

Strategic Environmental Assessment

Statement

For the

Ashtown – Pelletstown Local Area Plan



Prepared by
Planning and Economic Development Department
Dublin City Council
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1.0 Introduction - Terms of Reference

This document is the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Statement, of the Ashtown – Pelletstown Local Area Plan (LAP), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The main purpose of the SEA Statement is to identify how the SEA process was taken into account and influenced the plan making process.

The Local Area Plan, the SEA Environmental Report (ER) the Appropriate Assessment (AA) and SEA Statement are available for download on the Dublin City Council website. (www.dublincity.ie)

1.1 SEA Definition

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the process by which environmental considerations are required to be fully integrated into the preparation of plans and programmes and prior to their final adoption. The objectives of the SEA process are to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to promote sustainable development by contributing to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of specified Plans and Programmes.

1.2 Legislative Context

The SEA was carried out to comply with the provisions of the SEA Directive (Directive 2001/42/EC) of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27th June 2001, on the Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes on the environment, referred to hereafter as the SEA Directive.

The SEA Directive was transposed into Irish Law through:

- The European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 435 of 2004);
- The Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004);
- Planning and Development (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (S.I. No. 200 of 2011) and
- Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment)(Amendment) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No.201 of 2011).

The SEA Directive and the instruments transposing it into Irish Law require that after the making of a Local Area Plan, the plan or programme making authority is required to make a statement available to the public and the competent environmental authorities.

This statement is referred to as an SEA Statement.

1.3 Contents of the SEA Statement

The main purpose of the SEA statement is to provide information on the decision-making process and to document how environmental considerations, the views of statutory consultees and other submissions received during consultation and the recommendations of the Environmental Report have been taken into account in the adopted plan and the arrangements put in place for monitoring. It illustrates how decisions were taken, making the process more transparent.

In accordance with Article 9 of the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) an SEA Statement is required to include information summarising

- Summary of how environmental considerations have been integrated into the LAP(Refer to Section 2)
- Summary of how submission received during the consultation have been taken into account in the Plan.

- The reasons for choosing the recommended strategy, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives death with and
- The measures decided upon to monitor the significant environmental effects of implementation of the LAP.

1.4 Implications of SEA for the Local Area Plan

The findings of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) are presented in the Environmental Report (ER) which accompanied the Local Area Plan on public display and was updated in order to take account of the recommendations in the submissions. The Environmental Report was also updated in order to take account of changes which were made to the original draft Local Area Plan that was placed on public display. The proposed amendments or Material alterations to the Draft Local Area Plan underwent SEA & AA and the findings were also placed on public display alongside the Material Alterations.

The purpose of this report is to provide a clear understanding of the likely environmental consequences of decisions regarding the future development of the LAP lands over the life time of the plan. Amendments were made to the draft LAP at each stage of the process and are subject to SEA and AA screening. This evaluation was then presented to the elected members in the form of an SEA report on the manager's report or addenda. These reports assessed whether the proposed material alterations would require full SEA or Habits Directive Assessment and these were assessed against the Environmental Protection Objectives.

It was considered that significant adverse effects are not likely as a result of the proposed material alterations to the LAP. At each stage of the consultation process the Elected Members were required by the legislation to take into account the Environmental Report - including the addenda (subsequent environmental reports that accompanied the managers reports), before the adoption of the LAP.

