjunction with the Eastern and Midland Regional Authority	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CA20 Sustainable Energy Communities	To support the ongoing efforts and future development of Sustainable Energy Communities in Dublin City through the SEAI 'Sustainable Energy Communities' Initiative.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CA21 Dublin Regional Energy Masterplan	To support the preparation of the Dublin Regional Energy Masterplan by Codema and to support its implementation in conjunction with neighbouring Dublin Local Authorities, Dublin Metropolitan CARO and other relevant stakeholders.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CA22 Circular Economy	To support the shift towards the circular economy approach as set out in 'a Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy 2020 to 2025, Ireland's National Waste Policy, or as updated.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CA23 Waste Management Plans for Construction & Demolition Projects	To have regard to existing <i>Best Practice Guidance on Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects</i> as well as any future updates to these guidelines in order to ensure the consistent application of planning requirements.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CA24 Electric Vehicles	To ensure that sufficient charging points and rapid charging infrastructure are provided on existing streets and in new developments subject to appropriate design, siting and built heritage considerations and having regard to the Planning and Development Regulations (2001) as amended, which have been updated to include EV vehicle charging point installation.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CA25 Flood and Water Resource Resilience	To support the delivery of soft, green and grey adaptation measures to enhance flood and water resource resilience in the city and support the delivery of grey adaptation measures to enhance flood and water resource resilience where necessary.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CA26 Flood Risk Assessment and Adaptation	To address flood risk at strategic level through the process of Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, and through improvements to the city's flood defences.	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, W, LV, CH)	Yes	
CA27 Natural Flood Risk Mitigation	To encourage the use of natural flood risk mitigation or nature based solutions including integrated wetlands, green infrastructure, and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) as part of wider adaptation and mitigation responses to achieve flood resilience.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CA28 Climate Action and Green Infrastructure	To protect, connect and expand the city's Green Infrastructure while optimising the climate change adaptation and mitigation services it provides.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 3 - Climate Action				
CA29 Coastal Zone Management	To support coastal zone management measures for adapting to climate change which include restoration of degraded ecosystems, increased flood resilience, water quality improvement, habitat conservation and provision of amenities for the residents and visitors of Dublin city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 4 - Shape and Structure of the City				
SC1 Consolidation of the Inner City	To consolidate and enhance the inner city, promote compact growth and maximise opportunities provided by existing and proposed public transport by linking the critical mass of existing and emerging communities such as Docklands, Heuston Quarter, Grangegorman, Stoneybatter, Smithfield, the Liberties and the North East Inner City with each other, and to other regeneration areas.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, LSG, CH, LV, MA)	Yes	
SC2 City's Character	To develop the city's character by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> cherishing and enhancing Dublin's renowned streets, civic spaces and squares; developing a sustainable network of safe, clean, attractive streets, pedestrian routes and large pedestrian zones, lanes and cycleways in order to make the city more coherent and navigable and creating further new streets as part of the public realm when the opportunities arise; protecting the grain, scale and vitality of city streets and encouraging the development of appropriate and sustainable building heights to ensure efficient use of resources, services and public transport infrastructure and that protects the heritage and natural assets of the city; revitalising the north and south Georgian squares and their environs; upgrading Dame Street/College Green as part of the Grand Civic Spine; promoting the development of Moore Street and the Parnell Quarter as major new cultural and historical attractions for the city. 	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SC3 Mixed Use Development	To promote a mixed-use land use policy in the city centre, including the provision of high quality, sustainable residential development.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SC4 Recreational and Cultural Events	To promote and support a variety of recreational and cultural events in the city's civic spaces; as well as the development of new and the retention and enhancement of existing civic and cultural spaces.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SC5 Urban Design and Architectural Principles	To promote the urban design and architectural principles set out in <i>Chapter 15</i> , and in the <i>Dublin City Public Realm Strategy 2012</i> , in order to achieve a climate resilient, quality, compact, well-connected city and to ensure Dublin is a healthy and attractive city to live, work, visit and study in.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SC6 Docklands	To recognise the distinctive character of the Docklands regeneration area and to work with the relevant authorities to increase connectivity with the city centre.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SC7 Dublin Port	To support and recognise the important national and regional role of Dublin Port in the economic life of the city and region and to facilitate port activities and development, having regard to the Dublin Port Masterplan 2012-2040.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
SC8 Development of the Inner Suburbs	To support the development of the inner suburbs and outer city in accordance with the strategic development areas and corridors set out under the Dublin Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan and fully maximise opportunities for intensification of infill, brownfield and underutilised land where it aligns with existing and pipeline public transport infrastructure.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
SC9 Key Urban Villages, Urban Villages and Neighbourhood Centres	To develop and support the hierarchy of the suburban centres, including Key Urban Villages, Urban Villages and Neighbourhood Centres, in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> support the sustainable consolidation of the city and align with the principles of the 15 minute city; provide for the essential economic and community support for local neighbourhoods; and promote and enhance the distinctive character and sense of place of these areas by ensuring an appropriate mix of retail and retail services. 	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 4 - Shape and Structure of the City				
SC10 Urban Density	To ensure appropriate densities and the creation of sustainable communities in accordance with the principles set out in Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Urban Development (Cities, Towns and Villages), (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2009), and its companion document, Urban Design Manual: A Best Practice Guide and any amendment thereof.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SC11 Compact Growth	In alignment with the Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan, to promote compact growth and sustainable densities through the consolidation and intensification of infill and brownfield lands, particularly on public transport corridors, which will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhance the urban form and spatial structure of the city; be appropriate to their context and respect the established character of the area; include due consideration of the protection of surrounding communities and provide for enhanced amenities for existing and future residents; be supported by a full range of social and community infrastructure such as schools, shops and recreational areas; and have regard to the criteria set out in Chapter 15 (Development Standards), including the criteria and standards for good neighbourhoods, quality urban design and excellence in architecture. 	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, W, CH, LV, MA)	Yes	
SC12 Housing Mix	To promote a variety of housing and apartment types and sizes, as well as tenure diversity and mix, which will create both a distinctive sense of place in particular areas and neighbourhoods, including coherent streets and open spaces and provide for communities to thrive.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SC13 Green Infrastructure	To recognise and promote Green Infrastructure and landscape as a key mechanism to address climate change and as an integral part of the form and structure of the city, including streets and public spaces.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SC14 Building Height Strategy	To ensure a strategic approach to building height in the city that accords with The Urban Development and Building Height Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2018) and in particular, SPPR 1 to 4.	Neutral Environment Effects	No	
SC15 Building Height Uses	To support the development of an adequate mix of uses in proposals for larger scale development which are increasing height or proposing a taller building in accordance with SPPR 2.	Neutral / Positive Environment Effects	No	
SC16 Building Height Locations	To recognise the predominantly low rise character of Dublin City whilst also recognising the potential and need for increased height in appropriate locations including the city centre, Strategic Development Zones, Strategic Development Regeneration Areas, Key Urban Villages and other locations as identified in Appendix 3, provided that proposals ensure a balance between the reasonable protection of existing amenities and environmental sensitivities, protection of residential amenity and the established character of the area.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
SC17 Building Height	To protect and enhance the skyline of the city, and to ensure that all proposals with enhanced scale and height: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> follow a design led approach, include a masterplan for any site over 0.5ha, make a positive contribution to the urban character of the city and that responds positively to the existing or emerging context, deliver vibrant and equitable neighbourhoods that are walkable, compact, green, accessible, mixed and balanced, and have regard to the performance based criteria set out in Appendix 3. <p>All new proposals in the inner city must demonstrate sensitivity to the historic city centre, the River Liffey and quays, Trinity College, the cathedrals, Dublin Castle, the historic squares and the city canals, and to established residential areas and civic spaces of local and citywide importance</p>	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 4 - Shape and Structure of the City				
SC18 Landmark Buildings	To promote a co-ordinated approach to the provision of tall landmark buildings through Local Area Plans, Strategic Development Zones and the Strategic Development and Regeneration Area principles, in order to prevent visual clutter or cumulative negative visual disruption of the skyline and that such proposals comply with the performance based criteria set out in Appendix 3.	Uncertain Environment Effects (LV, CH)	Yes	
SC19 High Quality Architecture	To promote development which positively contributes to the city's built and natural environment, promotes healthy placemaking and incorporates exemplar standards of high-quality, sustainable and inclusive urban design and architecture befitting the city's environment and heritage and its diverse range of locally distinctive neighbourhoods.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SC20 Urban Design	Promote the guidance principles set out in the <i>Urban Design Manual – A Best Practice Guide and in the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets</i> (2013).	Neutral / Positive Environment Effects		
SC21 Architectural Design	To promote and facilitate innovation in architectural design to produce contemporary buildings which contribute to the city's character and which mitigates and is resilient to, the impacts of climate change.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SC22 Historical Architectural Character	To promote understanding of the city's historical architectural character to facilitate new development which is in harmony with the city's historical spaces and structures.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SC23 Design Statements	That Design Statements shall be submitted for all large scale residential (+50 units) and commercial development proposals (+1,000 sq. m.) in accordance with the principles set out in Chapter 15.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 5 - Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods				
QHSN1 National and Regional Policy	To accord with the provisions of the National Planning Framework 2018, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Eastern and Midland Region 2019 (including the Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan) and the Ministerial Circular relating to Structural Housing Demand in Ireland and Housing Supply Targets, and the associated Section 28 Guidelines: Housing Supply Target Methodology for Development Planning (2020) and make provision for the scale of population growth and housing supply targets outlined in these plans and guidelines.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN2 National Guidelines	To have regard to the DEHLG Guidelines on 'Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities – Best Practice Guidelines for Delivering Homes Sustaining Communities' (2007), 'Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments' (2020), 'Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas' and the accompanying 'Urban Design Manual: A Best Practice Guide' (2009), Housing Options for our Aging Population 2020 and the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets' (DMURS) (2019).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN3 Housing Strategy and HNDA	(i) To secure the implementation of the Dublin City Council Housing Strategy (Appendix 1) in accordance with the provision of national legislation. (ii) To encourage the establishment of sustainable residential communities by ensuring a wide variety of housing typologies and tenures is provided throughout the city in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Need Demand Assessment and any future Regional HNDA.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN4 Key Regeneration Areas	To promote the transformation of the key regeneration areas into successful socially integrated neighbourhoods, including those on the main inner city regeneration areas map, and promote area regeneration in parts of the city which require physical improvement and enhancement in terms of quality of life, housing and employment opportunities and to ensure a balanced community is provided in regeneration areas.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN5 Urban Consolidation	To promote and support residential consolidation and sustainable intensification through the consideration of applications for infill development, backland development, mews development, re-use/adaption of existing housing stock and use of upper floors, subject to the provision of good quality accommodation.	Uncertain Environment Effects (Heritage)	Yes	
QHSN6 Upper Floors	To resist and where the opportunity arises, to reverse the loss of residential use on upper floors and actively support proposals that retain or bring upper floors into residential use in order to revitalise the social and physical fabric of the city through measures such as the Living City Initiative. Dublin City Council will actively engage with property owners and other stakeholders at a national level to investigate other alternative measures in addition to the Living City Initiative to expedite bringing upper floors into residential use, and will be actioned by the City Recovery Task Force and its successor.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN7 Reduction of Vacancy	To promote measures to reduce vacancy and underuse of existing building stock and to support the refurbishment and retrofitting of existing buildings, including Dublin City Council's Estate Renewal Programme.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN8 Active Land Management	To promote residential development addressing any shortfall in housing provision through active land management, which will include land acquisition to assist regeneration and meet public housing needs, and a co-ordinated planned approach to developing appropriately zoned lands at key locations including regeneration areas, vacant sites and underutilised sites.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN9 Urban Density	To promote residential development at sustainable densities throughout the city in accordance with the core strategy, particularly on vacant and/or underutilised sites, having regard to the need for high standards of urban design and architecture and to successfully integrate with the character of the surrounding area.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSNO1 Land Development Agency	That Dublin City Council will be the lead developer on City Council owned land, unless there are exceptional circumstances, and will work with other agencies including the Land Development Agency to co-ordinate appropriate State owned land and the strategic assembly of public and private land to facilitate regeneration, housing and other developments. Priority will be given to social and affordable housing tenure.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 5 - Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods				
QHSNO2 Lands at Alfie Byrne Road	To undertake a land use and landscape masterplan for the underutilised lands located south east of Clontarf Road Railway station and railway line and fronting onto Alfie Byrne road to examine their potential for the following uses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable developments to provide overlooking of the route to Clontarf Road Railway station; • upgraded coastal walkway linking to the Tolka River; • improved access and setting for the watersports centre; • provision of new fire station; • possible site for new second level school; • provision of new allotment and community gardens; and • demarcation and preservation of a circus/funfair location for occasional use. 	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
QHSNO3 Darndale	To undertake a study of peripheral open space areas in Darndale to examine their potential for intensification for infill housing and positive social community facilities or spaces and to create opportunities for enhanced streetscapes.	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, LSG, CC, LV)	Yes	
QHSNO4 Densification of Suburbs	To support the ongoing densification of the suburbs and prepare a design guide regarding innovative housing models, designs and solutions for infill development, backland development, mews development, re-use of existing housing stock and best practice for attic conversions.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSNO5 Peripheral Open Space Study	To undertake a study of peripheral open space areas in the North Central Area to examine their potential for intensification for infill development, enhanced greening and creation of urban streetscapes.	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, LSG, CC, LV)	Yes	
QHSNO6 Upper Floor Building Design	To draft additional upper floor building re-design guidelines that are sufficiently innovative and flexible to promote the residential use of vacant upper floors.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN10 15 Minute City	To promote the concept of the 15-minute city which provides for liveable, sustainable urban neighbourhoods and villages throughout the city that deliver healthy placemaking, high quality housing and well-designed, safe and inclusive public spaces served by local services, amenities and sustainable modes of transport.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN11 Neighbourhood Development	To encourage neighbourhood development which protects and enhances the quality of our built environment and supports public health and community wellbeing. Promote developments which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build on local character as expressed in historic activities, buildings, materials, housing types or local landscape in order to harmonise with and further develop the unique character of these places; • integrate active recreation and physical activity facilities; • encourage sustainable and low carbon transport modes through the promotion of alternative modes and 'walkable communities' whereby a range of facilities and services will be accessible within short walking or cycling distance; • promote and implement low traffic neighbourhoods to ensure a high quality built environment and encourage active travel in delivering the 15 minute city model; • promote sustainable design through energy efficiency, use of renewable energy and sustainable building materials and improved energy performance; • promote the development of healthy, liveable and attractive places through public realm and environmental improvement projects; • cater for all age groups and all levels of ability / mobility and ensuring that universal design is incorporated to maximise social inclusion; 	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 5 - Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide the necessary inclusive community facilities and design features to promote independence for older people and to maximise quality of life; have regard to the Guiding Principles for 'Healthy Placemaking' and 'Integration of Land Use and Transport' as set out in the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and national policy as set out in 'Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas' and the 'Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS)'; and are designed to promote safety and security and avoid anti-social behaviour. 			