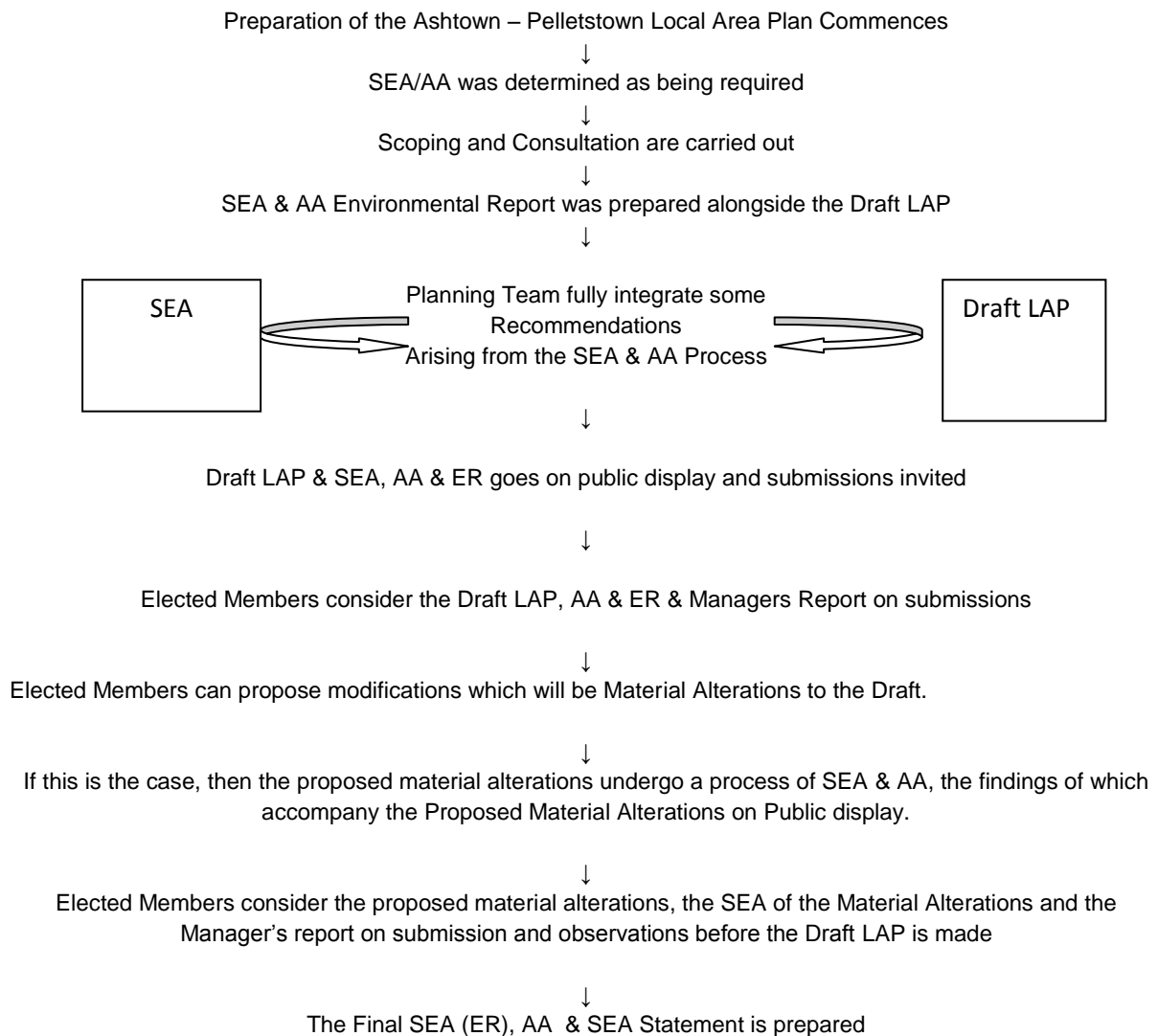
2.0 How Environmental Considerations were integrated into the LAP Process.

2.1 Introduction

Environmental considerations were integrated into the Local Area Plan throughout the SEA process. This can be broken down into a number of steps that run parallel to the drafting of the LAP. At each stage of the process all environmental impacts were assessed. The SEA process was also informed by the Appropriate Assessment which also ran in parallel with the drafting of the Local Area Plan.

The diagram below sets out how the SEA has been undertaken alongside the preparation of the LAP.

Figure 1 - Stages in the LAP/SEA & AA Preparation Process



The draft LAP was assessed during the following phases;

- Pre Draft Consultation Period, including Scoping (consultation with the statutory consultees and non-statutory consultees)
- Evaluation of draft LAP objectives and policies (included in environmental report)
- Evaluation of submissions and observations to draft LAP
- Evaluation of proposed material alterations to draft LAP

2.2 Pre Draft Consultation Period, including Scoping (consultation with the statutory consultees and non-statutory consultees)

In line with recommended best practice, the SEA process benefited from multi-disciplinary inputs across Dublin City Council's departments including waste management, Roads and Traffic Division, the City Archaeologist, Conservation, Community and Arts Department, City Architects, Parks and landscape, Housing Department, Economic Development Unit, and finally Drainage and Wastewater sections have been involved throughout the process and have provided guidance and advice throughout, and have also compiled a strategic overview of flooding in the LAP.

Preparing the draft LAP began with initial research and discussion with Elected City Councillors. A workshop was held on the 18th September 2012 with Councillors representing the Central Area Committee in advance of the publication of the pre-draft consultation issues paper. The pre draft LAP was launched on Friday the 28th June 2012 with the publication of a public notice and the Issues Paper document. The pre-draft was then put on public display for a six week period from 29th June to 10th August 2012. Members of the planning team were available locally in Pelletstown Community Centre (3rd July and 7th July 2012) and in Cabra Parkside Community Centre (10th July) to assist in any queries in relation to the plan. In total 20 submissions were received. The key issues emerging were dwelling type and size, urban form and layout, public transport infrastructure, pedestrian and cycle accessibility, education and leisure provision and interim site maintenance and visual amenity.