QHSN12 Healthy Dublin City Framework and the Healthy Ireland Framework 2019-2025	To support the <i>Healthy Dublin City Framework</i> and the <i>Healthy Ireland Framework 2019-2025</i> in promoting a long-term vision of improving the physical and mental health and well-being of the population at all stages of life.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN13 High Quality Living Environment	To support the entitlement of all members of the community to enjoy a high quality living environment and to support local communities, healthcare authorities and other bodies involved in the provision of facilities for groups with specific design/ planning needs.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN14 Dublin City Council's Integration Strategy 2021-2025	Having regard to the Migrant Integration Strategy 2017-2020 and any subsequent review, to support minority groups, including non-Irish nationals and Travellers in relation to their social, cultural and community needs in an integrated manner through the implementation of Dublin City Council's Integration Strategy 2021-2025 and promote active participation consistent with the objectives of the RSES.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN15 Accessible Built Environment	To promote built environments and outdoor shared spaces which are accessible to all. New developments must be in accordance with the seven principles of Universal Design as advocated by the National Disability Authority, Building For Everyone: A Universal Design Approach 2012.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN16 Sustainable Neighbourhoods	To promote sustainable neighbourhoods which cater to the needs of persons in all stages of their lifecycle, i.e. children, people of working age, older people and people with disabilities.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN17 Needs of an Ageing Population	To support the needs of an ageing population in the community with reference to housing, mobility and the public realm having regard to Age Friendly Ireland's 'Age Friendly Principles and Guidelines for the Planning Authority 2020', the Draft Dublin City Age Friendly Strategy 2020-2025 and Housing Options for our Aging Population 2020.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN18 Youth Friendly City	To promote and support a youth friendly city including the delivery of facilities for children and young people, to include the delivery of youth targeted social, community and recreational infrastructure. To promote a built environment in the inner city, developing areas and Strategic Development Regeneration Areas which support the physical and emotional well-being of children and young people. To promote policies and objectives that have regard to the Children and Young People's Plans prepared by the Dublin City North and Dublin City South Children and Young People's Services Committees and any future DCC Youth Friendly City Strategy including any future youth homeless strategy.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN19 Community Facilities for People with Specific Planning and Design Needs	To facilitate the provision of community facilities for people with specific planning and design needs, such as family resource centres, Traveller resource centres, youth centres and youth cafes, skateboarding areas and kids clubs subject to compliance with normal planning criteria	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN20 Gated Residential Development	It is the policy of Dublin City Council to support the creation of a permeable, connected and well-linked city and to avoid gated residential developments which exclude the public and local community and prevent development of sustainable neighbourhoods.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 5 - Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods				
QHSNO7 Addressing Dementia	To support and encourage pilot schemes such as “Housing with Support Inchicore” to promote innovative ways of ensuring dementia inclusive living is provided for in the built environment, including the use of smart technology.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSNO8 Women and Girl’s Safety in the Public Realm	The Council will, during the lifetime of this Plan complete a study of Women and Girl’s Safety in the public realm in order to identify the factors that make women and girls feel safe and unsafe in public spaces, and to make recommendation to guide future guide public realm changes and developments.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN21 Adaptable and Flexible Housing	To ensure that all new housing is designed in a way that is adaptable and flexible to the changing needs of the homeowner as set out in the Lifetime Homes Guidance contained in Section 5.2 of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government ‘Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities – Best Practice Guidelines for Delivering Homes Sustaining Communities’ (2007).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN22 Independent Living	To support the concept of independent living and assisted living for older people, to support and promote the provision of specific purpose built accommodation, including retirement villages, and to promote the opportunity for older people to avail of the option of ‘rightsizing’, that is the process of adjusting their housing to meet their current needs within their community.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN23 Reconfiguration of Family Homes	To support projects by Approved Housing Bodies and other organisations which enable older homeowners to reconfigure their family-sized homes in a way that meets the needs of an ageing population, creates new single occupancy rentals in an efficient and sustainable way, promotes intergenerational living and helps to regenerate mature urban neighbourhoods.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSNO9 Intergenerational Models of Housing	To investigate and encourage intergenerational models of housing for older people, building on pilot projects in the city, incorporating the principles set out in the Universal Design Guidelines for Homes in Ireland 2015 and drawing on international best practice models.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN24 Housing for People with Disabilities	To support access, for people with disabilities, to the appropriate range of housing and related support services, delivered in an integrated and sustainable manner, which promotes equality of opportunity, individual choice and independent living. To support the provision of specific purpose-built accommodation, including assisted/supported living units, lifetime housing, and adaptation of existing properties.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN25 Dublin City Council’s Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability 2016	To support and facilitate the implementation of Dublin City Council’s Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability 2016 or any subsequent review.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSNO10 Universal Design	To require that a minimum of 10% of dwellings in all schemes over 100 units are designed to accommodate people with disabilities and older people in accordance with the Universal Design Guidelines for Homes in Ireland 2015.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN26 Homeless Action Plan Framework for Dublin 2019-2021	To support the implementation of the Homeless Action Plan Framework for Dublin 2019-2021 or any subsequent review and support related initiatives to address homelessness.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN27 Temporary Homeless Accommodation and Support Services	To ensure that all proposals to provide or extend temporary homeless accommodation or support services shall be supported by information demonstrating that the proposal would not result in an undue concentration of such uses nor undermine the existing local economy, resident community or regeneration of an area. All such applications shall include: a map of all homeless services within a 750 metre radius of the application site, a statement on the catchment area identifying whether the proposal is to serve local or regional demand; and a statement regarding management of the service/facility.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 5 - Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods				
QHSN28 Dublin City Council Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024	To provide a range of accommodation options for Travellers who normally reside in the Dublin City area and who wish to have such accommodation in accordance with the Dublin City Council Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024 (and as updated during the life of the Plan). It is proposed to provide at least 200 accommodation units to address the provision of accommodation appropriate to the particular needs of Travellers over the life of the Development Plan.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN29 Traveller Culture	To recognise the separate identity, culture, tradition and history of the Travelling people and to reduce the levels of disadvantage that Travellers experience.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN30 Domestic Violence Refuges	To proactively facilitate and support Túsla, the Child and Family Agency, service providers and other relevant agencies in the provision of domestic violence refuges in the city and work towards the realisation of one refuge space for every 10,000 people, as per the recommendation of the Istanbul Convention, particularly when initiating planning on larger regeneration lands.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN31 Emergency Accommodation	To facilitate and support relevant agencies in the development of emergency accommodation that is socially inclusive, including hostels for homeless individuals of all genders. Applications for emergency temporary accommodation including applications made by public bodies will be requested to submit evidence to demonstrate that there is not an over-concentration of emergency accommodation within an area, including a map showing all such facilities within a 0.75km radius of the proposed location of the new facility.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN32 Social, Affordable Purchase and Cost Rental Housing	To promote the provision of social, affordable purchase, cost rental and rental housing in accordance with the Council's Housing Strategy, Part V of the Planning and Development Act, as amended by the Affordable Housing Act 2021 and government policy as outlined in the DHPLG 'Social Housing Strategy 2020' and support the realisation of public housing.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN33 Diversity of Housing Type and Tenure	To support local authorities, approved housing bodies and other sectoral agencies in the provision of a greater diversity of housing type and tenure, including social and affordable housing, new models of cost rental and affordable homeownership and co-operative housing.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN34 High Quality Apartment Development	To promote the provision of high quality apartments within sustainable neighbourhoods by achieving suitable levels of amenity within individual apartments, and within each apartment development, and ensuring that suitable social infrastructure and other support facilities are available in the neighbourhood.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN35 Houses and Apartments	To ensure that new houses and apartments provide for the needs of family accommodation with a satisfactory level of residential amenity in accordance with the standards for residential accommodation.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN36 Housing and Apartment Mix	Further detail in regard to unit mix is set out in Chapter 15 Development Standards. Unit mix requirements for the Liberties and the North East Inner City are set out in Section 15.9.1 and Table 37 of the Housing Strategy in Appendix 1.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN37 Management	To promote efficient and effective property management in order to secure the satisfactory upkeep and maintenance of communal areas in the context of the Multi Unit Developments Act 2011 and the Property Services (Regulation) Act 2011.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN38 Build to Rent Accommodation	To facilitate the provision of Build to Rent (BTR) Accommodation in the following specific locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within the Inner City (i.e. within the canal ring) • Within 500 metre walking distance of a high employment area i.e. more than 500 employees per hectare • Within 500 metres of major public transport interchanges (e.g. Connolly Station, Tara Street Station and Heuston Station), and 	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 5 - Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within identified Strategic Development Regenerations Areas. <p>There will be a general presumption against large scale residential developments (in excess of 100 units) which comprise of 100% BTR typology. To ensure a sustainable mix of tenure and long term sustainable communities, minimum of 40% of standard build to sell apartments will be required in such instances.</p> <p>There will be a presumption against the proliferation and over concentration of BTR development in any one area. In this regard, applications for BTR developments should be accompanied by an assessment of other permitted BTR developments in the vicinity (3km) of the site to demonstrate that the development would not result in the over-concentration of one housing tenure in a particular area and take into regard the geographical area of the BTR.</p>			
QHSN39 Built to Rent Accommodation	To discourage BTR Accommodation schemes of less than 100 units due to the need to provide a critical mass of accommodation to provide a meaningful provision of communal facilities and services. Smaller BTR accommodation schemes with less than 100 units will only be considered in exceptional circumstances and where a detailed justification is provided.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN40 Built to Rent Accommodation	To foster community both within a BTR scheme and to encourage its integration into the existing community, the applicant will be requested to provide an evidenced based analysis that the proposed resident support facilities are appropriate to the intended rental market having regard to the scale and location of the proposal. The applicant must also demonstrate how the BTR scheme must contribute to the sustainable development of the broader community and neighbourhood.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN41 Shared Accommodation/Co-living	That there will be a general presumption against the granting of planning permission for shared accommodation/co-living in Dublin City as per Specific Planning Policy Requirement (SPPR) 9 of 'Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments', 2020 and the HNDA analysis undertaken. There will be a presumption against allowing any student accommodation development to be converted to any other use during term time.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN42 Build to Rent/Student Accommodation/Co-living Development	It is the policy of DCC to avoid the proliferation and concentration of clusters of build to rent/student accommodation/co-living development in any area of the city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN43 Third-Level Student Accommodation	To support the provision of high-quality, professionally managed and purpose-built third-level student accommodation in line with the provisions of the National Student Accommodation Strategy (2017), on campuses or in appropriate locations close to the main campus, in the inner city or adjacent to high-quality public transport corridors and cycle routes, in a manner which respects the residential amenity and character of the surrounding area, in order to support the knowledge economy. Proposals for student accommodation shall comply with the 'Guidelines for Student Accommodation' contained in the development standards chapter. There will be a presumption against allowing any student accommodation development to be converted to any other use during term time.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
QHSN44 Houseboats	To work with Waterways Ireland to identify appropriate locations for additional houseboat serviced mooring locations and ancillary facilities	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, W)	Yes	
QHSN45 High Quality Neighbourhood & Community Facilities	To encourage and facilitate the timely and planned provision of a range of high-quality neighbourhood and community facilities which are multifunctional in terms of their use, adaptable in terms of their design and located to ensure that they are accessible and inclusive to all.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 5 - Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods				
QHSN46 Community & Social Audit	To ensure that all residential applications comprising of 50 or more units shall include a community and social audit to assess the provision of community facilities and infrastructure within the vicinity of the site and identify whether there is a need to provide additional facilities to cater for the proposed development. Refer to Section 15.8.2 of the Development Standards Chapter.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN47 Phasing	To require that larger schemes which will be developed over a considerable period of time are developed in accordance with an agreed phasing programme to ensure that suitable physical, social and community infrastructure is provided in tandem with the residential development and that substantial infrastructure is available to initial occupiers.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN48 Inclusive Social & Community Infrastructure	To support the development of social and community infrastructure that is inclusive and accessible in its design and provides for needs of persons with disabilities, older people, migrant communities and children and adults with additional needs including the sensory needs of the neurodiverse.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN49 Amenities and Retail	To ensure all areas of the city, including those that have Local Area Plans, deliver social infrastructure, sports and recreational facilities, retail outlets, schools and infrastructure in accordance to an agreed phasing programme to ensure large neighbourhoods are not left isolated without essential services.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSNO11 Community Infrastructure Audit SDRAs	To carry out and maintain an audit of community infrastructure for Strategic Development and Regeneration Areas, where appropriate.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSNO12 Community Safety Strategy	That all housing developments over 100 units shall include a community safety strategy for implementation.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSNO13 Culture Near You Tool	To utilise the potential of the Council's Culture Near You tool to over the lifetime of the Plan in the preparation of social and community audits.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN50 Sláintecare Plan	To support the Health Service Executive and other statutory, voluntary and private agencies in the provision of appropriate healthcare facilities - including the system of hospital care and the provision of community-based primary care facilities, mental health and wellbeing facilities including Men's Sheds - and to encourage the integration of healthcare facilities in accessible locations within new and existing communities in accordance with the government Sláintecare Plan.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
QHSN51 Education Provision	(i) To support the provision of new schools and the expansion of existing school facilities having regard to the requirements of the DES. (ii) To support the ongoing development and provision of third level education, further education and lifelong learning in the city.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
QHSN52 Shared use of Educational Facilities	(i) To encourage the co-location of schools/education facilities as part of education campuses and with other community uses to create community hubs. (ii) To support the shared use of school or college grounds and facilities with the local community, outside of core hours, anchoring such uses within the wider community	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSNO14 Assess Need for New or Expanded Educational Facilities	(i) To continue to work with the Department of Education and Skills on the educational needs of the city through a Joint Working Group in order to assess the need for new or expanded educational facilities and to progress school projects in line with population growth in locations served by public transport and walking / cycling networks.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 5 - Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods				
	(ii) To work with the Department of Further and Higher Education and the City of Dublin Education and Training Board in relation to the identification of suitable sites for new and extended education facilities.			
QHSNO15 The Provision of Schools and the Planning System: A Code of Practice for Planning Authorities (2008)	To seek to reserve lands for educational purposes, including the development of multi-campus arrangements where appropriate, in locations close to the areas of greatest residential expansion or greatest amount of unmet demand for school places and in close proximity to adjacent to community facilities so that the benefits of co-location and possibility of sharing facilities can be maximised in accordance with The Provision of Schools and the Planning System: A Code of Practice for Planning Authorities (2008).	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN53 Childcare Facilities	To facilitate the provision of appropriately designed and sized fit-for-purpose affordable childcare facilities as an integral part of proposals for new residential and mixed-use developments, subject to an analysis of demographic and geographic need undertaken by the applicant in consultation with the Dublin City Council Childcare Committee, in order to ensure that their provision and location is in keeping with areas of population and employment growth.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSNO16 Pre-School Facilities	To ensure that pre-school facilities are appropriately sited and protected from air pollution. Where an application is made within or proximate to locations experiencing high levels of pollution, the application must adequately address the impact through design and repositioning, and provide a suitable, attractive protected outdoor environment before permission can be considered.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN54 Places of Worship and Multi-faith Facilities	To support and facilitate the development of places of worship and multi-faith facilities at suitable locations within the city and to liaise and work with all stakeholders where buildings are no longer required to find suitable, appropriate new uses and to retain existing community facilities where feasible. To ensure that new regeneration areas respond to the need for the provision of new faith facilities as part of their masterplans/Local Area Plans/SDZs where such need is identified.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN55 Burial Grounds	To facilitate the development of new or extended burial grounds, including green cemeteries, eco-burial grounds, columbarium walls and crematoria, having consideration for the burial preferences of multi-faith and non-religious communities, at suitable locations in the city, subject to appropriate safeguards with regard to environmental considerations, noise and traffic impacts.	Uncertain Environment Effects (W, CH)	Yes	
QHSN56 Culture in Regeneration	To recognise culture as an important mechanism in regeneration, with the potential to act as a catalyst for integration, community development and civic engagement.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN57 City's Library Service	To continue to develop and improve the city's library service to meet the needs of local communities by supporting the implementation of the Libraries Unlimited: A Strategic Direction for Dublin City Libraries 2019-2023.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSN58 Community Facilities	To support the development, improvement and provision of a wide range of socially inclusive, multi-functional and diverse community facilities throughout the city where required and to engage with community and corporate stakeholders in the provision of same.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
QHSNO17 Ballymun Library	To undertake a feasibility study for Ballymun library on its possible relocation within Ballymun Town Centre.	Neutral / Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 6 - City Economy and Enterprise				
CEE1 Dublin's Role as the National Economic Engine	(i) To promote and enhance the role of Dublin as the national economic engine and driver of economic recovery and growth, with the city centre as its core economic generator. (ii) To promote and facilitate Dublin as a creative and innovative city that is globally competitive, internationally linked, attractive and open. (iii) To promote an internationalisation strategy building mutually-beneficial economic and other links with key cities globally to encourage investment and tourism in Dublin.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE2 Positive Approach to the Economic Impact of Applications	To take a positive and proactive approach when considering the economic impact of major planning applications in order to support economic development, enterprise and employment growth and also to deliver high-quality outcomes.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CEE3 Promoting and Facilitating Foreign Direct Investment	(i) To promote and facilitate foreign direct investment into the city by working closely with the IDA and other agencies, and having regard to the needs of international investment. (ii) To recognise that there is a role for Dublin City Council in establishing a positive and attractive 'brand' for the city and in facilitating investment in the ongoing growth and regeneration of the city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE4 Promoting and Facilitating Indigenous Enterprise Growth	To support the creation of an ecosystem of innovative start-ups, social enterprise, micro-business and small business and, where possible, to promote the development of skills and entrepreneurship, sites for high tech and potential start-ups, smart city programmes and collaboration between public bodies, industries and research.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE5 Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor	To build on and promote the Dublin-Belfast economic corridor in order to maximise the advantages of north-south links and the development of an all-Ireland economy.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE6 Dublin as an EU Capital City	To support the implementation of the <i>Dublin City Council's EU Programme Participation Strategy 2021 – 2027</i> and the work of the Council's <i>EU Programmes Office</i> .	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE7 Strategic and Targeted Employment Growth	To promote strategic and targeted growth of strategic development areas and corridors in accordance with the RSES and MASP with a focus on the city centre, the Docklands, the Outer City and Key Urban Villages and Neighbourhood Centres, Urban Villages.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CEE8 The City Centre	To support the development a vibrant mix of office, retail, tourism related and cultural activities in the city centre and to facilitate the regeneration and development of key potential growth areas such as the Diageo lands, the St. James' Hospital Campus and the TU Dublin campus at Grangegorman.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CEE9 The Docklands	To support the continued regeneration of the Docklands area and its development as a leading centre of people intensive high tech and services based business.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CEE10 The Outer City	To support employment growth in the outer city by encouraging the intensification of infill, brownfield and underutilised land, particularly where it aligns with existing and future public transport infrastructure.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CEE11 Key Urban Villages	To promote Key Urban Villages as mixed use service centres for the local economy, incorporating a range of retail, employment, recreational, community uses as well as 'co-working spaces' and 'office hubs.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 6 - City Economy and Enterprise				
CEE12 Transition to a Low Carbon, Climate Resilient City Economy	To support the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient city economy, as part of, and in tandem with, increased climate action mitigation and adaptation measures.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CEE13 Towards a Green and Circular Economy	To support the growth of the 'green economy' including renewable energy, retrofitting, and electric vehicles and charging infrastructure and to support the transition towards a circular economy in line with national policy and legislation.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE14 Quality of Place	To recognise that 'quality of place', 'clean, green and safe', is crucial to the economic success of the city, in attracting foreign and domestic investment, and in attracting and retaining key scarce talent, residents and tourists.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE15 The Local Enterprise Office and the Local Economic and Community Plan	To support the work of the City Council's Local Enterprise Office (LEO) as a core instrument of local economic and enterprise support and development for SMEs and micro-enterprises and to promote and facilitate the implementation of the policies and objectives of the Local Economic and Community Plan.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE16 Social Innovation and Enterprise	To promote and facilitate Dublin City as a hub for social enterprise in order to help address some of the critical needs within the city and to maximise European funding opportunities, in particular, through working with the proposed National Competence Centre in Social Innovation.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE17 Quality of Life	To recognise that economic activities should be accessible to older and disabled people and to promote jobs which provide quality of life and allow workers to play a full social and economic role in the development of the city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE18 Agencies Engaged in Employment and Training Programmes	To facilitate agencies engagement in employment and training programmes, in order to maximise employment, training and education opportunities for resident of all ages, particularly in areas of disadvantage; and to encourage social labour clauses in City Council projects.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE19 Regeneration Areas	To promote and facilitate the transformation of Strategic Development and Regeneration Areas (SDRAs) in the city, as a key policy priority and opportunity to improve the attractiveness and competitiveness of the city, including by promoting high-quality private and public investment and by seeking European Union funding to support regeneration initiatives, for the benefit of residents, employees and visitors.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CEE20 Vacant Sites	(i) To engage in the 'active land management' of vacant sites and properties including those owned by Dublin City Council. (ii) To engage proactively with land-owners, potential developers and investors with the objective of encouraging the early and high quality re-development of such vacant sites. (iii) To encourage and facilitate the rehabilitation and use of vacant and under-utilised buildings, including their upper floors. (iv) To promote and facilitate the use, including the temporary use, of vacant commercial space and vacant sites, for a wide range of enterprise including cultural uses.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE21 Supply of Commercial Space and Redevelopment of Office Stock	(i) To promote and facilitate the supply of commercial space, where appropriate, including larger office floorplates and quanta suitable for indigenous and FDI HQ-type uses. (ii) To consolidate employment provision in the city by incentivising and facilitating the high-quality re-development of obsolete office stock in the city.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, CC, LV)	Yes	
CEE22 New Growth Sectors	To support the growth of innovative new growth sectors as identified in the National Economic Recovery Plan relating to the digital transformation, Artificial Intelligence (AI), to the decarbonisation of society, and to the circular economy.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 6 - City Economy and Enterprise				
CEE23 Smart Dublin	To support the Smart Dublin Initiative in implementing its goals both at a citywide level and the local level via Smart Districts.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE24 The Marine Sector	To support the development of the marine sector including the development, where appropriate, of land-based infrastructure, which facilitates marine activity, and the diversification or regeneration of marine industries.	Negative Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CEE25 Data Centres	To require applications for new data centre development to clearly demonstrate: how the proposed development achieves high levels of energy efficiency; maximises the use on-site renewable energy; captures and reuses waste heat; and sign-up to the Climate Neutral Data Centre Pact.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE26 Tourism in Dublin	(i) To promote and facilitate tourism as one of the key economic pillars of the city's economy and a major generator of employment and to support the appropriate, balanced provision of tourism facilities and visitor attractions,. (ii) To promote and enhance Dublin as a world class tourist destination for leisure, culture, business and student visitors and to promote Dublin as a setting for conventions and cultural events. (iii) To improve the accessibility of tourism infrastructure to recognise the access needs of all visitors to our city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE27 Tourism Initiatives	To work with Fáilte Ireland and other stakeholders to deliver on significant tourism development initiatives for the city including 'Smart Tourism', the Dublin Coastal Trail and the Docklands Visitor Experience Development (VEDP) Plan.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
CEE28 Tourism Accommodation	To consider applications for additional hotel, tourist hostel and aparthotel development having regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the existing character of the area in which the development is proposed including local amenities and facilities; the existing and proposed mix of uses (including existing levels of tourism accommodation i.e. existing and permitted hotel, aparthotel and student accommodation uses) in the vicinity of any proposed development; the impact of additional tourism accommodation on the wider objective to provide a rich and vibrant range of uses in the city centre; the need to prevent an unacceptable intensification of activity, particularly in predominantly residential areas; the opportunity presented to provide high quality, designed for purpose spaces that can accommodate evening and night time activities – see also Chapter 12, Objective CUO34. 	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, CC)	Yes	
CEE29 Event Venues	To support the continued operation and appropriate consolidation of event venues including the RDS, National Convention Centre, Croke Park and the Aviva Stadium and where appropriate, to enable them to make large scale capital investment relating to the provision of tourism, business facilities and culture-related spaces, events, conventions and activities, where such proposals support investment and growth of the overall facility and do not diminish their function as nationally important venues.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, AN, CC)	Yes	
CEE01 Study on the Supply and Demand for Hotels, Aparthotels and Hostels	To carry out an analysis of the supply and demand for tourism related accommodation including hotels, aparthotels and hostels in the Dublin City Area.	Neutral / Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE30 Hospitals & Health-care	To recognise that hospitals and the wider healthcare sector are crucial to the wellbeing of the city, including as major sources of employment, economic development and innovation; and to promote and facilitate their development and expansion.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 6 - City Economy and Enterprise				
CEE31 Strategic Role of Hospital Complexes	(i) To recognise the strategic economic role of the hospital complexes in the city, including the new National Paediatric Hospital and the proposed National Maternity Hospital at the St. James campus and to promote their wider catchment areas as suitable locations for new healthcare-related development. (ii) To promote and facilitate the continued development of the Dublin 8 area including SDRA 14 (St. James Medical Campus & Environs) as a medical hub of excellence.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE32 Education and the City Economy	To promote Dublin as a national and international education centre/student city, as set out in national policy, and to facilitate and promote synergies between education, industry and entrepreneurship with an emphasis on retaining talent in the city, facilitating the expansion of existing economic clusters and the establishment of new clusters, and increasing participation in the city's labour force.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE33 Access to Education	To work with training and education providers to facilitate measures which seek to extend education opportunities to representatives from socially and economically disadvantaged backgrounds.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CEE34 Craft Enterprises	To recognise that craft enterprises, designers' studios/workshops etc., along with visitor centres, provide economic development and regeneration potential for the city, including the promotion of tourism. To promote Dublin city centre as a destination for such creative industries and for the cultural and artistic sectors.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CEE35 Dublin Port	To recognise that Dublin Port is a key economic resource and to have regard to the policies and objectives of the Dublin Port Masterplan including the reintegration of the Port with the City.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 7 - City Centre, Urban Villages and Retail				
CCUV1 Retail Planning Guidelines	That future provision of retail development within the City will have regard to <i>The Retail Planning Guidelines for Planning Authorities</i> DECLG 2012. Dublin City Council will also have regard to these guidelines when preparing plans and in the assessment of retail-related planning applications.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV2 Retail Hierarchy	To implement the retail hierarchy contained in the 'Retail Strategy' of this Development Plan and to support retail development at all settlement levels in the city. Retail development within the hierarchy of centres will be of a scale, type, and nature that reflects and enhances the role and function of the centre within which it is proposed as per the Retail Strategy, Appendix 2.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV3 Sequential Approach	To promote city centre and urban village vitality through the sequential approach to retail development, enable good quality development in appropriate locations, facilitate modal shift and to deliver quality design outcomes.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV4 The Role of Retail	To promote and support the major contribution of retail and retail services to the vitality and success of the city, as a significant source of employment, a focus of tourism, as an important recreational activity and as a link with other cultural, recreational and community activities.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV5 Retail Design Brief	To require that proposed retail developments for large-scale or sensitive sites are accompanied by a retail design brief guided by the key principles contained in the 'Retail Design Manual – DECLG, 2012'.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV6 Large Scale Retail / Mixed Use Developments	To ensure that large scale retail / mixed use development proposals match the capacity of existing and planned public transport; provide good quality street environments to provide safer and more attractive settings for people to shop / do business; and incorporate cycle and pedestrian friendly designs in line with the Retail Design Manual 2012.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV7 Variety in Shopping Offer	Development proposals for major new retail and complementary developments will be expected to provide a range of unit sizes to encourage variety in the shopping offer and support small business growth.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV8 Competition & Innovation	To promote and facilitate competition and innovation in the retail sector to the benefit of the consumer, as an integral part of the proper planning and sustainable development of the city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV9 Independent Retailing	To support the independent retailing sector by continuing to provide financial support, skills training and education through the Local Enterprise Office and other means.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV10 Specialist Shops	To acknowledge the unique attraction/distinctiveness of specialist shops / independent / indigenous retail in the City Centre and inner city which contribute to the character and attractiveness of the City Centre.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV11 Omni-Channel Retail	To promote and support 'Click and Collect' services which can reduce e-commerce deliveries and bring footfall to the City Centre.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV12 Shopfront Design	To require a high quality of design and finish for new and replacement shopfront, signage and advertising. Dublin City Council will actively promote the principles of good shopfront design as set out in Dublin City Council's Shopfront Design Guidelines and Chapter 15.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV13 Vacant Units	To promote the temporary use of vacant premises in order to reduce the level of vacancy on streets as this can compromise the vitality of urban centres. Temporary uses which can contribute to the economic, social and cultural vitality of the city centre and which allow public access will be encouraged (pending permanent occupancy).	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 7 - City Centre, Urban Villages and Retail				
CCUV14 Adult Shops, Betting Shops and Gaming Arcades	To seek to prohibit adult shops, betting shops and gaming arcades in proximity to residential areas, places of public worship and schools and to seek to prevent an excessive concentration of such uses having regard to the existing presence of such retail outlets in an area.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUVO1 Support Preparation of New Retail Strategy for the Region	To support the preparation of a new retail strategy for the region in accordance with the requirements of the Retail Planning Guidelines 2012 and undertake a review of the Dublin City Development Plan Retail Strategy upon its completion.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUVO2 Consultation with Adjoining Local Authorities	To co-operate and consult with adjoining local authorities regarding the impact of retail plans or schemes with particular regard to the potential for significant cross-boundary impacts on urban centres.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUVO3 Monitoring / Review of Retail Floorspace Provision	(i) To monitor large retail permissions / provision and to review changes in population targets that may be carried out during the lifetime of the Plan in order to identify any retail policy adjustments required. (ii) To carry out a comprehensive review of retail floorspace in the city centre and Key Urban Villages.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV15 Premier Shopping Area	To affirm and maintain the status of the city centre retail core as the premier shopping area in the State, affording a variety of shopping, cultural and leisure attractions. In line with the Retail Planning Guidelines, 2012, the City Centre should be the main focus for higher order comparison retail in the city to protect its retailing role and primacy.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CCUV16 Category 1 and Category 2 Streets	To protect the primary retail function of Category 1 Streets in the City and to provide for a mix of retail and other complementary on Category 2 streets. To promote active uses at street level on the principal shopping streets in the city centre retail core having regard to the criteria for Category 1 and Category 2 streets (see Appendix 2 and Figure 7.2).	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV17 Diversity the City Centre	To ensure the resilience of Dublin City Centre to changing trends in retail demand, appropriate opportunities to further diversify the city centre as a place to live, work and socialise will be encouraged.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV18 Residential Development	To encourage, support and promote more residential apartments as part of mixed-use developments or through the reuse / retrofit of the upper floors of existing buildings. The use of upper floors for residential use is supported in principle on Category 2 Shopping Streets.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, LV, MA)	Yes	
CCUV19 Parking and Retail Core	To support the re-use and replacement of car parks in the centre of the Retail Core and to safeguard short term car parking provision for shoppers and visitors at the periphery of the retail core. The redevelopment of central car parks will support public realm improvements and pedestrian priority in the retail core.	Uncertain Environment Effects (AN, CH, LV, CC, MA)	Yes	
CCUVO4 WeareDublinTown	To support Dublin's Business Improvement District (BID) - 'WeareDublinTown' / 'DublinTown' and to acknowledge the role and facilitate the work of 'DublinTown' which includes the provision of additional City Centre services and projects to improve the City Centre.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUVO5 Underutilised and Inactive City Centre Streets	To reactivate the underutilised and inactive city centre streets and lanes in the city centre through the inclusion of art, landscaping, street furniture, outdoor dining, activity spaces and residential uses.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, LV, MA)	Yes	
CCUVO6 Car Parks and Last Mile Delivery	To investigate the potential of the use of car parks in the city centre for micro hubs and distribution centres for 'last-mile' delivery as part of the preparation of a Servicing / Logistics Strategy for the city (see also Objective SMT06).	Uncertain Environment Effects (MA)	Yes	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 7 - City Centre, Urban Villages and Retail				
CCUVO7 Marketing the City Centre	To actively market the city centre to prospective international retailers. Dublin City Council will seek to work with Dublin Chamber and other relevant city centre stakeholders to benchmark Dublin internationally in order to attract new retailers and to retain its function as a prestigious centre of retail.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUVO8 Review of Architectural Conservation Areas / Areas of Special Planning Control	To review the Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs) pertaining to the retail core so that they reflect the approach for Category 2 Streets with particular regard to complementary non-retail uses. To prepare / update Areas of Special Planning Control for the city as and where appropriate and necessary.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CCUV20 Mixed Use Key Urban Villages / Urban Villages	To support the development, regeneration and or consolidation of Key Urban Villages / Urban Villages as appropriate, to ensure these centres continue to develop their mixed used role and function adding vitality to these centres including through the provision of residential development.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV21 Scale of Retail Development in Key Urban Villages / Urban Villages	To have regard to the guiding principles regarding the scale of retail development to be promoted in each key urban village as set out in the Dublin City Retail Strategy in Appendix 2.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV22 Intensification	To support and promote the redevelopment and intensification of underutilised sites within Key Urban Villages and urban villages including surface car parks	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, LV)	Yes	
CCUV23 Active Uses	To promote active uses at street level in Key Urban Villages and urban villages and neighbourhood centres.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV24 Co - Working Hubs	To support the development of 'Hub' workspaces as part of new mixed new developments in Key District Centres and Urban Villages.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV25 Neighbourhood Centres / Local Shopping	To support, promote and protect Neighbourhood and Local Centres which play an important role in the local shopping role for residents and provide a range of essential day to day services and facilities.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV26 New Growth Areas	To support and facilitate local shopping and retail services commensurate with new residential areas to provide day to day and top up shopping needs.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUVO9 Town Centre Health Check	To progress 'Health Check Assessments' for older suburban Key Urban Villages, as part of Local Area Plans and Village Improvement Plans to ensure the vitality and viability of these centres, assessing issues such as attractions, accessibility, amenity and actions to be taken.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUVO10 Shopfront Improvement Scheme	To support the roll out of the Shop Front Improvement Scheme to the urban villages and radial streets in city centre subject to a criteria based analysis, available resources and funding availability.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH)	Yes	
CCUV27 Provision of Convenience Retail	To promote convenience retail development in the city, particularly in new regeneration areas and where such development can provide an important anchor to secure the vitality and viability of Key Urban Villages, urban villages and neighbourhood centres	Uncertain Environment Effects (MA)	Yes	
CCUV28 Provision of Retail Services	To support and promote the development of retail service development at all levels of the retail hierarchy in the city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 7 - City Centre, Urban Villages and Retail				
CCUV29 Retail Warehousing and Retail Parks	To control the provision of retail warehousing and retail parks in accordance with the advice set out in the 'Guidelines for Planning Authorities – Retail Planning – 2012, DECLG'.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV30 Cafes / Restaurants	To promote and facilitate the provision of cafés / restaurants in the city and support their role in making the city more attractive for residents, workers, and visitors and in creating employment.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV31 Food and Beverage Clusters	To support emerging Food and Beverage Clusters around the city centre; see Figure 4, Appendix 2, particularly around the Henry Street and Westmoreland Street areas of the city to enhance the appeal of the north and south retail cores.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV32 Outdoor Dining	Proposals for outdoor dining / trading from premises extending into the street will be supported where they would not harm local amenity or compromise pedestrian movement, accessibility needs or traffic conditions.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV33 Support for Markets	To facilitate indoor and outdoor markets both in the city centre and throughout the city particularly where they support the existing retail offer and local produce/start up enterprise; and the circular economy; and to realise their potential as a tourist attraction	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV34 Moore Street Market	To recognise the unique importance of Moore Street Market to the history and culture of the city and to ensure its protection, renewal and enhancement in cooperation with the traders.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CCUVO11 Victorian Fruit and Vegetable Market	To promote and facilitate the ongoing implementation of the City Markets Project, centred around the Victorian Fruit and Vegetable Market on Mary's Lane, an important aspect in city centre regeneration. See also SDRA 13, Chapter 13.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH)	Yes	
CCUVO12 Iveagh Market	To support a regenerated Iveagh Market as a major visitor attraction and as a local amenity for the community and to ensure that regeneration proposals include an appropriate community/civic space.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH)	Yes	
CCUV35 Night Time Economy	To support and facilitate evening / night time economy uses that contribute to the vitality of the City Centre and that support the creation of a safe, balanced and socially inclusive evening / night time economy.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, AN)	Yes	
CCUV36 New Development	To support uses that would result in the diversification of the evening and night time economy where there is little impact on the amenity of adjoining or adjacent residential uses through noise disturbance and where there are no negative cumulative impacts in terms of other night-time economy uses in the area.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV37 Plan Active and Healthy Streets	To promote the development of a network of active, healthy, attractive, high quality, green, and safe streets and public spaces which are inviting, pedestrian friendly and easily navigable. The aspiration is to encourage walking as the preferred means of movement between buildings and activities in the city. In the case of pedestrian movement within major developments, the creation of a public street is preferable to an enclosed arcade or other passageway.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV38 High Quality Streets and Spaces	To promote the development of high-quality streets and public spaces which are accessible and inclusive in accordance with the principles of universal design, and which deliver vibrant, attractive, accessible and safe places and meet the needs of the city's diverse communities regardless of age, ability, disability or gender.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV39 Permeable / Legible / Connected Public Realm	To deliver a permeable, legible and connected public realm that contributes to the delivery of other key objectives of this development plan namely active travel and sustainable movement, quality urban design, healthy placemaking and green infrastructure.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV40 Public Safety	To promote the development of a built environment and public spaces which are designed to deter crime and anti-social behaviour and which promote safety, as set out in the 'Your City Your Space' Public Realm Strategy 2012.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 7 - City Centre, Urban Villages and Retail				
CCUV41 New Infrastructure Development	Infrastructure projects in Dublin City should ensure placemaking outcomes through a design-led approach. Dublin City Council will work the relevant agencies / infrastructure providers to achieve public realm enhancements in the design, implementation and delivery of infrastructure projects.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV42 Public Realm - Key Urban Villages / Urban Villages	To provide environmental and public realm improvements in Key Urban Villages and urban villages around the city through the implementation of Local Environment Improvement Plans / Village Improvement Plans and Placemaking Strategies in order to support the regeneration and revitalisation of the city's urban villages. Such plans: (i) will identify opportunities for micro spaces (small spaces to facilitate lingering and social, community and cultural interaction and events); and (ii) will be informed by walkability exercises, walkability exercises led by older people, parents, visually impaired and people with disabilities, to make city outdoor spaces more accessible and safe for all, creating walkable communities and age friendly spaces.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV43 New Development	That development proposals should deliver a high quality public realm which is well designed, clutter-free, with use of high quality and durable materials and green infrastructure. New development should create linkages and connections and improve accessibility.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUVO13 Civic Spine / College Green	To implement a programme of environmental and public realm improvements along the Grand Civic Spine from Parnell Square to Christchurch Place and along the City Quays, and to prioritise the redevelopment of College Green as a pedestrian friendly civic space including the pedestrianisation of Foster Place.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, LV, MA)		