2.2.1 Scoping and Statutory Consultation

The Planning & Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 and as amended by Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2011, (S.I. 201 of 2011) make mention of the circumstances under which a proposed development must be accompanied by an Environmental Report. SEA is mandatory for local area plans where the population of 5,000 persons or more, or where the area covered by the local area plans is greater than 50 square kilometres.

Having established that SEA is mandatory for Local Area Plans, the next step was scoping the contents of the Environmental Report (ER). Scoping is undertaken to ensure that the relevant environmental issues are identified allowing them to be addressed appropriately in the Environmental Report. Scoping is undertaken early in the process to ensure that all relevant issues are identified and dealt with.

Under Article 6 of the SEA Directive, the competent authority, in this case Dublin City Council, preparing the LAP is required to consult with specific environmental authorities (statutory consultees) on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the Environmental Report. Under S.I. 436 of 2004 and as set out in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 and S.I. 201 of 2011 amending the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 the statutory consultees have been established as being:

(i) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA),

(ii) the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government,(DECLG)

(iii) Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht Affairs (if potential significant impacts in relation to the architectural or archaeological heritage or to nature conservation)

(iv) Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (if potential significant effect on marine environment / fisheries),

(v) the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources(DCENR) (if potential significant effect on marine environment / fisheries),

(vi) The adjoining planning authority to the plan area.(Fingal, South Dublin and Dun-Laoghaire Rathdown Co. Council)

In line with best practice, a Scoping Issues Paper was prepared by the planning authority to facilitate the consultation process. This was sent out to the statutory agencies in January 2013.

The report set out the background and context for the LAP land uses proposed, likely scale, nature and location of development and specific environmental considerations including:

- i. Population
- ii. Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna
- iii. Water
- iv. Air
- v. Climatic Factors
- vi. Material Assets
- vii. Cultural heritage
- viii. Landscape
- ix. Inter-relationships between the environmental receptors.

An SEA pack compiled by the EPA is submitted to Dublin City Council in the preparation of SEA and includes recommendation from the PA as to what should be included in the LAP.

2.2.2 Draft LAP Preparation Stage

The pre-draft submission consultations with landowners, local representatives and resident groups combined with landowners, local representatives and resident groups combined with national, regional, and Council Policy all have inputted into the content of the draft LAP. The content was also informed by other key requirements such as Flood Risk Assessment, Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment.

2.2.3 Environmental Assessment and Preparation of Environmental Report

The baseline information for the environmental report was gathered through a combination of GIS mapping of environmental sensitivities, existing reports, site visits, internal departments in Dublin City Council, who provided information on drainage, water, transport, conservation, archaeology, housing, flood risk issues, noise levels, etc

The impacts of the local area plan can be estimated as the difference in environmental conditions with or without implementation of the plan. The existing environment of Ashtown –Pelletstown is characterised by way of a description of the environmental receptors as set out in the SEA Directive:

- Population
- Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna
- Air
- Climatic Factors
- Water
- Material Assets(Transport and waste management)
- Cultural Heritage
- Soil and Landscape.

The baseline data is presented in Section 3 of the Environmental Report.

3.0 Evaluation of Draft LAP

3.1 Introduction

The Environmental Report evaluated the likely significant impacts of implementing the draft LAP on the environment using the baseline environmental data collected during the scoping process. As stated above, the purpose of the Environmental Report was used to assess the likely significant effects of the LAP on the environment and to ensure that significant impacts are considered during the preparation of the draft LAP. The Environmental Report also considered a number of alternatives to the Plan. These alternatives were assessed and a preferred strategy chosen.

The Environmental Report also outlined mitigation measures to remedy/reduce any potential significant impacts and a monitoring programme was developed to assess the impacts of the LAP on the environment. The monitoring programme is set out in Appendix 1 of the SEA Statement.

Section (f) of the Schedule 2B of the SEA Regulations, as amended, requires an assessment of the likely significant effects of the Plan on the environment. The LAP policies/objectives were assessed against the Environmental Protection Objectives (EPOs) in the Environmental Report prior to the display of the draft LAP. The Environmental Protection Objectives set out in Section 4 of the Environmental Report.

The environmental receptors were identified through the collaboration of the SEA team. These indicators acted as representative examples of environmental data and will facilitate the monitoring of the impacts of the LAP. Targets have been established for each of the objectives which set thresholds and limits for each environmental receptor. All policies/objectives in the LAP were screened to see whether they had a negative, positive or no impacts on the environment.

Throughout the preparation of the LAP, environmental considerations were communicated to the Planning Team at regular team meetings. This allowed the planning team to integrate and issues that arose into the LAP process.

3.2 Evaluation of LAP

Section 7 of the Environmental Report sets out the evaluation methodology for assessing the LAP. The objectives of the of the draft LAP were tested against the Environmental Objectives developed earlier in the SEA process as outlined in section 4 of the Environmental Report. The results were put in Appendix 1 of the Environmental Report.

3.2.1 Potential Impacts on Population and Human Health.

Overall the plan was found to have significant beneficial and long term impacts on population and human health. The plan focuses in particular on mechanisms that deliver the necessary physical, social and environmental infrastructure for the local area. The plan supports residential development by seeking to deliver community, educational and mixed retail services. It seeks the continued development and strengthening of two mixed use village nodes at the west (Ashtown Station) and the east (Ratoath road gateway) end of the plan area. Both locations will be serviced by quality public transport (a new rail station and public square is proposed for the east node). Employment generating uses are encouraged in the mixed use centres benefitting from completed road infrastructure, public transport and a high quality public realm. The plan supports the protection and creation of new amenity areas including children's play areas, allotments and enhancement of bio diversity. It supports the development of green linkages (walking and cycling) between open space within the LAP area and amenities in the wider area including the Phoenix Park and Tolka Valley Park. It supports the development of recreational amenities along the Royal Canal. Housing policy and objectives seek the development of a range of unit types with particular emphasis on quality family orientated housing.

3.2.2 Potential Impact on Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

The plan was found largely to have potential for significant beneficial and long term impacts on the biodiversity, flora and fauna of the area. The plan includes a specific chapter for Green Infrastructure which seeks the

development of open space amenity, tree planting, attenuation lakes and ecological corridors. Policies and objectives that promote sustainable modes of transport and sustainable building design will help to reduce carbon emissions and promote a cleaner environment. An interim land use strategy for vacant sites is required so that the lands can be visually improved and used for landscaping, recreation or community uses (such as allotments) in the temporary period before full development is completed. The protection of water and improvement of water quality status in rivers is promoted in the LAP.

Policies and objectives which have potential for short term significant adverse impacts include infrastructure works that are close to waterbodies, in this case the Royal Canal. Movement objective MAO3 seeks the delivery of a second train station close to Ratoath Road, incorporating a pedestrian and cycle bridge over the canal and rail line. Movement objective MAO6 supports objective SIO38 of the city Development Plan to seek delivery of the proposed re-alignment of the Ratoath Road including a new bridge across the railway and canal and a new junction with Ballyboggan Road. Land use objective LUSO2 promotes the provision of a widened berthing area at the Royal Canal adjacent to a new community plaza. These objectives will promote the construction of transport infrastructure close to the canal. Mitigation at the design detail stage, through the planning process and environmental assessment of the project (EIS) will be the most appropriate mechanism to provide mitigation measures for the construction and operational phases to protect the canal, its water quality, amenity value and habitats.

3.2.3 Potential Impacts on Water

The plan places emphasis on high quality and sustainable densities to consolidate the area and achieve population and economic growth. A potentially significant adverse impact of the plan on water is the potential deterioration of water bodies. Dublin Region's wastewater treatment plant at Ringsend is currently operating at capacity. Without the provision of upgraded and new wastewater infrastructure, the city's ability to absorb additional population, economic growth and development is seriously restricted. This impact is indirect and cumulative. The infrastructure improvements required are at a city level. The impact is in the short to medium term as infrastructure improvements will facilitate growth and protect water. Mitigation is required to ensure that the infrastructure is adequate to accommodate phased development in the short to medium term pending upgrades to facilitate long term growth. The LAP sets out a robust phasing strategy under Chapter 5 which indicates the location for next phase development, land use and quantum of development and require infrastructure. Policies further affirm that water supply, waste water treatment and network capacity need to be improved in tandem with phasing. Other policies and objectives have been found to have likely significant beneficial impacts on water in the area where they seek improvements in water quality, compliance with measures and targets set out by the Water Framework Directive and Eastern River Basin Management (for the River Tolka) and the preparation of surface water drainage plans that employ SUDS measures.

3.2.4 Potential Impacts on Air & Noise

Overall the local area plan will have significant beneficial and long term impacts on air and noise. Emissions from the transport sector are the main threat to air quality. The emphasis throughout the plan is on reducing the need to travel by private car whilst encouraging and facilitating modal change to more sustainable forms of transport e.g. travel by foot, bicycle and public transport.

Policies and objectives of the LAP seek to improve access to public transport and enhance walking and cycling through the LAP area to locations, in particular recreation locations, in the wider locality.

Reducing the need to travel by private car will serve to have significant beneficial long term impacts on the air quality of the area. In particular the objective that 40% of all journeys are to be made by public transport and a further 10% by soft modes will have a positive impact. Policies and objectives also seek good quality sustainable design which will promote energy efficient buildings, reduce energy consumption and improve air quality.

Policies and objectives seeking enhance greenery, provision of open space and tree planting will promote good air quality.