CCUVO14 City Centre Public Realm Strategy	To support the review / update of the City Council's City Centre Public Realm Strategy - 'Your City Your Space' Public Realm Strategy 2012' and apply it for new / redevelopment public realm work throughout the Dublin City Council administrative area. The new Public Realm Strategy will adopt / provide for: (i) gender and age proofing of public realm projects; (ii) investment in / the use of assistive technology for vulnerable users of the public realm; (iii) good practice models in facilitating mobility aids, including scooters in the public realm; and (iv) good practice model of public seating for older people with mobility issues.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUVO15 Public Realm Plans / Masterplans	To support the implementation of the following public realm plans / masterplans (listed below) and companion manuals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'The Heart of the City' Public Realm Masterplan for the City Core 2016. Masterplan; Grafton Street Quarter Public Realm Improvement Plan, 2013; Public Realm Masterplan for the North Lotts & Grand Canal Dock SDZ Planning Scheme 2014; Temple Bar Public Realm Plan 2016; and Markets Area Public Realm Plan 2021. 	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, LV, MA)	Yes	
CCUVO16 Improve Links North / South	To improve North / South links between Grafton Street and Henry Street Shopping areas through the implementation of the 'The Heart of the City' Public Realm Masterplan for the City Core 2016.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUVO17 Streets and Lanes Dublin 1	To work with city stakeholders including local businesses, and the BIDs group 'WeAreDublintown' to implement a number of public realm projects arising from the Re-Imagining Dublin One study and to extend best practice from these projects to other parts of Dublin 1 and the city. This includes the North Lotts Planning Study and the 'Reimagining Dublin One Laneways' project.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, LV, MA)	Yes	
CCUVO18 Linking Office and Culture Clusters to the Retail Core	To devise a programme to enhance pedestrian amenities, encourage more street based activities and provide micro spaces along Key Routes from Office and Culture Clusters to the Retail Core to enhance the vibrancy of the streetscape and to draw office workers and tourists into the Retail Core.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 7 - City Centre, Urban Villages and Retail				
CCUVO19 Civic Amenities	<p>(i) To work with city business associations and agencies to provide for appropriately located, independently accessible sanitary facilities (public toilets, changing areas, showers and wash facilities etc.) for the use of citizens and visitors to the city and accessible to all.</p> <p>(ii) To provide civic amenities such as accessible public toilet facilities and drinking water at suitable locations in new or redeveloped public realm.</p> <p>(iii) To provide public seating based on universal design in appropriate locations in the public realm in the city. Seating for older people with mobility issues will be based on international models of good practice.</p>	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, LV)	Yes	
CCUV44 Advertising Structures	<p>To consider appropriately designed and located advertising structures primarily with reference to the zoning objectives and permitted advertising uses and of the outdoor advertising strategy (Appendix 17).</p> <p>In all such cases, the structures must be of high-quality design and materials, and must not obstruct or endanger road users or pedestrians, nor impede free pedestrian movement and accessibility of the footpath or roadway.</p>	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, LV)	Yes	
CCUV45 Removal of Unauthorised Advertisements	To actively seek the removal of unauthorised advertisements, fabric banners, meshes, banner or other advertising forms from private property and public areas.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUV46 Provide and Expand a Coherent Designed Pedestrian Wayfinding Signage System	To maintain, consolidate and expand the Pedestrian Wayfinding System; to ensure a coherent design approach in the area between the canals and Docklands; and to actively remove redundant brown tourist signage as the opportunity arises. The provision of new brown tourist signage will not be supported in the area between the canals and Docklands.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUVO20 Audit of Redundant Signage	It is an objective of the city council to carry out an audit of redundant signage and unused poles in the public realm in order to reduce street clutter and to investigate measures to promote co-sharing and integration with other street furniture elements.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CCUVO21 Manage Pedestrian Wayfinding System	To manage the Pedestrian Wayfinding System in consultation with relevant Governments Departments, state agencies (e.g. Fáilte Ireland, Transport Infrastructure Ireland), national cultural institutions and other civic interests in order to ensure the provision of appropriate signage for the principal places of interest in the city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 8 - Sustainable Movement and Transport				
SMT1 Modal Shift and Compact Growth	To continue to promote modal shift from private car use towards increased use of more sustainable forms of transport such as active mobility and public transport, and to work with the National Transport Authority (NTA), Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and other transport agencies in progressing an integrated set of transport objectives to achieve compact growth.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT2 Decarbonising Transport	To support the decarbonising of motorised transport and facilitate the rollout of alternative low emission fuel infrastructure, prioritising electric vehicle infrastructure.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT01 Transition to More Sustainable Travel Modes	To achieve and monitor a transition to more sustainable travel modes including walking, cycling and public transport over the lifetime of the development plan, in line with the city mode share targets of 26% walking/cycling/micro mobility; 57% public transport (bus/rail/LUAS); and 17% private (car/van/HGV/motorcycle).	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT3 Integrated Transport Network	To support and promote the sustainability principles set out in National and Regional documents to ensure the creation of an integrated transport network that services the needs of communities and businesses of Dublin City and the region.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT4 Integration of Public Transport Services and Development	To support and encourage intensification and mixed-use development along public transport corridors and to ensure the integration of high quality permeability links and public realm in tandem with the delivery of public transport services, to create attractive, liveable and high quality urban places.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
SMT5 Mobility Hubs	To support the development of mobility hubs at key public transport locations and local mobility hubs in tandem with new developments to include shared car and micro mobility initiatives, creating a vibrant, accessible and liveable place to support the transportation experience.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT6 Mobility Management and Travel Planning	To promote best practice mobility management and travel planning through the requirement for proactive mobility strategies for new developments focussed on promoting and providing for active travel and public transport use while managing vehicular traffic and servicing activity.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SMT7 Travel Plans for New and Existing Developments	To require the preparation and submission of Travel Plans for new and existing developments as part of the planning application process including residential, school, workplace etc.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT8 Public Realm Enhancements	To support public realm enhancements that contribute to place making and liveability and which prioritise pedestrians in accordance with Dublin City Council's Public Realm Strategy ('Your City – Your Space'), the Public Realm Masterplan for the City Core (The Heart of the City), the Grafton Street Quarter Public Realm Plan and forthcoming public realm plans such as those for the Parnell Square Cultural Quarter Development and the City Markets Area.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT9 Public Realm in New Developments	To encourage and facilitate the delivery of high quality public realm in tandem with new developments throughout the city in collaboration with private developers through the Development Management process.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT10 Pedestrian Network	To protect, improve and expand on the pedestrian network inclusive of facilities for people with mobility impairment and/or disabilities, including the elderly and people with children, linking key public buildings, shopping streets, public transport points and tourist and recreational attractions.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SMT02 Improving the Pedestrian Network	To improve the pedestrian network and prioritise the introduction of tactile paving, ramps and kerb dishing at appropriate locations, including pedestrian crossings, taxi ranks, bus stops and rail platforms in order to optimise accessibility for all users.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT03 Public On-Street Accessible Parking Bays	To provide public on-street accessible parking bays where appropriate.	Neutral / Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT04 Taxi Ranks	To ensure the City is provided with adequate and accessible taxi ranks and facilities and to engage with the National Transport Authority and representatives of the taxi industry regarding provision of same.	Neutral / Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 8 - Sustainable Movement and Transport				
SMT11 Pedestrians and Public Realm	To enhance the attractiveness and liveability of the city through the continued reallocation of space to pedestrians and public realm to provide a safe and comfortable street environment for pedestrians of all ages and abilities.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT12 Urban Villages and the 15 Minute City	To support the role of the urban villages in contributing to the 15 minute city through improvement of connectivity in particular for active travel and public realm enhancement.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT13 City Centre Road Space	To manage City Centre road-space to best address the needs of pedestrians and cyclists, public transport, shared modes and the private car, in particular, where there are intersections between DART, LUAS and Metrolink and with the existing and proposed bus network.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT05 Review of the City Centre Transport Study	To review the City Centre Transport Study 2016 in the lifetime of the Plan, setting out a clear strategy to prioritise active travel modes and public transport use, whilst ensuring the integration of high quality public realm.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT14 'Last-Mile' Delivery	To seek to achieve a significant reduction in the number of motorised delivery vehicles in the City through supporting and promoting the use of 'last-mile' delivery through the development of micro hubs and distribution centres.	Uncertain Environment Effects (MA)	Yes	
SMT06 Servicing/Logistics Strategy	To prepare a Servicing/Logistics Strategy for the City in collaboration with relevant stakeholders to ensure the continued viability of the City and urban villages.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT15 Walking, Cycling and Active Travel	To prioritise the development of walking and cycling facilities and encourage a shift to active travel for people of all ages and abilities, in line with the City's mode share targets.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT16 Active Travel Initiatives	To promote and help develop community-based coordinated initiatives at local level that encourage active travel and modal switch to sustainable transport modes, and to target underrepresented cohorts/groups in such initiatives and specifically to target a significant increase in the number of children cycling to primary school.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT17 The Pedestrian Environment	To continue to maintain and improve the pedestrian environment and promote the development of a network of pedestrian routes which link residential areas with recreational, educational and employment destinations to create a pedestrian environment that is safe, accessible to all in accordance with best accessibility practice.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT18 Integration of Active Travel with Public Transport	To work with the relevant transport providers, agencies and stakeholders to facilitate the integration of active travel (walking/cycling etc.) with public transport, ensuring ease of access for all.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT07 Review of Temporary Pedestrian, Cycling Improvement Interventions	To review the temporary pedestrian and cycling improvement interventions undertaken as part of COVID Mobility Measures in 2020/2021, with a view to implementing permanently the successful routes through the Roads Act, Part 8 or other appropriate mechanisms.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, MA)	Yes	
SMT08 Cycling Infrastructure and Routes	To improve existing cycleways and bicycle priority measures and cycle parking infrastructure throughout the city and villages, and to create protected cycle lanes, where feasible. Routes within the network will be planned in conjunction with green infrastructure objectives and the NTA's Cycle Network Plan for the Greater Dublin Area, and the National Cycle Manual, having regard to policies G12, G16 and G18 and objectives GIO2 and GIO16.	Uncertain Environment Effects (W, LS, CH, LV, MA)	Yes	
SMT09 Walkability Audits	To carry out walkability audits with local communities and priority target groups to inform necessary improvements to the pedestrian network.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 8 - Sustainable Movement and Transport				
SMT010 Cycle Parking Spaces	To provide publicly accessible cycle parking spaces, both standard bicycle spaces and non-standard for adapted and cargo bikes, in the City Centre and the urban villages, and near the entrance to all publicly accessible buildings such as schools, hotels, libraries, theatres, churches etc. as required.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, LV)		
SMT011 Design Standards for Cycle Parking in Developments	To prepare, in the lifetime of the Plan, a comprehensive guide setting out design standards and requirements for cycle parking in developments.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT012 Cycle Parking Facilities	To promote and facilitate, in co-operation with key agencies and stakeholders, the provision of high density cycle parking facilities, as well as parking for cargo and adapted bicycles at appropriate locations, taking into consideration the NTA's GDA Cycle Network Plan, and Dublin City Council's Public Realm Strategy.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)		
SMT013 River Liffey Boardwalk	Subject to a feasibility assessment, to seek to extend the River Liffey Boardwalk as a key leisure walking and seating space in the City.	Uncertain Environment Effects (W, CH, LV)	Yes	
SMT19 Walking and Cycling for School Trips	To promote walking and cycling for school trips through the promotion of initiatives such as "Safe Routes to School", the 'Green Schools' and 'Schools Streets' projects, and to prioritise school routes for permeability projects and provision and enhancements of pedestrian and cycle ways.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT20 Key Sustainable Transport Projects	To support the expeditious delivery of key sustainable transport projects including Metrolink, Bus Connects, DART+ and LUAS expansion programme so as to provide an integrated public transport network with efficient interchange between transport modes, serving the existing and future needs of the city and region.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)		
SMT21 Rail Network and Freight Transport	(i) To work with Iarnród Éireann/Irish Rail, the NTA, TII and other operators to progress a coordinated approach to improving the rail network, integrated with other public transport modes to ensure maximum public benefit and promoting sustainable transport and improved connectivity. (ii) To facilitate the needs of freight transport in accordance with the NTA's Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016 – 2035 and forthcoming review.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)		
SMT014 Additional Rail Stations	(i) To promote and seek the development of a new commuter rail station at Cross Guns serving the existing rail line infrastructure, preferably as part of a larger mixed use development. (ii) To promote and seek provision of additional stations as part of the DART+ projects in consultation with Iarnród Éireann/Irish Rail.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)		
SMT015 'Park and Ride' Services	To promote 'Park and Ride' services at suitable locations in co-operation with neighbouring local authorities.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)		
SMT016 Green Roofs on Bus Shelters	To engage with the National Transport Authority (NTA) in order to promote the incorporation of green roofs on new and existing bus shelters.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT22 Shared Mobility and Adaptive Infrastructure	To promote the use and expansion of shared mobility to all areas of the City and facilitate adaptive infrastructure for the changing modal transport environment, including other micro-mobility and shared mobility, as part of an integrated transport network in the City.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT017 Cross Guns Bridge	To seek improvements to Cross Guns Bridge for pedestrian and cycle users, taking into consideration the BusConnects and Metrolink projects.	Uncertain Environment Effects (W, CH, LV)	Yes	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 8 - Sustainable Movement and Transport				
SMT018 Shared Bike Schemes and Micro-Mobility Schemes	To monitor the success of and expand the shared bike schemes and to facilitate the expansion of shared micro-mobility schemes throughout the city, in accordance with ongoing review and new models of operation such as the use of mobility hubs.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT23 On-Street Parking	To manage on-street car parking to serve the needs of the city alongside the needs of residents, visitors, businesses, kerbside activity and accessible parking requirements, and to facilitate the re-organisation and loss of spaces to serve sustainable development targets such as in relation to, sustainable transport provision, greening initiatives, sustainable urban drainage, access to new developments, or public realm improvements.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT24 Commuter, Shopping, Business and Leisure Parking	To discourage commuter parking and to ensure adequate but not excessive parking provision for short-term shopping, business and leisure uses.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT25 Car Parking in Residential and Mixed Use Developments	(i) To provide for sustainable levels of car parking and car storage in residential schemes in accordance with Development Plan car parking standards (see Appendix 5) so as to promote city centre living and reduce the requirement for car parking. (ii) To encourage new ways of addressing the transport needs of residents (such as car clubs and mobility hubs) to reduce the requirement for car parking. (iii) To safeguard the residential parking component in mixed-use developments.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT26 Repurposing of Multi-Storey Car Parks	To support the repurposing of multi-storey car parks for alternative uses such as central mobility hubs providing high density bike parking, shared mobility services, 'last mile' delivery hubs and recreational or cultural uses.	Uncertain Environment Effects (MA)	Yes	
SMT27 Expansion of the EV Charging Network	To support the expansion of the EV charging network by increasing the provision of designated charging facilities for Electric Vehicles on public land and private developments in partnership with the ESB and other relevant stakeholders; and to support the Dublin Regional EV Parking Strategy.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, LV)	Yes	
SMT019 Elimination of 'Free' On-Street Parking	To progressively eliminate all 'free' on-street parking, both within the canals and in adjacent areas where there is evidence of 'all day' commuter parking, through the imposition of appropriate parking controls, including resident permit parking, pay and display parking, or by the provision of new cycle parking, public realm or greening.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT020 Control Supply and Price of Public Parking	To control the supply and price of public and permit parking in the city in order to achieve sustainable transportation policy objectives and encourage modal shift.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT021 Feasibility Study of Residential and Non-Residential Car Parking Provision	To carry out a feasibility study of the residential and non-residential car parking provision across the city and urban villages and review the implementation of parking demand management strategies in areas where deemed appropriate and practicable.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, MA)	Yes	
SMT022 Surface Parking in the City	To work with other public bodies to examine opportunities to repurpose surface parking throughout the city for greening and to support the proposal to re-establish the park at the front of Leinster House.	Positive Environment Effects	Yes	
SMT28 National Road Projects	To protect national road projects as per the NTA Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016 – 2035 and its review including the provision of a Southern Port Access Route to Poolbeg.	Negative Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
SMT29 Transport Tunnels	(i) To require the submission of appropriate development assessments for all development proposals located in the vicinity of Dublin Tunnel the requirements of which are set out in Appendix 5. (ii) To require consultation with Iarnród Éireann/Irish Rail in relation to heavy rail for any proposed public transport tunnel.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 8 - Sustainable Movement and Transport				
SMTO23 Road, Street and Bridge Schemes	<p>To initiate and/or implement the following street/road schemes and bridges within the six year period of the Development Plan, subject to the availability of funding and environmental requirements and compliance with the 'Principles of Road Development' set out in the NTA Transport Strategy.</p> <p>Roads and Streets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Road • Belmayne Main Street • Sean Moore Road • Cherry Orchard Link Road • Richmond Road • Collins Avenue Extension • Blackhorse Avenue • Cappagh Road • St. Margaret's Link Road • Northern Cross/Belcamp Lane • Santry Avenue Link Road • Newtown Avenue <p>Bridges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dodder Public Transport Bridge, linked with BusConnects 16 proposals. • Bridge from North Wall Quay at Point Depot (Point Bridge) and the widening of Tom Clarke Bridge, improve pedestrian and cycling facilities at the crossing point as well as accommodating additional public transport routes in conjunction with the Dodder Bridge. • Pedestrian/cycle bridge crossing the Liffey between the Samuel Beckett Bridge and the Tom Clarke Bridge. • Liffey Valley Park pedestrian/cycle bridge. • Pedestrian/Cycle Bridge across River Liffey from Irish National War Memorial Gardens/Islandbridge to the Chapelizod Road, Islandbridge • Cycle/pedestrian bridges that emerge as part of the evolving Strategic Cycle Network and Strategic Green Infrastructure Network. • Broadstone to Grand Canal pedestrian/cycle bridge. 	Negative Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
SMTO24 Investigate Feasibility of Pedestrian/Cycle Connections	<p>To investigate the feasibility of providing a pedestrian/cycle connections at the following locations, subject to its alignment with the recommendations of the NTA's GDA Cycle Network Plan:</p> <p>(a) linking Broombridge, Tolka greenway, the Phoenix Park and the Dunsink observatory;</p> <p>(b) linking East Wall to the Docklands Station/North Wall/Royal Canal</p>	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, W, CH, LV)	Yes	
SMTO25 Tolka Park Pedestrian/Cycle Connection	<p>To provide a pedestrian/cycle connection from Tolka Park to the lands to the south.</p>	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, W)	Yes	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 8 - Sustainable Movement and Transport				
SMT026 Coolock Lane to Oscar Traynor Road Pedestrian/Cycle Connections	To provide for improved pedestrian/cycle connections linking Coolock Lane to Oscar Traynor Road, in collaboration and consultation with the NTA, TII and Fingal County Council.	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, LV)	Yes	
SMT027 Summerhill Pedestrian/Cycle Connection	To provide a pedestrian/cycle connection linking Summerhill to Mountjoy Place	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, LV)	Yes	
SMT028 Dominick Street Lower Pedestrian/Cycle Connection	To provide a pedestrian/cycle connection linking Dominick Street Lower to Dominick Place	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, LV)	Yes	
SMT30 Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets	To design new streets and roads within urban areas in accordance with the principles, approaches and standards contained within the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) and to carry out upgrade works to existing road and street networks in accordance with these standards where feasible.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT31 Street and Road Design	To ensure that streets and roads within the city are designed to balance the needs and protect the safety of all road users and promote place making, sustainable movement and road safety providing a street environment that prioritises active travel and public transport whilst ensuring the needs of commercial servicing is accommodated.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT32 Traffic Calming and Self-Regulation Street Environments	To ensure that all streets and street networks are designed to passively calm traffic through the creation of a self-regulating street environment that are suited to all users, including pedestrians and cyclists.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT029 Traffic Signal Control	To continue investment in the City's computer-based area traffic signal control system and in other Information Technology (IT) systems to increase the capacity of Dublin City Council's traffic department to manage traffic in the city and to improve the priority given to pedestrians, cyclists and public transport in the city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT030 Speed Limits and Traffic Calmed Areas	To expand the 30kph speed limits and traffic calmed areas at appropriate locations throughout the City and subject to stakeholder consultation.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SMT031 Review of Traffic Management and Calming Plans	To review neighbourhood schemes and traffic management and calming plans for local areas throughout the city in consultation with local communities and subject to availability of resources.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 8 - Sustainable Movement and Transport				