In relation to noise, again transport is the main issue. Traffic noise is the dominant noise source in the area. The emphasis throughout the plan is on reducing the need to travel by private car whilst encouraging and facilitating modal change to more sustainable forms of transport e.g. travel by foot, bicycle and public transport. The policies and objectives promoting this modal change will have significant beneficial and long term impacts in terms of noise in the area.

Implementing the local area plan will result in high levels of construction activity and associated site traffic movements with potential for negative impacts on the environment in terms of vibration, noise, dust, exhaust emissions etc. However these impacts are not considered to be of a strategic nature, will be temporary in their impact and overall are more appropriately dealt with at project level. Some development proposals may also be accompanied by an EIS which will provide for mitigation of negative impacts.

High density development, particularly within the village nodes, is based on sustainable principles to concentrate a larger population and mixed services accessible to public transport. A concentration of mixed activities could lead to long term adverse impacts on the population and disturb biodiversity unless mitigation is used in building quality (noise insulation and compatible uses) and set backs from amenity corridors.

3.2.5 Potential Impacts on Climatic Factors (To minimise emissions of greenhouse gases)

The LAP will promote the completion of development in the LAP area including the consolidation of residential development, mixed services and transportation networks. Housing objective HO1 encourages the sustainable development of approximately 920-1270 residential units on remaining development lands in the LAP area.

Increased urban development will have demand on energy use with potential for significant long term adverse impacts on climate. However, there are fundamental sustainable development principles incorporated into the LAP strategy including the utilisation of the land resource efficiently so that a high population is achieved on lands serviced and zoned and accessible to public transport and services. This will help to reduce demand for housing land on Greenfield sites elsewhere.

Policies and objectives that promote sustainable land use patterns will promote more energy efficient formats of development, in particular walkable neighbourhoods.

Policies and objectives that promote sustainable modes of travel, in particular use of public transport, walking and cycling, will reduce private car demand and help reduce CO2 emissions to improve air quality.

Policies and objectives that promote high quality sustainable design, energy efficiency and recycling will reduce the impact of development on using the earth's resources and energy consumption.

Policies and objectives that promote a high quality green environment, tree planting and open space provision will improve air quality.

3.2.6 Potential impacts on Material Assets.

Overall the plan will have significant beneficial impacts on transport in the area. The need for a greater modal shift from private car to more sustainable forms of transport is strongly emphasised. Walking and cycling is encouraged by creating quality routes through the LAP area and connecting to the wider locality, in particular south across the canal and to the Phoenix Park. The completion of the internal street network is promoted through the phasing strategy. Movement on the wider local road network will be improved by proposals for a part one way system on River Road, support for a realignment of a section of Ratoath Road to by-pass Reilly's Bridge and the rail line level crossing and proposals for an improved rail level crossing at Ashtown Station. The provision of a new rail station at the east end of the LAP area will service residential and mixed use services with public transport and increase accessibility for a larger extent of the population to public transport.

The plan will also serve to have significant beneficial impacts on waste management as the policies and objectives of the plan are focused on delivering sustainable infrastructure, including for waste management, as well as supporting the principles of good waste management, to prevent and minimise waste, to develop

biological treatment, encourage and support material sorting and recycling and support the provision of waste to energy.

3.2.7 Potential impacts on Landscape & Soils.

The plan will serve to have potential significant beneficial impacts overall on landscape and soils of the area. The context of this LAP is that the area is in a state of transition with developments previously permitted and commenced. The LAP promotes a completion of development and an updated strategy to ensure that this completion is now phased and accompanied by proposals for temporary site treatment.

The policies and objectives of the plan encourage initiatives on vacant sites as interim proposals for the physical, visual and environmental improvement of vacant land banks. These are temporary and positive impacts. High quality urban development accompanied with landscaping schemes and the delivery of public open space and amenity areas will improve the long term physical and visual impact of the landscape.

3.2.8 Potential impacts on Cultural Heritage.

The LAP promotes protection and enhanced awareness of the key features of cultural and historic identity which are in the local area. The plan seeks to preserve the character and historic fabric of the Royal Canal and Tolka Valley conservation areas, features of industrial heritage and in-situ archaeological heritage, all of which will be a long term benefit.

3.3 Mitigation Measures

Section 8 of the Environmental Report sets out the mitigation measures to prevent, reduce or offset any potential significant adverse effects of implementing the Planning Scheme.

Potential significant adverse impacts of implementing the LAP could potentially arise as a result of objectives to facilitate additional population and economic growth and development, increasing densities and generally facilitating intensification of the area, promoting increased access to recreational areas, & opening up private recreational areas. Whereas these policies are fully in line with national, regional and Dublin City Council policy as set out in the city development plan to consolidate the city overall and ensure a more compact urban form with greater intensity of uses and to ensure that the city's role as the economic engine of the state is strengthened, there is however the potential for significant adverse impacts on the receiving environment, unless mitigation is put in place which will prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse environmental effects as a result of implementing a plan.