SMT032 Environmental and Road Safety Impacts of Traffic in the City	To tackle the adverse environmental and road safety impacts of traffic in the city through measures such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation of traffic calming measures and filtered permeability including the restriction of rat-runs in appropriate areas in accordance with best practice and following advice contained in the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS). • The ongoing monitoring of traffic noise and emissions, and the assessment and evaluation of the air quality and traffic noise impacts of transport policy and traffic management measures being implemented by Dublin City Council. • To support programmes of action which tackle the issue of road safety in the city. • To promote traffic calming in existing residential neighbourhoods through innovative street design and layout such as homezones, filtered permeability, low traffic neighbourhoods, quietways and unsignalised crossings, where appropriate. 	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk				
SI1 Support for Irish Water	To support and facilitate Irish Water in the provision of high quality drinking water, water conservation and drainage infrastructure and to promote the ongoing upgrade and expansion of water supply and wastewater services to meet the future needs of the city and the Region	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI2 Integrating Water Services with Development	To ensure that development is permitted in tandem with available water supply and wastewater treatment and to manage development, so that new schemes are permitted only where adequate capacity or resources exist or will become available within the life of a planning permission.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI3 Separation of Foul and Surface Water Drainage Systems	To require all new development to provide separate foul and surface water drainage systems.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI4 Drainage Infrastructure Design Standards	To require new private development sewers which are intended to connect to the public drainage system to comply with the requirements of the Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works and/ or Irish Water foul sewer specification (where applicable).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI5 Safeguarding of Public Water Services Infrastructure	To work in conjunction with Irish Water to safeguard existing water and drainage infrastructure by protecting existing wayleaves and buffer zones around public water service infrastructure.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI6 Water Conservation	To require all developments to incorporate best practice water conservation and demand management measures in order to promote water conservation by all water users and minimise the pressure for water drawdown, wastage of water supply and reduced availability of water resources.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO1 Commitment to Working in Partnership with Irish Water	To support Irish Water in the implementation of the <i>Water Services Strategic Plan (2015)</i> and <i>National Water Resources Plan (2021)</i> for Ireland's public water supplies and to work closely with Irish Water to facilitate the timely delivery of the public water services required to realise the core strategy growth targets of this plan in accordance with the Draft Water Services Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2018).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO2 Wastewater Waste Treatment	To have regard to the policies and objectives contained in <i>Irish Water's National Wastewater Sludge Management Plan (2016)</i> and subsequent plans, and to support appropriate options for the extraction of energy and other resources from sewerage sludge.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SIO3 Irish Water Conservation Measures	To work with Irish Water to reduce leakage in accordance with any forthcoming Regional Water Conservation Strategy.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SI7 Water Quality Status	To promote and maintain the achievement of at least good status in all water bodies in the city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI8 Physical Condition of Waterbodies	To promote the protection and improvement of the aquatic environment and water-dependent ecosystems through proactive discharge and emissions management and through the enhancement of the physical condition of waterbodies.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk				
SI9 Groundwater Pollution	To promote the progressive reduction of pollution of groundwater.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI10 Managing development within & adjacent to River Corridors	To require development proposals that are within or adjacent to river corridors in the city (excluding the Camac River) to provide for a minimum set-back distance of 10-15m from the top of the river bank in order to create an appropriate riparian zone. The Council will support riparian zones greater than 10 metres depending on site specific characteristics and where such zones can integrate with public/communal open space.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SI11 Managing Development within & adjacent to Camac River Corridor	To manage all development within and adjacent to the Camac River Corridor in a way that enhances the ecological functioning and water quality of the river and aligns with the principles for river restoration. All development shall provide for a minimum set-back distance of 10-25m from the top of the river bank depending on site characteristics. Large development sites in excess of 0.5ha should provide a minimum set-back of 25m from the top of the river bank where informed by a hydromorphological study.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI12 River Restoration in Strategic Development and Regeneration Areas	To provide opportunities for enhanced river corridors in the following Strategic Development and Regeneration Areas (SDRAs) in order to harness significant opportunities for river restoration where feasible: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDRA 1 Clongriffin /Belmayne and Environs • SDRA 3 Finglas Village Environs and Jamestown Lands • SDRA 4 Park West/Cherry Orchard • SDRA 5 Naas Road • SDRA 6 Docklands • SDRA 7 Heuston and Environs • SDRA 9 Emmet Road • SDRA 10 North East Inner City • SDRA 16 Oscar Traynor Road 	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO4 River Basin Management Plan	To implement the EU Water Framework Directive through the implementation of the appropriate River Basin Management Plan and Programme of Measures and individual river restoration strategies where available.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO5 River Basin Management Plan	To take into consideration the River Basin Management Plan and Programme of Measures when considering new development proposals.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SIO6 Groundwater Protection	To protect ground water resources in Dublin city and to implement the recommendations contained in any Groundwater Protection Scheme prepared under EU Ground Water Directives.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk				
SIO7 River Restoration Flagship Projects	To support the delivery of flagship river restoration projects where restoration measures can be comprehensively implemented, including the Camac River Corridor. This will include opportunities arising from the regeneration / development of strategic land banks.	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, W, CH, LV)	Yes	
SIO8 River Restoration Strategies/ Masterplans	To prepare river-specific restoration strategies/masterplans for the city's rivers and their tributaries in order to create a comprehensive, collaborative and integrated catchment management planning approach to improving the river corridor which addresses water quality, flooding, hydromorphology, ecology, biodiversity, heritage, amenity and tourism.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SIO9 Planning for Nature-based Water Management	To undertake Rainwater Management Plans for each river catchment and as part of this, include a study of relevant zoned lands within the city in order to ensure that sufficient land is provided for nature-based water management.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI13 Minimising Flood Risk	To minimise the flood risk in Dublin city from all other sources of flooding as far as is practicable, including fluvial, reservoirs and dams, and the piped water system.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI14 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	To implement and comply fully with the recommendations of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared as part of the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 and to have regard to the Flood Risk Management Guidelines (2009), as revised by Circular PL 2/2014, when assessing planning applications and in the preparation of statutory and non-statutory plans.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI15 Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment	All development proposals shall carry out, to an appropriate level of detail, a Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment (SSFRA) that shall demonstrate compliance with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Planning System and Flood Risk Management, Guidelines for Planning Authorities, Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (2009), as revised by Circular PL 2/2014, and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) as prepared by this Development Plan. The application of the sequential approach, with avoidance of development in areas at risk of flooding as a priority. Where the Justification Test for Plan Making and Development Management have been passed, the SSFRA will address all potential sources of flood risk and will consider residual risks including climate change. The SSFRA will include site-specific mitigation measures, flood-resilient design and construction, and any necessary management measures (the SFRA and Appendix B4 of the above mentioned national guidelines refer). Attention shall be given in the site-specific flood risk assessment to building design and creating a successful interface with the public realm through good design that addresses flood concerns but also maintains appealing functional streetscapes. 	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI16 Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment	Proposals which may be classed as 'minor development', for example, small-scale infill, extensions to houses and small-scale extensions to existing commercial and industrial enterprises in Flood Zone A or B, should be assessed in accordance with the <i>Guidelines for Planning Authorities on the Planning System and Flood Risk Management and Technical Appendices</i> (2009), as revised by Circular PL 2/2014, with specific reference to Section 5.28 and in relation to the specific requirements of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. The policy shall be not to increase the risk of flooding to the development or to third party lands, and to ensure risk to the development is managed.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SI17 Catchment-Based Flood Risk Management Plans	To assist the OPW in implementing catchment-based Flood Risk Management Plans for rivers, coastlines and estuaries in the Dublin city area, including planned investment measures for managing and reducing flood risk, and have regard to their provisions / recommendations.	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, W, CH, LV)	Yes	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk				
SI18 Protection of Flood Alleviation Infrastructure	To put in place adequate measures to protect the integrity of flood alleviation infrastructure in Dublin city and to ensure new developments or temporary removal of any flood alleviation asset does not increase flood risk, while ensuring that new flood alleviation infrastructure has due regard to nature conservation, natural assets, open space and amenity values.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI19 Provision and Upgrading of Flood Alleviation Assets	To facilitate the provision of new or the upgrading of existing flood alleviation assets where necessary and in particular, the implementation of proposed flood alleviation schemes, on the Santry, Camac, Dodder, Wad, Naniken, Mayne, Tolka and Poddle rivers as well as Clontarf Promenade, Sandymount, Liffey estuary and any other significant flood risk areas being progressed through the planning process during the lifetime of the 2022-2028 Dublin City Development Plan, with due regard to the protection of natural heritage, built heritage and visual amenities.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
SI20 Basement Flood Risk Management	That there is a general presumption against the development of basements for residential use below the estimated flood levels for Flood Zones A or B (see Section 15.19.4 and Appendix 9 for further guidance).	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SI21 Managing Surface Water Flood Risk	To minimise flood risk arising from pluvial (surface water) flooding in the city by promoting the use of natural or nature-based flood risk management measures as a priority and by requiring the use of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) to minimise and limit the extent of hard surfacing and paving, and requiring the use of sustainable drainage techniques, where appropriate, for new development or for extensions to existing developments, in order to reduce the potential impact of existing and predicted flooding risk and to deliver wider environmental and biodiversity benefits.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO10 OPW Flood Relief Maintenance	To support and facilitate the OPW in its duty to maintain flood relief schemes completed under the Arterial Drainage Acts, 1945-1995, including the schemes in Carysfort Maretimo Stream, River Dodder (Tidal), River Tolka, River Wad (Clanmoyle), South Campshires and Spencer Dock.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO11 Cross-Boundary Flood Management	To work with neighbouring local authorities when developing cross-boundary flood management work programmes and when considering cross-boundary development.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SIO12 OPW Catchment-Based Flood Risk	To work with the OPW in the development and implementation of catchment-based strategies for the management of flood risk – including those relating to storage and conveyance.	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, W, LS, CH, LV)	Yes	
SI22 Sustainable Drainage Systems	To require the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) in all new developments, where appropriate, as set out in the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (Vol 2: New Development)/ Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works. Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) should incorporate nature-based solutions and be designed in accordance with the Dublin City Council Sustainable Drainage Design and Evaluation Guide (2021) which is summarised in Appendix 12. SuDS should protect and enhance water quality through treatment at source while enhancing biodiversity and amenity.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI23 Green Blue Roofs	To require all new developments with roof areas in excess of 100 sq. metres to provide for a green blue roof designed in accordance with the requirements of Dublin City Council's Green and Blue Roof Guide (2021) which is summarised in Appendix 11.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk				
SI24 Control of Paving of Private Driveways / Vehicular Entrances / Grassed Areas	To require that all surface water run-off from new / extended domestic driveways, repaired/ replacement driveways and vehicular entrances (where such development is not exempted from the requirement to obtain planning permission) is managed through the use of SuDS, ensuring no increase in surface water discharges to the public drainage network (for further guidance please refer to Appendices 5 and 12).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI25 Surface Water Management	To require the preparation of a Surface Water Management Plan as part of all new developments in accordance with the requirements of Appendix 13 – the Council’s Surface Water Management Guidance.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI26 Taking in Charge of Private Drainage Infrastructure	To require that all new surface water infrastructure within public or private developments be constructed in accordance with the standards set out within the <i>Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works</i> , irrespective of the management and maintenance regime proposed for the development or whether or not the development is intended to be taken in charge, in full or in part (i.e. infrastructure shall be to designed to taking in charge standards).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO13 New Surface Water Infrastructure	To provide for new and improved surface water public networks, including projects undertaken in conjunction with Irish Water where applicable / where required, in order to reduce pollution and negative impacts on receiving waters to allow for more sustainable development.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI27 Sustainable Waste Management	To support the principles of the circular economy, good waste management and the implementation of best practice in relation to waste management in order for Dublin city and the Region to become self-sufficient in terms of resource and waste management and to provide a waste management infrastructure that supports this objective.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI28 Sustainable Waste Management	To prevent and minimise waste generation and disposal, and to prioritise prevention, recycling, preparation for reuse and recovery in order to safeguard against environmental pollution.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SI29 Segregated Storage and Collection of Waste Streams	To require new commercial and residential developments, to include adequate and easily accessible storage space that supports the separate collection of as many waste and recycling streams as possible, but at a minimum general domestic waste, dry recyclables and food waste as appropriate (for further guidance see Appendix 7).	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SI30 Waste Management in Apartment Schemes	To require that the storage and collection of mixed dry recyclables, organic and residual waste materials within proposed apartment schemes have regard to the Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2018 (or and any future updated versions of these guidelines produced during the lifetime of this plan).	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk				
SI31 Provision of Public Recycling Facilities in Large Retail Developments	To require new retail developments in excess of 1,000sq.m (net) in size to provide for a local bring centre/ public reuse and recycling facilities on-site, where feasible, in line with the principles of the 15-minute city. The facilities should be adequately-sized and located to be easily accessible to the general public and should specifically provide for textile and glass bottle recycling (for further guidance see Section 15.18.3).	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SI32 Litter Management Plan	To support the implementation of the Dublin City Council Litter Management Plan 2020-2022 and subsequent plans through enforcement of the litter bye-laws, street cleaning and education and awareness campaigns.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SIO14 Local Recycling / Reuse Infrastructure	To provide for a citywide network of municipal civic amenity facilities/ multi-material public recycling and reuse facilities in accessible locations throughout the city in line with the objectives of the circular economy and 15 minute city.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, LV)	Yes	
SIO15 Waste Management Education	To continue to support innovative circular economy waste management and education programmes such as the Council's MODOS initiative, which supports businesses to reduce their commercial waste generation.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SIO16 Eastern-Midlands Region Waste Management Plan	To support the implementation of the Eastern-Midlands Regional Waste Management Plan 2015–2021 and any subsequent plans in order to facilitate the transition from a waste management economy towards a circular economy.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO17 Innovative Waste Management Solutions	To consider the feasibility of expanding the provision of public shared domestic waste bins and of developing a trial public underground waste storage solutions in line with the review of the Dublin City Council Litter Management Plan 2020-2022 and preparation of the subsequent Litter Management Plan.	Uncertain Environment Effects	Yes	
SIO18 Community Food Waste Composting	To promote the piloting of using community food waste composters as a tool for more sustainable and localised community approach to waste recovery and recycling.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, AN)	Yes	
SI33 Remediation of Contaminated Sites	That all potentially contaminated sites shall be remediated to internationally accepted standards prior to redevelopment. Any unearthed contaminants will require some form of remediation measures which may require a licence from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk				
SI33 Remediation of Contaminated Sites	That all potentially contaminated sites shall be remediated to internationally accepted standards prior to redevelopment. Any unearthed contaminants will require some form of remediation measures which may require a licence from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO19 Consultation with Regional Waste Management Office	To liaise with the <i>Regional Waste Management Office</i> when considering proposals for the development of brownfield sites that require the offsite disposal of contaminated waste.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO20 Managing Contamination Risk from Existing Infrastructure	To proactively manage the contamination risks arising from existing infrastructure by encouraging the upgrading/ replacement of such infrastructure and the remediation of the affected sites, where appropriate.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI34 Management of Air Quality	To monitor, pro-actively manage and improve air quality in the city through integrated land use and spatial planning measures to avoid, mitigate and minimise unacceptable levels of air pollution in accordance with national and EU policy Directives on air quality and, where appropriate, drive compliance with established targets.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO21 Air Quality Data Collection	To reduce harmful emissions and to achieve and maintain good air quality in the city by working with the Dublin local authorities and relevant agencies in the collection of local data through the Dublin city ambient air quality monitoring network.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO22 City Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Network	To maintain and manage a Dublin City ambient air quality monitoring network in conjunction with the EPA and to commit to make available to the public the resulting air quality measurements through the https://dublincityairandnoise.ie/ in real time, where feasible.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI35 Ambient Noise Quality	To seek to preserve and maintain noise quality in the city in accordance with good practice and relevant legislation.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI36 Noise Management	To support pro-active management of noise in the city through measures such as appropriate road surfaces to avoid, mitigate, minimise noise in accordance with good practice, relevant legislation an in line with the Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan 2018-2023 and subsequent plans.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk				
SI37 Noise Sensitive Development	To give careful consideration to the location, design and construction of noise-sensitive developments, including the horizontal and vertical layout of apartment schemes, so as to ensure they are protected from major noise sources, where practical, and to minimise the potential for noise disturbance.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI38 Noise Sensitive Development	To ensure that new residential development close to approved commercial uses is suitably sound insulated (for further guidance see Sections 15.19.9 and 15.19.15).	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SI39 Protection of Designated Quiet Areas	To protect the designated Quiet Areas within the city from increased exposure to noise.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI40 Dublin Airport Noise Zones and other Noise Plans	To take account of the Dublin Airport Local Area Plan (2020) and Noise Action Plan for Dublin Airport 2019-2023 as part of the development management process in order to protect noise sensitive development whilst facilitating the continued operation of Dublin Airport; and to develop similar appropriate plans for areas adjacent to Dublin Port.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO23 Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan	To support the implementation of the Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan 2018–2023 and subsequent plans in co-operation with the other Dublin local authorities.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO24 Noise Monitoring and Enforcement	To support and facilitate the monitoring and enforcement by the environmental health department of noise reduction measures in areas experiencing excess noise.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI41 Lighting Standards	To provide and maintain high quality and appropriate street/ outdoor lighting on public roads/ footways/ cycleways/ public realm throughout the city in accordance with the Council’s Vision Statement for Public Lighting in Dublin City and related public lighting projects. In general, the lighting of roads and public amenity areas shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of with the latest Public Lighting Standards IS EN13201 and further updates.	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, LV)	Yes	
SI42 Light Pollution	To not allow unnecessary, inappropriate or excessive artificial lighting and to ensure that the design of public and external lighting proposals minimises light spillage or pollution and has due regard to the character, environmental sensitivity and residential amenity of the surrounding area.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI43 Energy Efficient Lighting	To require that new developments are appropriately lit and that all public and external lighting in new residential and commercial developments use highly energy efficient luminaires, with the use of energy saving strategies (such as dimming in line with nationally agreed tariffs) encouraged.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk				
SI44 COMAH Establishments / SEVESO	To have regard to the provisions of the SEVESO III Directive (2012/18/EU) relating to the control of major accident hazards involving dangerous substances and its objectives to prevent major accidents and limit the consequences of such accidents. Dublin City Council will have regard to the provisions of the Directive and recommendations of the HSA in the assessment of all planning applications located on, or impacted by, COMAH establishments in accordance with Guidance on Technical Land-use Planning Advice: for planning authorities and operators of COMAH establishments (2021).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SI45 Support for Digital Connectivity	To support and facilitate the sustainable development of high-quality digital connectivity infrastructure throughout the city in order to provide for enhanced and balanced digital connectivity that future-proofs Dublin city and protects its economic competitiveness (for further guidance see Section 15.19.5).	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, LS, CH, LV)	Yes	
SI46 Open Access / Operator Neutral Host Connectivity	To require all new developments to provide open access connectivity arrangements directly to the individual premises to enable service provider competition and consumer choice.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SI47 Future-Proofing for Digital Connectivity Requirements	To require the consideration and provision of telecoms / digital connectivity infrastructure as part of the design of all Council capital projects and public projects, including public realm improvements (where appropriate), to ensure the future-proofing of capital investment in digital connectivity infrastructure in line with the EU Broadband Cost Reduction Directive Regulation (2020).	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SI48 Sharing and Co-Location of Digital Connectivity Infrastructure	To support the appropriate use of existing assets such as lighting, traffic poles and street furniture for the deployment of telecoms equipment and to encourage the sharing and co-location of digital connectivity infrastructure (including small cells, access points, communications masts and antennae) in order to avoid spatially uncoordinated and duplicitous provision that makes inefficient use of city space and negatively impacts on visual amenity and built heritage.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SIO25 Ducting / Dig Once	To support the Council's Telecom's Unit in the development and implementation of a Dig Once Code of Practice in order to provide for greater coordination in the delivery of telecoms/ digital connectivity infrastructure and use of underground ducting asset space.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SIO26 Digital Connectivity Infrastructure Provision on Council Capital Projects/ Public Projects	To incorporate telecommunications and wireless requirements into all Council capital projects in order to future-proof provision of digital connectivity infrastructure.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
SIO27 National Broadband Plan	To support and facilitate the delivery of the National Broadband Plan and international fibre communications links, including full interconnection between the fibre networks in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, LS, CH, LV)	Yes	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk				
SI49 Support for Energy Utilities	To support the development of enhanced electricity gas supplies, and associated transmission and distribution networks, to serve the existing and future needs of the city, and to facilitate new transmission infrastructure projects and technologies including those to facilitate linkages of renewable energy proposals to the electricity and gas transmission grid that might be brought forward in the lifetime of this Plan. In this respect, the City Council will have regard to the 'Guiding Principles' for facilitating the provision of energy networks set out by the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly <i>Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (2019-2031)</i> .	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	
SI50 Undergrounding of Energy Utility Infrastructure	To require that the location of local energy services such as electricity, telephone and television cables be underground wherever possible, and to promote the undergrounding of existing overhead cable and associated equipment, where appropriate, in the interests of visual amenity and facilitating compact urban development.	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, LS, CH, LV)	Yes	
SI51 Renewable Energy Use and Generation	To promote renewable energy generation, use and storage at appropriate locations within the built and natural environment to meet national objectives towards achieving a low carbon economy by 2050.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, B, LS, CH, LV)	Yes	
SI52 Poolbeg Peninsula Strategic Sustainable Infrastructure Hub	To support the development of the Poolbeg peninsula as a Sustainable Energy and Infrastructure Hub for Dublin with a strategic role in accommodating the city's critical hard infrastructure and to recognise the significant role that it plays in facilitating Dublin's transition to a low carbon and climate resilient city.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, B, W, CH, LV)	Yes	
SIO28 Eirgrid Development Strategy	To support EirGrid's Grid Development Strategy - Your Grid, Your Tomorrow (2017), Implementation Plan 2017 – 2022 and Transmission Development Plan (TDP) 2016 and any subsequent plans prepared during the lifetime of this Plan, in order to provide for the safe, secure and reliable supply of electricity.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, B, W, CH, LV)	Yes	
SIO29 Smart Grid	To support the roll-out of the Smart Grids and Smart Cities Action Plan (2013) in order to enable new connections, grid balancing, energy management and micro grid development.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
SIO30 Facilitating Offshore Renewable Energy	To support the sustainable development of Ireland's offshore renewable energy resources in accordance with the National Marine Planning Framework (2021) and Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan (2019) and its successor, including any associated domestic and international grid connection enhancements.	Negative Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 10 - Green Infrastructure and Recreation				
GI1 Green Infrastructure Assets	To identify and protect the integrity of the city's GI assets, as appropriate, and to enhance and expand the connectivity, multi-functionality, and accessibility of the city's green infrastructure network, while addressing gaps in the network.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI2 Connectivity	To develop an interconnected green infrastructure network of strategic natural and semi-natural areas with other environmental features including green spaces, rivers, canals, the coastal and marine area and other physical features including streets and civic spaces that supports ecological, wildlife, and social connectivity.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI3 Multi-functionality	To ensure delivery of multifunctional green and civic spaces that meet community needs, support biodiversity, promote active and passive recreation, flood and surface water management and local habitat improvements. The multi-functionality of spaces will be balanced against the need to protect and enhance local habitat and the recreational and functional requirements of parks.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI4 Accessibility	To ensure universal design for access for all to the green infrastructure network. Priority of access is to be given to pedestrians over all other users. In line with the Parks Strategy, access to facilities and to public parks and open spaces will be provided equally to all citizens and inequalities of access shall be identified and addressed.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GI5 Greening of Public Realm / Streets	To integrate urban greening features including nature based solutions into the existing public realm where feasible and into the design of public realm projects for civic spaces and streets. The installation of living green walls will be encouraged to the fullest possible extent throughout the city of Dublin.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GI6 New Development / New Growth Areas	To integrate Green Infrastructure and an ecosystem services approach into new developments / new growth areas in the city that contributes to the city's green infrastructure network by its extension and enhancement and that provides for the environmental resilience of new development.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI7 Connecting Greening Elements in Site Design	To avoid the fragmentation of green spaces in site design and to link green spaces /greening elements to existing adjacent green infrastructure / the public realm where feasible and to provide for ecological functions.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI8 Metropolitan Greenways	To support the development of Metropolitan Greenways connecting Dublin Bay to regional and national greenway projects, subject to careful routing and design to ensure ecological functions are maintained and existing biodiversity and heritage is protected and enhanced. The delivery of Metropolitan Greenways is identified in the National Planning Framework as one of the key enablers for the growth of Dublin City.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, B, W, CH, LV)	Yes	
GIO1 Green Roof Guidance Document (2021)	The use of green / blue roofs in developments will be in accordance with the requirements of the Dublin City Council Green Roof Guidance Document (2021), see Appendix 11.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GIO2 Preparation of a Green Infrastructure Strategy for Dublin City	To prepare a Green Infrastructure Strategy for Dublin City that will include a newly developed set of green micro areas.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GIO3 Current and Future Greening Strategies	To expand the preparation and implementation of urban greening strategies, with particular focus on key streets in the city area between the Royal and Grand Canals. To support the implementation of the: 'Liberties Greening Strategy' (2015), the 'North East Inner City Greening Strategy' (2018) and the 'Stoneybatter Green Strategy' (2021) and to implement the greening strategies in the Council's Public Realm Strategies programme.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 10 - Green Infrastructure and Recreation				
GIO4 Engage with Community	To engage with and involve corporate volunteers, landowners and relevant agencies to support their communities in the development and delivery of green infrastructure programmes.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GIO5 Design Guide for Public Open Space	To implement the forthcoming Dublin City Council Parks, Public Open Space Design Guide.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO6 Metropolitan and Local Greenways	To support the development of the following metropolitan greenways and local cycleways / walkways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Royal Canal and the Grand Canal (including the inner Grand/Royal canal loop linking the two canals via the Phoenix Park) Rivers Liffey (Dublin Galway Euro route) Dodder (to Dublin Mountains) Coastal Corridor Local routes and extension of existing routes including along the Rivers Tolka, Santry, Poddle, Camac and Mayne. 	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, B, W, CH, LV)	Yes	
GI9 European Union Natura 2000 Sites	To conserve, manage, protect and restore the favourable conservation condition of all qualifying interest/special conservation interests of all European sites designated, or proposed to be designated, under the EU Birds and Habitats Directives, as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) (European / Natura 2000 sites).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI10 Flora and Fauna Protected under National & European Legislation Located Outside Designated Areas	To adequately protect flora and fauna (under the EU Habitats and Birds Directives, the Wildlife Acts 1976–2021, the Fisheries Acts 1959-2006 and the Flora (Protection) Order 2015 S.I No. 356 of 2015), wherever they occur within Dublin City, or have been identified as supporting the favourable conservation condition of any European sites.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI11 Proposed Natural Heritage Areas	To ensure the protection, conservation and enhancement of all areas of ecological importance for protected species, and especially those listed in the EU Birds and Habitats Directives, including those identified as supporting the favourable conservation condition of any European sites, in accordance with development standards set out in this plan.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI12 National and International Sites for Nature Conservation	To protect sites for nature conservation as designated under the Ramsar Treaty for wetland sites, National Special Amenity Areas, National Nature Reserves, Important Bird Areas and Flora Protection Order Sites.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI13 Areas of Ecological Importance for Protected Species	To have regard to the conservation and enhancement of all areas of ecological importance for protected species, especially those listed in the EU Birds and Habitats Directives, in accordance with development standards set out in this plan.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI14 Ecological / Wildlife Corridors	To maintain and strengthen the integrity of the city's ecological corridors and stepping stones which enable species to move through the city, by increasing their connectivity [to be shown in the proposed Green Infrastructure Strategy] under Article 10 of the EU Habitats Directive. Development proposals should not compromise their ecological functions and should realise opportunities to contribute to enhancing the nature conservation value of them by landscaping that provides complementary habitats. An Ecological Impact Assessment will be required for any proposed development likely to have a significant impact on habitats and species of interest on or adjacent an ecological corridor.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 10 - Green Infrastructure and Recreation				
GI15 Inland and Sea Fisheries	To protect inland and sea fisheries and take full account of Inland Fisheries Ireland Guidelines 'Planning for Watercourses in the Urban Environment' 2020, when undertaking, approving or authorising development or works which may impact on rivers streams, watercourses, estuaries, shorelines and their associated habitats. To protect sea angling sites designated by Inland Fisheries Ireland at the North and South Bull Walls and at Dollymount and Sandymount Strands.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI16 Habitat Creation and New Development	That new development should provide opportunities to incorporate biodiversity improvements through urban greening and the use of nature based infrastructural solutions that are of particular relevance and benefit in an urban context. Opportunities should be taken as part of new development to provide a net gain in biodiversity.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI17 Habitat Restoration	To increase the percentage of restored and naturalised areas on public land in the city. That new development on private and public lands should provide opportunities for restoration of degraded habitats and soils where feasible and provide for their long-term maintenance to limit degradation.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GI18 Minimise Impact – Light and Noise	To minimise the environmental impact of external lighting and noise at sensitive locations to achieve a sustainable balance between the needs of an area, the safety of walking and cycling routes and the protection of sensitive species such as bats (see also Section 9.5.9 Public & External Lighting).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO7 National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021	To support the management targets for nature conservation sites set out in the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017 (and as updated) and the objectives for local authorities to address threats to biodiversity.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO8 Draft Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan 2021 - 2025	To support the implementation of the 'Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan 2021–2025' (or as updated), which sets out key themes and objectives for biodiversity conservation and restoration and measurable targets and actions, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO9 Invasive Alien Species	To support measures to prevent the introduction of and to control the spread of invasive alien species in Dublin City in accordance with the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 and EU Regulations 1143/2014 and to implement the targets and actions set out in the Dublin City Invasive Alien Species Action Plan 2016 – 2020 (or as updated).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO10 All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021 - 2025	To have regard to the all-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021 – 2025 in the management of the Council's open spaces, parks and roadside verges and to encourage the pollination of vacant, derelict and temporary sites through measures to protect and increase the populations of native wild bees and other pollinators.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO11 North Bull Island Management Plan and Nature Reserve Action Plan 2020 - 2025	To manage and maintain the North Bull Island National Nature Reserve (Recognition Order, 1988) in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service and to support the implementation of the North Bull Island Management Plan and Nature Reserve Action Plan 2020-2025 for the implementation of Management Objectives.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO12 Geological Sites	To recognise the importance of County Geological Sites and to protect the character and integrity of these sites / features.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO13 Dublin City Habitat Map and Database	To protect and improve connectivity of habitats and to prevent habitat loss and fragmentation through urban land use change, development and management through the use of the Dublin City Habitat Map and Database (2020, and updates) to inform planning decisions.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 10 - Green Infrastructure and Recreation				
GIO14 Further Nature Reserves	To liaise and work with and support the National Parks and Wildlife Service in the designation of additional nature reserves and Natural Heritage Areas, and in the identification of opportunities for nature development.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI19 Protect and Enhance Landscapes	To continue to protect and enhance the city's landscape and seascape, the amenities of places and features of natural beauty and interest, through sustainable planning and design for both the existing community and for future generations in accordance with the National Landscape Strategy 2015 – 2025 and any updated strategy.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI20 Views and Prospects	To protect and enhance views and prospects which contribute to the appreciation of landscape and natural heritage.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI21 Promote City Landscape	To promote the city landscapes, including rivers, canals, Dublin Mountains and Dublin Bay, as a major resource for the city and forming core areas of the green infrastructure network.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI22 Managed Access	To provide managed access to landscape and amenity areas of Dublin city while ensuring their long-term protection and maintenance to limit degradation.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI23 European Landscape Convention	To continue to protect and enhance landscape, including existing green spaces through sustainable planning and design for both the existing community and for future generations in accordance with the principles of the European Landscape Convention.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO15 National Landscape Strategy 2015-2025	To support and implement the objectives of the National Landscape Strategy 2015 – 2025 (and updates).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO16 Landscape Character Assessment	To prepare a Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) for Dublin City, during the lifetime of the plan in accordance with the National Landscape Strategy 2015 – 2025 and the forthcoming National Landscape Character Map and national guidance on local landscape character assessments.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO17 Views and Prospects Study	To undertake a 'Views and Prospects' study to identify and protect the key views and prospects of the city. Additional views and prospects may be identified through the development management process and local area plans.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO18 Landscape Conservation Areas Review	To investigate the suitability of designating St. Anne's Park as a Landscape Conservation Area and to prepare a review to examine the potential for other Landscape Conservation Areas as appropriate during the timeframe of the Development Plan.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO19 North Bull Island National Special Amenity Area (SAA)	To update the 2009 SAAO Management Plan for the North Bull Island National Special Amenity Area. To support the protection of the North Bull Island SAA.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 10 - Green Infrastructure and Recreation				
GIO20 Liffey Valley & Phoenix Park Proposed SAA	To seek the designation of: 1) Liffey Valley (from Islandbridge to the western city boundary), and, 2) Phoenix Park as National Special Amenity Areas and to prepare Special Amenity Area Orders (SAAO) for same, in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO21 Protection and Connectivity of the Dublin Mountains with Dublin City	To support, as part of the Dublin Mountain Partnership, the proper planning and development measures for the protection and connectivity of the Dublin Mountains with Dublin City. To prepare and implement strategies for the conservation and enhancement of the landscape, visual amenity and biodiversity of the Dublin Mountains, in partnership with South Dublin County Council and Dun-Laoghaire Rathdown County Council.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI24 Multi-Functionality	To incorporate new open space into the green infrastructure network for the city, and providing a multi-functional role including, outdoor recreation, biodiversity, urban drainage, flood management, connection and carbon absorption without compromising public access to and the amenity function of open space (see Section 15.6 Green Infrastructure and Landscaping).	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GI25 Open Space Provision (sq. m.) per 1,000 Persons Benchmark	To ensure equality of access for all citizens to the public parks and open spaces in Dublin City and to promote more open space with increased accessibility and passive surveillance where feasible. In this regard, a city wide range of 2.5ha to 3.6ha of parks per 1,000 population benchmark for green/recreational space as set out in the 2019 Parks Strategy (or as updated) shall be a policy goal and quality standard.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GI26 Securing Acquisition of Additional Public Open Space	To give priority to acquiring new public open space on-site, particularly in areas identified in the Council's Parks Strategy 2019 as deficient in public open space. Where it is not feasible or realistic on site, the Council will require a financial contribution in lieu of provision to provide appropriate open space in the vicinity. The methodology for calculating this contribution shall be included in the City's Development Contribution Scheme.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GI27 Addressing Public Open Space Deficits in Identified Areas	To seek the provision of additional public open spaces in areas of deficiency as identified in the Dublin City Council Parks Strategy 2019 (and any future update) and the forthcoming public open space audit for the city centre by: a) securing open space as part of new development / the redevelopment of brownfield lands; b) the upgrading of existing Flagship Parks and Community Grade 1 & 2 Parks to better serve their communities; c) investigating opportunities for access to local schools and colleges; and, d) the development of pocket parks/parklets.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GI28 New Residential Development	To ensure that in new residential developments, public open space is provided which is sufficient in amenity, quantity and distribution to meet the requirements of the projected population, including play facilities for children and that it is accessible by safe secure walking and cycling routes.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GIO22 Dublin City Parks Strategy	To support the implementation of the Dublin City Parks Strategy 2019 or as updated.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO23 Manage / Protect / Enhance Parks	To continue to manage and protect and/or enhance the city's parks and public open spaces to meet the social, recreational, conservation and ecological needs of the city and to consider the development of appropriate complementary facilities which do not detract from the amenities of spaces.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 10 - Green Infrastructure and Recreation				
GIO24 Public Open Space Audit	To support the preparation of a Public Open Space Audit for the City Centre Area.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO25 Facilities and Amenities in Parks/Public Open Spaces	To continue to provide and improve visitor facilities in parks and public open spaces, including cafés, kiosks, toilets, shower and changing-room facilities, water fountains and dog parks etc. and to ensure that such features are accessibly designed. To encourage and facilitate the introduction of amenities in parks such as table tennis, outdoor gyms, adult exercise equipment, bowling greens, etc.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, B, W, CH, LV)	Yes	
GIO26 Management Plans	To implement Conservation Management Plans for St. Anne's Park, Merrion Square, Mountjoy Square, Palmerston Park, Herbert Park, Sandymount Green and Wolfe Tone Park and to prepare management plans for all designated flagship parks and Community Grade 1 and 2 Parks under the management of the City Council. It is an objective of the Council to support management plans for the St. Stephen's Green and the Irish National War Memorial Gardens.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO27 Phoenix Park Management Plan	To support the implementation of the Phoenix Park Management Plan by the Office of Public Works so as to protect and conserve the historic landscape of the Phoenix Park and its archaeological, architectural and natural heritage whilst facilitating visitor access, education and interpretation, facilitating the sustainable use of the park's resources for recreation and other appropriate activities, encouraging research and maintaining its sense of peace and tranquillity.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO28 Urban Farming and Food Production	(i) To support the provision of urban farming and food production initiatives, where feasible, and in particular, on the roofs of buildings, as temporary uses on vacant, under-utilised or derelict sites in the city and in peripheral urban areas / near M50, and in residential developments; (ii) to seek to increase the provision of allotments in the city in the order of 100%; (iii) To carry out a survey of underutilised open spaces for community gardens with a view to identifying areas in the city appropriate and suitable for community gardens.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GIO29 Scully's Field	To promote and actively pursue the development of a park in the area known as Scully's Field between Clonskeagh and Miltown while ensuring the conservation of existing biodiversity.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO30 Fitzwilliam Square and Four Masters Park	To seek the opening of Fitzwilliam Square and Four Masters Park at Berkeley Road/Eccles Street to the public.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
G129 Protect Character of River Corridors	To protect, maintain, and enhance the watercourses and their river corridors in the city and to ensure that development does not cover or encroach upon rivers and their banks. To maintain natural river banks and restore them as part of any new development. The creation and/or enhancement of river corridors will be required and river restoration opportunities where possible will be supported to help improve water quality, and ecology, provide natural flood relief as well as providing amenity and leisure benefits.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
G130 Maintain and Improve Connectivity of Freshwater and Estuarine Habitats/ EU Birds and Habitats Directives	To conserve, maintain and restore freshwater and estuarine habitats which are of importance for species listed in the annexes of the EU Birds and Habitats Directives and to ensure connectivity of these in accordance with Article 10 of the EU Habitats Directive.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 10 - Green Infrastructure and Recreation				