3.3.1 Mitigation through consideration of alternatives

A number of alternatives were considered at an early stage in the process and evaluated for their likely significant environmental effects (see section 6). Three alternatives were considered: a) Alternative 1 – Reissue the Pelletstown Action Area Plan 2000 (a do nothing scenario) b) Alternative 2 – Don't prepare an LAP and allow the Z14 principles for strategic development and regeneration areas as a mechanism for development in the area and c) Alternative 3 – Develop a framework for proper planning and sustainable development if the Pelletstown Ashtown Areas (Preparation of an LAP)

The environmental baseline data and the Strategic Environmental Objectives were used in order to predict and evaluate the environmental effects of implementing the alternatives and communication of the findings were made to the planning team who made an informed decision as to what option was to emerge as the preferred alternative.

3.3.2 Mitigation through integration of Environmental Considerations into the LAP process

Environmental considerations were communicated to the planning team throughout the process of preparing the Planning Scheme. This allowed the team to integrate these considerations into the LAP.

3.3.3 Mitigation by Inclusion of Additional Objectives

Section 8 of the Environmental Report links the key mitigation measures which have been integrated into the LAP to the likely effects of implementing the LAP if unmitigated. The integration of these measures into the LAP occurred over number of meetings and was informed by various communications and workshops throughout the SEA process. The measures generally benefit multiple environmental components.

Water – Mitigation

Adequate mitigation has been put in place in the LAP to ensure protection of water including surface and ground water quality. In this regard, IW01 promotes achievement of good ecological status, good ecological potential and good chemical status of the River Tolka. IW02 requires the implementation of the programme of measures for the River Tolka as set out in the Eastern River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015. IW07 requires that any works for infrastructure development adjacent to the Royal Canal pNHA in particular works in pursuit of the delivery of objectives MA03, MA06, and LUS02 shall require effective mitigation measures, agreed with Waterways Ireland and agreed through the Planning Authority. IW08 ensures the protection of surface and ground water quality in the plan and surrounding areas in the construction of enhanced infrastructural works. IW09 requires that the recommendations of the Eastern CFRAM study shall be incorporated into any future development of the area upon its adoption.

Currently the supporting infrastructural capacity, particular water supply and wastewater infrastructure is at, or very close to capacity. Any additional loading on the wastewater and water supply infrastructure has potential to have significant adverse impacts on local water quality (the River Tolka) and supply of drinking water.

To mitigate against these potential negative impacts at a local level within the LAP area, policies and objectives have been included in the local area plan to ensure that the necessary supporting infrastructure is provided and that appropriate measures are taken to support development in the long term and avoid significant adverse impacts on water quality.

The following policies are noted:

IW2: To ensure that development is permitted in tandem with available water supply, waste water treatment and network capacity. To manage and phase 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.

IW3: To require that all large development proposals include water conservation and demand management measures.

IW5: To seek to improve water quality and meet the objectives of the Eastern River Basin District Management Plan by ensuring the separation of foul and surface water effluent through the provision of separate sewage networks in any new permission, and by ensuring the implementation of a stormwater management system in the detailed design of the plan lands, following the principles of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS).

The following objectives are noted:

IWO1: To promote the achievement of good ecological status, good ecological potential and good chemical status for the River Tolka by 2027, in accordance with the Water Framework Directive.

IWO2: To implement the programme of measures (POM) for the River Tolka set out in the Eastern River Basin Management Plan 2009 – 2015.

IWO8 -To ensure the protection of surface and ground water quality in the plan area and surrounding areas in the construction of enhanced infrastructural requirements, and the protection of protected habitats and species including designated national and international conservation sites in implementing the plan.

IWO9 -The recommendations of the Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Plan (CFRAM) study shall be incorporated into any future development of the area, upon its adoption.

To mitigate against potential negative impacts with regard to water supply, Dublin City Council has committed to provide for the expansion of water systems (see Dublin City Development Plan 2011-2017). The following policy has been included in the LAP at local level to mitigate against any potential adverse impacts as a result of deficiencies in water supply:

IW1: To actively seek the funding and delivery of key infrastructure including water supply and waste water for the Dublin Region to enable development in the Ashtown – Pelletstown area.

IW2: To ensure that development is permitted in tandem with available water supply, waste water treatment and network capacity. To manage and phase 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.

Biodiversity – Mitigation

Adequate mitigation has been put in place in the LAP to ensure protection of Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna and also protection of water bodies. In this regard, IW01, promotes achievement of good ecological status, good ecological potential and good chemical status of the River Tolka. IW02 requires the implementation of the programme of measures for the River Tolka as set out in the Eastern River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015. IW07 requires that any works for infrastructure development adjacent to the Royal Canal pNHA in particular works in pursuit of the delivery of objectives MA03, MA06, and LUS02 shall require effective mitigation measures, agreed with Waterways Ireland and agreed through the Planning Authority. IW08 ensures the protection of surface and ground water quality in the plan and surrounding areas in the construction of enhanced infrastructural works. IW09 requires that the recommendations of the Eastern CFRAM study shall be incorporated into any future development of the area upon its adoption. Policy GI4 requires that any plan or project with the potential to give rise to significant direct, indirect or secondary impacts on Natura 2000 site(s) shall be subject to an appropriate assessment in accordance with Article (3) of the Habitats Directive

Objectives contained within the plan to increase pedestrian and cyclist access to areas of natural recreation such as the Tolka Valley park and Royal Canal and throughout the wider plan area (walking and cycling connections to the Phoenix Park) could have potential significant impacts in terms of disturbance of habitats. Any significant adverse impacts are offset by the inclusion of mitigating policies and objectives in the plan which will ensure that habitats, designated and undesignated, are protected and enhanced.

The following objectives are noted for their mitigation:

GIO1: To complete the linear park along the Royal Canal in tandem with new development, enhancing biodiversity and ecological value, and improving amenity value for those using the towpath.

GIO2: In association with objective UD06 to provide/complete the following south-north green links from the Royal Canal to entrances to Tolka Valley park. Design and planting of these links should encourage biodiversity through careful selection of tree species and under storey planting.

GIO4: To implement a Green Points System as set out in section 4.11, as a flexible means to achieve improved green infrastructure for new developments, and incorporating a high level of biodiversity. (see also objective ES01 in chapter 4.11)

GIO5: Landscaped and amenity areas to address biodiversity and where possible provide aquatic features as part of SuDS proposals. Native species should be included as part of a 3 –layered structure to include canopy, shrub and ground layers.

GIO6: Amenity and/or security lighting shall be designed to minimise negative impacts on protected species such as bats. Such designs may include directional/cowled lighting or be based on the advice of an ecologist. Particular attention shall be paid to areas close to water bodies.

GIO7: To retain and enhance, where feasible, remnants of existing hedgerows and tree lines.

There are three specific objectives in the LAP that promote infrastructure improvements for transport and amenity close to the Royal Canal. The re-alignment of a section of the Ratoath Road over the canal identified in Objective MAO6 of the LAP is also an objective of the Dublin City Development Plan (Objective SI038). A new rail station and community square at the east end of the LAP area (Objective MAO3) would be located adjacent to the canal. The provision of a widened berthing area at the Royal Canal adjacent to the new plaza (Objective LUSO2) would result in works to the canal itself.

Objective IWO6 provides an objective that developers shall take adequate measures to minimise the impacts of traffic, noise and dust during construction stages. While this objective provides a mitigation measure for all works, it does not specifically relate to the sensitive location context for works adjacent to the Royal Canal as identified in Objectives MAO3, MAO6 and LUSO2 of the LAP.

Mitigation measures identified at the design detail stage and through the planning process for each project, including EIS where required, will ensure that appropriate measures and actions are recommended and carried out to protect the Royal Canal and minimise any potential significant adverse impacts during construction stages (short term) and operational stages (long term).

To strengthen the mitigation of potential significant short term and long term adverse impacts on the Royal Canal, an objective was specifically created to highlight the sensitive context for these works and highlight the future requirement for effective mitigation at the project design, construction and operational stages:

Objective IWO7

Any works for infrastructure development adjacent to the Royal Canal pNHA, in particular works in pursuit of the delivery of Objectives MAO3, MAO6 and LUSO2, shall require effective mitigation measures, agreed with Waterways Ireland and agreed with the planning authority through the appropriate planning and environmental assessment process for each project, to minimise the potential for significant adverse short term and long term impacts on the canal, its water, habitats and amenity value.

Policy GI4

Any plan or project with the potential to give rise to significant direct, indirect or secondary impacts on a Natura 2000 site(s) shall be subject to an appropriate assessment in accordance with Article (3) of the Habitats Directive.

Policy GI5

To enhance the bio-diversity value of the local area by protecting habitats, in particular along water bodies, and creating opportunities for new habitats through appropriate native species landscaping schemes to integrate the natural environment with high quality urban development and to control / remove invasive species.

Air and Noise– Mitigation

The plan promotes the completion of the internal street networks including the main east to west boulevard route for traffic and public bus and north to south permeable connections linking the amenities of the Tolka Valley Park with the Royal Canal. The LAP also supports the construction of a new section of road as part of a re-alignment of the Ratoath Road over the rail line and canal (by passing Reilly's Bridge) and improvement works to River Road.