GI31 Protect and Improve Ecological Status of Rivers under the EU Water Framework Directive	To support the improvement of the ecological status of all rivers / waterbodies within the administrative area of Dublin City Council and those rivers identified in accordance with the River Basin Management Plan 2018 – 2021 and the next management plan to be produced under the 3rd river basin planning cycle (2022-2027), as required under the EU Water Framework Directive (see Chapter 9, Section 9.5.2 Urban Watercourses and Water Quality).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI32 Linear Parks and Recreational Use of Waterways Aspects	To develop linear parks, sustainable riverine access, walkways, cycleways and water focused recreational, sporting and tourism amenities which enhance appreciation of rivers in a manner that ensures that any adverse environmental effects are avoided and ecological enhancements, where appropriate, are employed to ensure a net biodiversity gain. Where lands along the waterways are in private ownership, it shall be policy in any development proposal to secure public access along the waterway.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, B, W, CH, LV)	Yes	
GI33 River Liffey	To recognise the unique character, importance and potential of the River Liffey to the city and to protect and enhance its civic, ecological, amenity, historical and cultural connections. To promote the sustainable development of this key resource for amenity and recreational uses in and along the river and its development as a green corridor in the city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI34 New Development and Public Open Space along River Corridors	To ensure that new development, in terms of siting and design, responds to the character, importance and setting of the city's rivers where the context allows, and to require public open space which is to be provided as part of new development, to supplement riparian buffer zones so as to support the attainment of 'good ecological status' or higher for water bodies, flood management, the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem functions.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO31 North City Walk	To investigate the potential of the North City Walk from the Royal Canal linking all the main natural and built heritage sites between the Royal Canal and the Tolka River.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, B, W, CH, LV)	Yes	
GIO32 Liffey Vale House Education Centre	To develop an accessible biodiversity and education centre at Liffey Vale House for education and interpretation of the River Liffey, its ecosystem, history and culture.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO33 Working with Agencies	To liaise and work with relevant State agencies responsible for the city's waterways, including Waterways Ireland, Inland Fisheries Ireland, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Office of Public Works (OPW), The Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO), and Dublin Port Company.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO34 Water Animation Strategy Docklands	To support the implementation of the North Lotts and Grand Canal Dock SDZ Docklands Water Animation Strategy 2018 to promote the Dublin Docklands as a significant water focussed amenity and the sustainable use of the waterways as an integral part of the vitality and experience of Dublin Docklands, that enhances the area as a world class destination for living, doing business, tourism, leisure and cultural activities.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GI35 General Protection of Coastal Zone	To protect and enhance the coast shoreline and marine environment as open space and valuable natural habitats.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI36 Recreational and Tourism Amenities	To develop sustainable estuarine and coastal recreational and tourism amenities which enhance appreciation of coastal natural assets in a manner that ensures that any adverse environmental effects are avoided, remediated or mitigated.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	Yes	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 10 - Green Infrastructure and Recreation				
GI37 Protection and Management of Dublin Bay	To ensure a co-ordinated approach to the protection of management of Dublin Bay with other State and Semi-State agencies through the Dublin Bay UNESCO Biosphere Partnership in line with its management plan for the sustainable development of Dublin Bay and the Lima Action Plan of the UNESCO MAB World Network of Biosphere Reserves.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI38 Marine Pollution and MSF Directive	To support initiatives to reduce marine pollution in Dublin Bay in partnership with other organisations and to raise awareness by Bay users and the general public and also to have regard to the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EU).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI39 Interpretation, Awareness and Public Engagement	To raise awareness of the international importance for nature conservation of Dublin Bay by improving information and interpretation of its biodiversity for recreational users and visitors. To increase public engagement and actions to conserve nature in line with the objectives of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO35 Providing Coastal Recreational Amenities	To promote and support the sustainable use, including access, of the city's beaches and the coast for amenity and recreational uses while protecting habitats from unsustainable recreational pressures.	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, W)	Yes	
GIO36 Bathing Beaches and Blue Flag Status	To maintain beaches for bathing at Dollymount, Sandymount, Merrion and Poolbeg/Shelly Banks to a high standard and to protect and improve water quality and bathing facilities in order to bring them to 'Blue Flag' standard.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO37 Dublin Bay Discovery Centre	To develop an accessible Discovery Centre for Dublin Bay at North Bull Island for education, interpretation, visitor management and research to support the nature conservation objectives of the North Bull Island Nature Reserve, the vision of the Dublin Bay UNESCO Biosphere and the criteria for biosphere reserves of the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme.	Uncertain Environment Effects (B, W, LV, MA)	Yes	
GIO38 Dublin Bay UNESCO Biosphere Conservation and Research Strategy	To support the Biosphere as an international centre of excellence for education, training and research and the implementation of the Dublin Bay UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Conservation and Research Strategy, 2016 – 2020 (and updates).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO39 National Marine Planning Framework	To comply with the policies and objectives of the National Marine Planning Framework as it relates to the city's coastal zone (in the area between the mean high water mark and the near shore) with respect to the planning and resource management of the marine area.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI40 Tree Planting - General	To require appropriate and long-term tree and native hedgerow planting in the planning of new development, urban spaces, streets, roads and infrastructure projects. New development should seek to provide for additional tree planting using a diversity of species including native species as appropriate to the location of the development in the interests of natural heritage, amenity, environmental quality and climate resilience.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GI41 Protect Existing Trees as Part of New Development	To protect existing trees as part of new development, particularly those that are of visual, biodiversity or amenity quality and significance. There will be a presumption in favour of retaining and safeguarding trees that make a valuable contribution to the environment.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI42 Tree Management	To adopt a pro-active and systematic good practice approach to tree management with the aim of promoting good tree health, condition, diversity, public amenity and a balanced age-profile and as per Dublin City Tree Strategy 2016.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 10 - Green Infrastructure and Recreation				
GI43 Hedgerows	To protect and enhance the City's hedgerow network, in particular, hedgerows that form townland, parish and barony boundaries. It is Council policy to increase hedgerow coverage and promote the planting of hedgerows in new developments using native species.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI44 Resilient Urban Forest	To deliver and manage a resilient urban forest for the City to help increase resilience to the effects of climate change to consist of native and exotic trees and to target and prioritise locations in the city with a low canopy cover for an increased level of tree cover.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GIO40 Forthcoming Dublin City Tree Strategy 2016	To support the implementation of the Dublin City Tree Strategy 2016 and any future revision thereof, which sets a vision for the long-term planting, protection and maintenance of trees, hedgerows and woodlands within Dublin City.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO41 Trees as Wildlife Corridor or 'Stepping Stones'	To protect trees, hedgerows or groups of trees which function as wildlife corridors or 'stepping stones' in accordance with Article 10 of the EU Habitats Directive.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO42 Urban Tree Canopy Plan	To support the preparation of an Urban Tree Canopy Plan for the City Centre Area. To increase the tree canopy cover to a minimum of 10% in all areas with an emphasis in increasing the tree canopy cover in areas where there is a deficit, and a minimum of 5% each year in the city centre.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI45 National Physical Activity Plan 2016	To improve the health and well-being of communities by increasing access to participation in sports, recreation and healthy activity in line with the National Physical Activity Plan 2016, the Healthy Ireland Framework 2019 – 2025 and the Sport Ireland Participation Plan 2021 – 2024.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI46 To Improve and Upgrade/ Provide Access to Sports / Recreational Facilities	To improve and upgrade existing sports/recreational facilities in the city and to ensure the availability of and equal access to a range of recreational facilities to the general population of all ages and groups (including women/girls and minority sports) at locations throughout the city, including housing complexes. In areas where a deficiency exists, Dublin City Council will work with the providers of such facilities, including schools, institutions and private operators, to ensure access to the local population.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GI47 Private Recreational Lands	To support the development of private recreational lands for recreational purposes.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, B, LV)	Yes	
GI48 Multiple Use of Sports and Recreational Facilities	To maximise the multiple use of sports and recreation facilities by encouraging the co-location of services between sports providers, schools, colleges and other community facilities.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, B, LV)	Yes	
GI49 Protection of Existing and Established Sport and Recreational Facilities	To protect existing and established sport and recreation facilities, including pitches, unless there is clear evidence that there is no long term need for the facility; unless the loss would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity or quality in an accessible and suitable location; or the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, or required to meet other open space deficiencies, the benefits of which would clearly outweigh the loss of the former or current use.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 10 - Green Infrastructure and Recreation				
GI50 Fenced Playing Pitches on Existing Open Space	To protect public open space and to generally restrict the development of fenced playing pitches on existing open space areas where it would exclude the use of the open space for other amenity related purposes when matches are not in progress.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI51 Children's Playing Facilities - General	To seek the provision of children's playing facilities that encompasses local and public places and spaces for play that are accessible and inclusive for children and young people of all ages, abilities and socio-economic backgrounds.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI52 Children's Playing Facilities in New Residential Developments	To seek the provision of children's playing facilities in new residential developments. To provide playgrounds to an appropriate standard of amenity, safety, and accessibility and to create safe and accessible places for socialising and informal play.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GI53 Public Rights of Way	To protect public rights of way as shown on Figure 10-5.	Neutral / Positive Environment Effects	No	
GIO43 National Public Health Policy	To support the objectives of public health policy including Healthy Ireland Framework 2019 - 2025 and the National Physical Activity Plan 2016.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GIO44 Active Cities Project	To support the work of the Dublin City Sports & Wellbeing Partnership and the Dublin Active Cities Project in creating, maintaining and increasing the numbers of people, of all ages, gender and ability, participating in sport and physical activity in the city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO45 Playing Fields Study	To carry out a playing fields study to better measure the use and management (quality) of playing pitches and to examine the level of pitch provision required as a result of planned population growth, increased female participation in sport and the increase in demand for sports playing pitches.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GIO46 Liaising with Sporting Organisations	To liaise and work with sporting organisations to ensure where possible, that the City Council responds to the needs of sports clubs and communities in the provision of quality facilities.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GIO47 Multi Sports Hub in Conjunction with Fingal County Council	To investigate the potential for the provision of a multi-sports hub in the outer suburbs to service the growing demand for pitch facilities in conjunction with Fingal County Council.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, B, LV, MA)	Yes	
GIO48 Dublin City Play Strategy 'Pollinating Play' 2020	To support the implementation of the Draft Dublin City Play Strategy 'Pollinating Play' 2020 – 2025 which aims to provide inclusive and accessible play opportunities for children and young people and the integration of play provision and child friendly neighbourhoods.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
GIO49 Play Friendly Communities	To support and encourage the development of play-friendly communities that provide time and space and permission for 'everyday street play', opportunities and experiences and play in urban public space.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 10 - Green Infrastructure and Recreation				
GIO50 STRIDE: 2017 – 2020	To support the preparation and implementation of a new Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Partnership Strategy.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GIO51 Dalymount Park	To redevelop Dalymount Park soccer stadium providing enhanced sporting, recreational and community amenities and as part of this development to celebrate the rich sporting history of this site.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, MA)	Yes	
GIO52 Informal recreational Space – Undeveloped Land	To examine the possibility of using suitable undeveloped land temporarily as informal recreational space.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
GIO53 Water Sports and Leisure Activities	To support the development of a public lido and other facilities to provide water sports and leisure activities in the City Centre.	Uncertain Environment Effects (PHH, CH)	Yes	
GIO54 Olympic Standard Velodrome	To support the development of an Olympic standard velodrome in the city region.	Uncertain Environment Effects (All SEOs)	No	
GIO55 Marrowbone Lane Depot	To develop the council owned depot at Marrowbone Lane as a Green Infrastructure and Recreational Area.	Neutral / Positive Environment Effects	No	
GIO56 Public Rights of Way	To identify further significant public rights of way during the lifetime of the development plan and to update the 'Public Rights of Way' map.	Neutral / Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 11 - Built Heritage and Archaeology				
BHA1 Record of Protected Structures	<p>(a) To include those structures that are considered to be of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, technical or social interest in the Record of Protected Structures, and to remove those structures where protection is no longer warranted.</p> <p>(b) To maintain and review the RPS whilst having regard to recommendations for additions to the RPS made by the Minister under Section 53 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).</p>	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA2 Development of Protected Structures	<p>That development will conserve and enhance Protected Structures and their curtilage and will:</p> <p>(a) Ensure that any development proposals to Protected Structures, their curtilage and setting shall have regard to the 'Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities' 2011 published by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p> <p>(b) Protect Structures included on the RPS from any works that would negatively impact their special character and appearance.</p> <p>(c) Ensure that works are carried out under supervision of a suitably qualified person with expertise in architectural conservation.</p> <p>(d) Ensure that any development, modification, alteration, or extension affecting a Protected Structure and/or its setting is sensitively sited and designed, and is appropriate in terms of the proposed scale, mass, height, density, layout and materials.</p> <p>(e) Ensure that the form and structural integrity of the Protected Structure is retained in any redevelopment and ensure that new development does not adversely impact the curtilage or the special character of the Protected Structure.</p> <p>(f) Respect the historic fabric and the special interest of the interior, including its plan form, hierarchy of spaces, structure and architectural detail, fixtures and fittings and materials.</p> <p>(g) Ensure that new and adapted uses are compatible with the architectural character and special interest(s) of the Protected Structure.</p> <p>(h) Protect and retain important elements of built heritage including historic gardens, stone walls, entrance gates and piers and any other associated curtilage features.</p> <p>(i) Ensure historic landscapes, gardens and trees (in good condition) associated with Protected Structures are protected from inappropriate development.</p> <p>(j) Have regard to ecological considerations for example, protection of species such as bats.</p>	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA3 Loss of Protected Structures	That the City Council will resist the total or substantial loss of Protected Structures in all but exceptional circumstances.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA4 Ministerial Recommendations	To have regard to the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) rating of a structure and any associated Ministerial Recommendation in the assessment of planning applications.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA5 Demolition of Regional Rated Building on NIAH	That there is a presumption against the demolition or substantial loss of any building or other structure assigned a 'Regional' rating or higher by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH), unless it is clearly justified in a written conservation assessment that the building has no special interest and is not suitable for addition to the City Council's Record of Protected Structures (RPS); having regard to the provisions of Section 51, Part IV of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011).	Positive Environment Effects	No	
BHA6 Buildings on Historic Maps	That there will be a presumption against the demolition or substantial loss of any building or other structure which appears on historic maps up to and including the Ordnance Survey of Dublin City, 1847. A conservation report shall be submitted with the application and there will be a presumption against the demolition or substantial loss of the building or structure, unless demonstrated in the submitted conservation report this it has little or no special interest or merit having regard to the provisions of the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011).	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 11 - Built Heritage and Archaeology				
BHA01 Buildings-at-Risk Register	To continue to maintain and proactively manage the Buildings-at-Risk Register of Protected Structures that are considered to be endangered or have the potential to become endangered through neglect, decay, damage and harm.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA7 Architectural Conservation Areas	<p>(a) To protect the special interest and character of all areas which have been designated as an Architectural Conservation Area (ACA). Development within or affecting an ACA must contribute positively to its character and distinctiveness, and take opportunities to protect and enhance the character and appearance of the area and its setting wherever possible. Development shall not harm buildings, spaces, original street patterns, archaeological sites, historic boundaries or features, which contribute positively to the ACA. Please refer to Appendix 6 for a full list of ACAs in Dublin City.</p> <p>(b) Ensure that all development proposals within an ACA contribute positively to the character and distinctiveness of the area and have full regard to the guidance set out in the Character Appraisals and Framework for each ACA.</p> <p>(c) Ensure that any new development or alteration of a building within an ACA or immediately adjoining an ACA is complementary and/or sympathetic to their context, sensitively designed and appropriate in terms of scale, height, mass, density, building lines and materials and that it protects and enhances the ACA. Contemporary design which is in harmony with the area will be encouraged.</p> <p>(d) Seek the retention of all features that contribute to the character of an ACA including boundary walls, railings, soft landscaping, traditional paving and street furniture.</p> <p>(e) Promote sensitive hard and soft landscaping works that contribute to the character and quality of the ACA.</p> <p>(f) Promote best conservation practice and encourage the use of appropriately qualified professional advisors, tradesmen and craftsmen, with recognised conservation expertise, for works to buildings of historic significance within Architectural Conservation Areas.</p> <p>All trees which contribute to the character and appearance of an Architectural Conservation Area, in the public realm, will be safeguarded, except where the tree is a threat to public safety, prevents universal access or requires removal to protect other specimens from disease.</p>	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA8 Demolition in an ACA	There is a presumption against the demolition or substantial loss of a structure that positively contributes to the character of the ACA except in exceptional circumstances where such loss would also contribute to a significant public benefit.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
BHA02 Designation of ACAs	To identify and designate further Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs), within the identified priority areas in accordance with the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines, (2011).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA03 Areas of Special Planning Control	To prepare schemes for Areas of Special Planning Control, where deemed desirable and appropriate, having regard to the statutory needs of the City.	Uncertain Environment Effects	Yes	
BHA04 Bewley's Oriental Café	Bewley's Oriental Café at No. 78/79 Grafton Street, is deemed to be a use that contributes significantly to the special and unique character of Grafton Street and, as such, is considered an essential part of the street. It is an objective, in accordance with the Scheme of Special Planning Control for Grafton Street and Environs, to protect the use of the building as a café, which is intrinsic to the special character of the building at basement, ground and first floor. Appropriate ancillary uses may be considered on the upper floors.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 11 - Built Heritage and Archaeology				
BHA9 Conservation Areas	<p>To protect the special interest and character of all Dublin’s Conservation Areas – identified under Z8, Z2 zoning objectives and denoted by red line conservation hatching on the zoning maps. Development within or affecting a Conservation Area must contribute positively to its character and distinctiveness and take opportunities to protect and enhance the character and appearance of the area and its setting, wherever possible.</p> <p>Enhancement opportunities may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Replacement or improvement of any building, feature or element which detracts from the character of the area or its setting. 2. Re-instatement of missing architectural detail or important features. 3. Improvement of open spaces and the wider public realm and reinstatement of historic routes and characteristic plot patterns. 4. Contemporary architecture of exceptional design quality, which is in harmony with the Conservation Area. 5. The repair and retention of shop and pub fronts of architectural interest. 6. Retention of buildings and features that contribute to the overall character and integrity of the Conservation Area. <p>Changes of use will be acceptable where in compliance with the zoning objectives and where they make a positive contribution to the character, function and appearance of the Conservation Areas and its setting. The Council will consider the contribution of existing uses to the special interest of an area when assessing change of use applications and will promote compatible uses which ensure future long-term viability.</p>	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA10 Demolition in a Conservation Area	There is a presumption against the demolition or substantial loss of a structure that positively contributes to the character of a Conservation Area, except in exceptional circumstances where such loss would also contribute to a significant public benefit.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
BHA11 Rehabilitation and Reuse of Existing Older Buildings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) To retain, where appropriate, and encourage the rehabilitation and suitable adaptive reuse of existing older buildings/structures/features, which make a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the area and streetscape in preference to their demolition and redevelopment. (b) Encourage the retention and/or reinstatement of original fabric of our historic building stock such as windows, doors, roof coverings, shopfronts (including signage and associated features), pub fronts and other significant features. (c) Ensure that appropriate materials are used to carry out any repairs to the historic fabric. 	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA12 Industrial, Military and Maritime, Canal-side and Rural Heritage	To promote the awareness of Dublin’s industrial, military and maritime, canal-side (including lock-keepers’ dwellings), rail and rural (vernacular) heritage.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA13 Maritime Heritage and Maritime Villages	To support maritime heritage in built form, to foster initiatives that give expression to the maritime heritage of Dublin City, including trails, features and public realm design and to promote and develop the character and heritage of coastal and maritime villages.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA14 Mews	To promote the redevelopment and regeneration of mews lanes, including those in the north and south Georgian core, for sensitively designed, appropriately scaled, infill residential development, that restores historic fabric where possible and that removes inappropriate backland car parking areas.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 11 - Built Heritage and Archaeology				
BHA05 Mews	To prepare a best practice design guide regarding appropriate mews development in the City including for the north and south Georgian cores.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA15 Twentieth Century Buildings and Structures	(a) To encourage the appropriate development of exemplar twentieth century buildings and structures to ensure their character is not compromised. (b) To encourage the retention and reinstatement of internal and external features that contribute to the character of exemplar twentieth century buildings, such as roofscapes, boundary treatments, fenestration pattern, materials, and other features, fixtures and fittings (including furniture and art work) considered worthy of retention.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA06 Twentieth Century Buildings and Structures and the RPS	To identify and protect exemplar buildings of the twentieth century; to categorise, prioritise, and, where appropriate, add to the Record of Protected Structures (RPS); to produce guidelines and offer advice for protection and appropriate refurbishment of such structures.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA07 Arts and Crafts Housing on Griffith Avenue	To undertake a study of Arts and Crafts Housing on Griffith Avenue, its environs and Glasnevin Village, to examine appropriate conservation mechanisms for the protection of dwellings of particular interest and character.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA16 Industrial Heritage	To have regard to the City's industrial heritage and Dublin City Industrial Heritage Record (DCIHR) in the preparation of Local Area Plans and the assessment of planning applications. To review the DCHIR in accordance with Ministerial recommendations arising from the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) survey of Dublin City.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA17 Industrial Heritage of Waterways, Canals and Rivers	To support and promote a strategy for the protection and restoration of the industrial heritage of the City's waterways, canals and rivers, including retaining features such as walls, weirs and millraces.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA08 Industrial Heritage and the RPS	To identify and protect further sites of industrial heritage; to categorise, prioritise and where, appropriate, add to the RPS.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA18 Historic Ground Surfaces, Street Furniture and Public Realm	(a) To protect, conserve and retain in situ historic elements of significance in the public realm including milestones, jostle stones, city ward stones, bollards, coal hole covers, gratings, boot scrapers, cast iron basement lights, street skylights and prisms, water troughs, street furniture, post boxes, lampposts, railings and historic ground surfaces including stone kerbs, pavement flags and setts and to promote conservation best practice and high standards for design, materials and workmanship in public realm improvements within areas of historic character, having regard to the national Advice Series on 'Paving: The Conservation of Historic Ground Surfaces' (2015). (b) To maintain schedules of stone setts, historic kerbing and historic pavers/flags, and associated features in the public realm, to be protected, conserved or reintroduced (Appendix 6 and to update and review these schedules during the period of this development plan.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA19 Historic Street Furniture and the RPS	To maintain a schedule of features in the public realm identified for protection in Appendix 6 whilst also having regard to recommendations for additions to the RPS made by the Minister for such structures under Section 53 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA20 Ghost Heritage Signs	To seek the retention and maintenance of heritage signs and advertising through the city, where appropriate.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 11 - Built Heritage and Archaeology				
BHA21 Retrofitting Sustainability Measures	To have regard to the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government's publication on 'Energy Efficiency in Traditional Buildings' (2010) and the Irish Standard IS EN 16883:2017 'Conservation of Cultural Heritage- Guidelines for Improving the Energy Performance of Historic Buildings' (2017) and any future advisory documents in assessing proposed works on heritage buildings.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
BHA22 Upgrading Environmental Performance	To ensure a sustainable future for historic and other buildings subject to heritage protection, the City Council will encourage and support works to upgrade the environmental performance of the existing building stock that incorporates good standards of design and appearance. Where these works involve historic buildings subject to protection (this includes buildings referenced on the Record of Protected Structures and non-protected structures in an Architectural Conservation Area), the works shall not adversely affect the special interest of the structure and thus a sensitive approach will be required, taking into account: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of the structure, and • The extent of intervention, including impact on historic fabric, the technical requirements of a traditionally constructed building, visibility, siting and design. <p>The installation of renewable energy measures and equipment will be acceptable where sited and designed to minimise the visual impact and does not result in any significant loss of historic fabric or otherwise affect the significance of the structure.</p>	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA23 Climate Action	To co-operate with other agencies in the investigation of climate change on the fabric of historic buildings and to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce the vulnerability of heritage in line with the National Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage. (2020)	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA09 Community Monuments Fund	To support the implementation of the Community Monuments Fund in order to ensure the monitoring and adaptation of archaeological monuments and mitigate against damage caused by climate change.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA24 Reuse and Refurbishment of Historic Buildings	Dublin City Council will positively encourage and facilitate the careful refurbishment of the historic built environment for sustainable and economically viable uses and support the implementation of the National Policy on Architecture as it relates to historic buildings, streetscapes, towns and villages, by ensuring the delivery of high quality architecture and quality place-making and by demonstrating best practice in the care and maintenance of historic properties in public ownership.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA25 Loss of Upper Floor Access	There will be a presumption against the loss of upper floor access to buildings from street frontages, and the City Council will seek reinstatement of upper floor access points wherever possible from the street.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 11 - Built Heritage and Archaeology				
BHA26 Archaeological Heritage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To protect and preserve Sites and Zones of Archaeological interest which have been identified in the Record of Monuments and Places and the Historic Environment Viewer (www.archaeology.ie). 2) To protect archaeological material in situ by ensuring that only minimal impact on archaeological layers is allowed, by way of re-use of standing buildings, the construction of light buildings, low impact foundation design, or the omission of basements (except in exceptional circumstances) in the Zones of Archaeological Interest. 3) To seek the preservation in situ (or where this is not possible or appropriate, as a minimum, preservation by record) of all archaeological monuments included in the Record of Monuments and Places, and of previously unknown sites, features and objects of archaeological interest that become revealed through development activity. In respect of decision making on development proposals affecting sites listed in the Record of Monuments and Places, the Council will have regard to the advice and/or recommendations of the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government. 4) Development proposals within Sites and Zones of Archaeological Interest, of sites over 0.5 hectares size and of sites listed in the Dublin City Industrial Heritage Record, will be subject to consultation with the City Archaeologist and archaeological assessment prior to a planning application being lodged. 5) To preserve known burial grounds and disused historic graveyards. Where disturbance of ancient or historic human remains is unavoidable, they will be excavated according to best archaeological practice and reburied or permanently curated. 6) Preserve the character, setting and amenity of upstanding and below ground town wall defences. 7) Development proposals in marine, lacustrine and riverine environments and areas of reclaimed land shall have regard to the Shipwreck Inventory maintained by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and be subject to an appropriate level of archaeological assessment. 8) To have regard to national policy documents and guidelines relating to archaeology and to best practice guidance published by the Heritage Council, the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland and Transport Infrastructure Ireland. 	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHAO10 Conservation Plans	To prepare and implement conservation plans for National Monuments and Recorded Monuments in Dublin City Council ownership.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHAO11 Dublin City Archaeological Archive	To maintain, develop and promote the Dublin City Archaeological Archive (DCAA) at Pearse Street Library and Archives.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHAO12 Findings of Licenced Archaeological Activity	To ensure the public dissemination of the findings of licenced archaeological activity in Dublin through the Dublin County Archaeological GIS, publications and public lectures and to promote awareness of, and access to, the City's archaeological inheritance and foster high quality public archaeology.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
BHAO13 Management Plan	To develop a long-term management plan to promote the conservation, management and interpretation of archaeological sites and monuments and to identify areas for strategic research.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHAO14 Viking Dublin	To promote the awareness of the international significance of Viking Dublin. To support the Viking York Axis Project, the Destination Viking Network and the Dublin Festival of History Viking Seminar; to explore the feasibility of a research excavation in Viking Dublin; to support post-excavation research into the Wood Quay excavations 1962-81; to record and map the survival of water-logged Viking Age and medieval archaeological stratigraphy.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHAO15 Civic Museum	To develop a strategy for improving public access to the former Civic Museum collection and for curation of other collections of civic interest and importance.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 11 - Built Heritage and Archaeology				
BHAO16 City Wall and City Defences	To continue to preserve, and enhance the surviving section of the City Wall and City Defences- a National Monument, according to the recommendations of the City Walls Conservation Plan (2005)-with reference to the National Policy on Town Defences (2008).	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHAO17 Tourism	Promote tourism in the medieval city drawing on its archaeological heritage to create a strong and authentic sense of place and to support educational and historical tours of sites in the city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
BHAO18 OPW Heritage Sites and Assets	Work proactively with the OPW to promote and improve the visitor experience and interpretation of their heritage sites and assets within Dublin City area.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
BHAO19 Built Heritage and Archaeology	To provide for the protection, preservation and promotion of the built heritage, including architectural heritage and archaeological heritage and support the in situ presentation and interpretation of archaeological finds within new developments.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA27 Dublin City Heritage Plan	To implement the current Dublin City Heritage Plan and to support the preparation and implementation of the <i>Dublin City Heritage Plan 2022-2026</i> .	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA28 Historic Place and Street Names	To preserve historic place and street names and ensure that new street names reflect appropriate local archaeological, historical or cultural associations.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA29 World Heritage Nomination	To support and pursue a World Heritage nomination for the Historic City of Dublin, in partnership with the <i>Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government</i> .	Positive Environment Effects	No	
BHA30 Moore Street National Monument	To co-operate with and facilitate the state in its presentation of the National Monument at 14-17 Moore Street on a joint venture basis and to support the retention and refurbishment of the cultural quarter associated with 1916 on Moore Street.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
BHA31 St. Sepulchre's Palace Complex	To work with all stakeholders and interested parties to develop a Conservation Plan to safeguard the future of St. Sepulchre's Palace complex (Kevin Street Garda Station), identify appropriate future use(s) that reflect its historic and architectural importance and unlock the cultural tourism potential of the site in the context of the cathedral quarter and the historic city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA32 Water Related Heritage Strategies	To support the creation and implementation of water-related heritage strategies in partnership with restoration and enhancement of river and canal corridors within the City.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
BHA33 Dublin Port Heritage Quarter	To support the vision of the Dublin Port Company for the Flour Mill and surrounding heritage assets of the Port to deliver a new cultural heritage quarter and maritime museum for the city, that documents Dublin's rich maritime history and the social history of the Dock workers.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 12 - Culture				
CU1 Shared Vision for Culture	To lead and support the development of a shared vision for culture in the city in collaboration with cultural institutions and other cultural bodies in recognition of their key role and contribution to the cultural life of the City.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CU2 Cultural Infrastructure	To ensure the continued development of Dublin as a culturally vibrant, creative and diverse city with a broad range of cultural activities provided throughout the city, underpinned by quality cultural infrastructure.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CU3 Dublin UNESCO City of Literature	To promote the vision of Dublin UNESCO City of Literature as a “City of Words”, and to support investment in expanded and upgraded cultural infrastructure that supports this vision.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CU4 Cultural Resources	To support the development of new and expanded cultural resources and facilities within the City that enrich the lives of citizens and visitors, provide new opportunities for engagement and celebrate aspects of our history and culture.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CU5 Investing in our Culture, Language and Heritage 2018-2027	Support the planned upgrade and investment in national cultural institutions within the City as outlined in Investing in our Culture, Language and Heritage 2018 - 2027; including the new collections and Learning Centre at IMMA, Collins Barracks, The National Library, National Archives, Natural History Museum, IMMA, National Concert Hall and the Chester Beatty Library and other projects proposed during the lifetime of the Development Plan.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CU6 Abbey Theatre	Support the expansion of the Abbey Theatre to the Liffey to create an upgraded and expanded venue that contributes positively to the culture of the City and provides the Abbey with a distinctive, visible new context that contributes positively to the Liffey Quays.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH, AN, LV, MA)	Yes	
CUO1 Museum of Dublin	To undertake a study to identify public and private collections that contribute to the story of Dublin’s social and cultural history, and consider the feasibility of a dedicated Museum of Dublin where all these collections may be curated for public display.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CUO2 Dublin Fire Brigade Museum	That Dublin City Council undertake a study to identify a viable, appropriately scaled, permanent location for the Dublin Fire Brigade Museum currently housed in the O’Brien Institute.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CUO3 Dublin Music Resource Centre and Museum	In recognising the significant musical tradition in Dublin, the City Council will undertake a study to explore the opportunity of creating a Dublin Music Resource Centre and Museum that can provide facilities and opportunities for engagement with music for all, with particular focus on engaging and encouraging under represented and socially excluded people within the City.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CUO4 Chatham Row	To work to deliver a new cultural resource in the former Conservatory of Music and Drama at Chatham Row, that will provide new spaces for cultural engagement within the city centre.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CUO5 Cultural Forum	To explore the possibility of establishing a Cultural Forum for Dublin, led by Dublin City Council and working with other cultural partners.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CUO6 Arts & Culture Infrastructure	To work with the Arts office in developing an Arts and Culture Infrastructure policy document for the City that informs the preparation of audits, use of vacant spaces and toolkits for provision of cultural and arts facilities.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CU7 Cultural Clusters and Hubs	To support existing, and encourage the growth of, emerging cultural clusters and hubs within the city, which bring together cultural activities interlinked with supporting uses (such as restaurants, retail, galleries and venues) to create vibrant, defined cultural quarters and communities within the City that give a variety of cultural experiences to all.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 12 - Culture				
CU8 South Georgian Quarter Cultural Hub	To support the role of the South Georgian Quarter as a cultural hub of national significance and to support the growth and use of buildings within the area for cultural, heritage and artistic purposes.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CU9 Parnell Square & North Inner City Cultural Cluster	To promote and support the growth of the Parnell Square and North Inner City cultural cluster to facilitate opportunities that provide benefits both to the wider City and to the economic growth and regeneration for the NEIC that supports artists, mitigates social exclusion and increases opportunities for expression and artistic engagement for the diverse local community and in particular young people.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CUO7 City Library	To deliver a world class new City library and cultural resource centre at Parnell Square alongside a significant upgrade of the public realm of Parnell Square to provide an attractive and appropriate setting for the high number of cultural facilities on the Square.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH)	Yes	
CUO8 Poetry Ireland	To support the vision of Poetry Ireland to create a new all-island cultural resource at 11 Parnell Square, including library, exhibition space, performance and ancillary facilities.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH)	Yes	
CUO9 14-17 Moore St	To support the preservation and restoration of the historic terrace 10-25 Moore Street and adjacent yards and lanes, and the remaining historic built heritage of the street, including numbers 1-8 Moore Street, and the establishment of a commemorative visitor centre, as a fitting tribute to the men and women of Easter 1916 and as an educational and cultural resource centre.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CUO10 Convent and Magdalene Laundry building on Sean McDermott St.	To explore opportunities for suitable development of this site that incorporate a memorial in the former Convent and Magdalene Laundry building on Sean Mc Dermott St. and that are sensitive to the legacy and history of this location.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH)	Yes	
CUO11 Cultural Spaces in Dublin 8	To deliver a number of new cultural spaces and artists workspaces in the Dublin 8 area, including the renovation of Kilmainham Mills and the establishment of the Creative Campus space.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH)	Yes	
CUO12 Heritage Network and Trail	Support the establishment of a heritage network and trail from the Dublin route through to Kilmainham, Inchicore Works, Goldenbridge and Bluebell, supported by improved public realm, connections and restoration of the Camac River, which celebrates the rich history of this district.	Uncertain Environment Effects (W, CH)	Yes	
CUO13 Dublin 8 Regeneration	To ensure that the wider regeneration of Dublin 8 contributes to the cultural assets of the community with new spaces provided at street level in larger regeneration projects that will accommodate and provide for new local cultural uses.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CUO14 Museum/Heritage Facility at Inchicore Works	To support CIE in any future proposal to provide a transport museum/heritage facility at Inchicore Works and seek that any new development at or proximate to the Works is sensitive to the industrial heritage of this area.	Uncertain Environment Effects (CH)	Yes	
CU10 Temple Bar Cultural Hub	To support the role of Temple Bar as cultural hub within the south city and to prevent the erosion of the range of cultural and artist facilities and spaces and protect these for continued cultural purposes.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CUO15 Planning Applications within Temple Bar	Require that all planning applications within Temple Bar that are in proximity to or that are deemed to directly impact on cultural or artistic facilities, must demonstrate how any such planned development will not erode or restrict the functioning of such spaces.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CUO16 Variety and Diversity of Retail of Temple Bar	To seek to protect the variety and diversity of retail of Temple Bar which gives this hub its distinctive character.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes

No.	Policy / Objective	SEA Assessment (against SEOs)	Mitigation Required	Protective
Chapter 12 - Culture				
CUO17 Temple Bar as a Mixed Use Cultural Quarter	To seek to maintain the role of Temple Bar as a mixed use cultural quarter and avoid the concentration of particular uses and retail facilities which would re-inforce particular activities in the area to the detriment of the cultural, residential and social functions of the area. Any application for further expansion of floor space for licenced premises, restaurants or the sale of food or alcohol for consumption off the premises, will have to demonstrate how such expansion will not have a detrimental impact on the character of the area.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CUO18 National Photographic Archive	Recognise the need for the expansion of the photographic archive and to support their identification of new space to meet the needs of this cultural facility.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CU11 Cultural Facilities within Docklands	Support and encourage the growth of cultural facilities within Docklands, at community and citywide scale, to enrich the area, generate activity and economic benefits and celebrate the maritime heritage of the Docklands area.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CUO19 Implementation of the North Lotts & Grand Canal Dock SDZ & Poolbeg West SDZ Requirements	Support the implementation of the North Lotts and Grand Canal Dock SDZ and Poolbeg West SDZ requirements regarding the provision of new spaces for arts and cultural uses as part of larger regeneration developments.	Positive Environment Effects (this was subject to its own SEA)	No	
CUO20 Poolbeg Hotel, Harbour and Power Station Complex	Support the development of the historic Poolbeg hotel, harbour and power station complex for an innovative cultural enterprise that will provide a sustainable future for these historic riverside buildings and provide a range of new facilities for this area of the City.	Uncertain Environment Effects (W, CH)	Yes	
CU12 Cultural Spaces and Facilities	To grow the range of cultural spaces and facilities in tandem with all new developments and across existing developments to meet the needs of an increased population within the city.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CU13 Protection of Cultural Uses	To protect cultural uses within the City that have been negatively impacted by the Covid pandemic and seek to preserve such spaces so they are not lost to the city as a result of the economic impact of the extended closure during the pandemic.	Positive Environment Effects	No	Yes
CU14 Cultural Uses in Developments on Former Industrial Lands	To ensure new developments on former industrial lands incorporate cultural uses as part of new mixed use communities	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CU15 Cultural Uses in the Design & Uses of Side Streets	To encourage the rejuvenation of quieter urban streets by the inclusion of cultural uses both in the design and uses of side streets	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CU16 Temporary Use for Cultural Provision	To facilitate the temporary use of underused sites or buildings for artistic or cultural provision	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CU17 Design of Cultural & Arts Facilities	To promote a co-design approach to cultural and arts facilities and that applicants and developers consider the Toolkit guide for artform specific workplace to inform the design of such spaces.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CUO21 Masterplans	Masterplans or statutory plans prepared for lands over 12 hectares that were previously zoned for industrial purposes and are now identified for mixed use must include dedicated locations at the design stage for cultural uses and details as to how any existing cultural uses within the area can be accommodated as part of a wider regeneration.	Positive Environment Effects	No	
CUO22 SDRAs and Large Scale Developments	All new regeneration areas (SDRAs) and large scale developments above 10,000 sq. m. in total area must provide for 5% community, arts and culture and artist workspaces internal floorspace as part of their development at the design stage. The option of relocating a portion (no more than half of this figure) of this to a site immediately adjacent to the area can be accommodated where it is demonstrated to be the better outcome and that it can be a contribution to an existing project in the immediate vicinity. The balance of space between cultural and community use can be decided at application stage, from an evidence base/audit of the area. Such spaces must be designed to meet the identified need.	Positive Environment Effects	No	

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Brady Shipman Martin

DUBLIN

Mountpleasant Business Centre
Ranelagh
Dublin 6 D06 X7P8
+353 1 208 1900

CORK

Penrose Wharf Business Centre
Penrose Wharf
Cork
+353 21 242 5620

LIMERICK

11 The Crescent
Limerick
+353 61 315 127

mail@bradyshipmanmartin.com
www.bradyshipmanmartin.com