The completion of road infrastructure projects may potentially lead to an increase in noise levels in the plan area. In addition, the promotion of higher sustainable densities and mix of uses, particularly at the village node points,

will increase the potential for noise disturbance by virtue of for intensive activities (high population concentration and mixed residential, employment, commercial, community and leisure uses).

Any significant adverse impacts are offset by the inclusion of a mitigatory objective in the plan which will ensure that the impacts of noise are minimised as follows:

It is an objective of the Local Area Plan:

UDO10

- To minimise the adverse impacts of noise and promote good health and a good quality of life through effective management of noise within the Ashtown-Pelletsown Local Area Plan.

In conclusion it is apparent from the above assessment that the local area plan includes adequate mitigatory measures in the form of policies and objectives to offset any potential impacts on the environmental receptors. No additional mitigation measures were considered necessary in relation to any of the environmental receptors. Policies and objectives with sustainability at their core allow them to act as mitigation measures to offset any potential adverse impacts on the environment as a result of implementing the plan. Mitigation in the form of policies and objectives serves to formalise the mitigation measures and fully integrates them into the local area plan process.

3.4 Public Display period of Draft Planning Scheme, AA & Environmental Report.

The draft LAP was placed on public display for a period of 6 ½ weeks from 3rd May 2013 to 18th June 2012 inclusive during which time submissions and observations were invited. Public displays were erected where the draft LAP was available for viewing in Dublin City Council Offices in Wood Quay and in Finglas Area Office. The draft plan was also available for viewing in Finglas and Cabra Libraries and also in the Cabra Area Office. In total 18 submissions were received.

The EPA in their submission advised that any future amendments to the plan be screened for likely significant effects and also that on adoption of the LAP the Authority will produce an SEA statement.

In chapter 4 they request that the requirements of the EIA, Habitats, Water Framework and Floods Directive respectively are taken into account where appropriate. The potential for cumulative effects on water quality associated with certain objective LUS1, LUS02, MA06 MA07 and MA08 should also be taken into account.

In response to the above it was recommended that a new objective be added into Section 4.4 'Movement and Access', requiring that ' All planned infrastructural improvements (including widening berthing areas at the Royal Canal, bridge crossings etc) shall ensure that the requirements of the EIA, Habitats, Water Framework and Floods Directives respectively are taken into account where appropriate'.

In light of the above it was recommended that a new objective be added into section 4.8 'Infrastructure and Water Management' to strengthen the protection of both surface and ground water in the area.

IW08 - To ensure the protection of surface and ground water quality in the plan area and surrounding areas in the construction of enhanced infrastructural requirements, and the protection of protected habitats and species including designated national and international conservation sites in implementing the plan.

With regard to their comments with regard to the Land Use Policy LUS2 It is recommended that this be reworded to read as follows:

LUS2 In support of residential development , to seek appropriate mixed use in selected areas, the protection and enhancement of green areas and to allow for the sustainable development of community/educational uses'

It is recommended that Policy ED4 be changed to read as follows:

ED4 'To adapt a flexible approach towards appropriate temporary/short term uses on vacant and/or underutilised lands and buildings as an interim solution, whilst ensuring that any such uses will not preclude the realisation of the longer term economic vision for the area'

In relation to monitoring and review of the 'Green Points System' - section 4.11.3, this approach is a new initiative. It is anticipated that the green measures will necessarily be set out in drawings/details accompanying planning applications and that relevant conditions may be applied by development management staff. Non compliance may be subject to enforcement. In relation to phasing and implementation of the various land holdings, this has already been detailed in Chapter 5 of the plan. Figure 5.1 of the Plan sets out the phasing strategy for the LAP lands and the various land holdings. Table 5.1 sets out the infrastructure required in relation to each phase. The draft LAP set out the short term priorities and temporary uses for lands due to the economic climate to ensure vacant lands are managed properly and to encourage temporary uses on these sites to bring activity and vitality to the area. This is set out in section 5.3.

In relation to the Ormond Site it is recommended that new text be added into Section 5.2.4 'Ormond Site' after bullet point 'Height can be accommodated within the site to avoid the over bridge dominating the site' text was inserted stating that 'In the redevelopment of this site, an Environmental Management Plan should be drawn up, taking into account any potential on-site contaminated soils which may be identified.

In section 5.4 under implementation and monitoring, consideration will be given to linking the implementation and monitoring of the Plan with the monitoring of the SEA environmental criteria. It is recommended that new text be added into Section 5.4 to read as follows:

In response to the above it is recommended that new text be added to Section 5.4 under 'Implementation & monitoring', after the line 'A mid-term review report of the Lap will be prepared to assess whether the objectives of the LAP area being met.' Insert in 'The report will also provide updates on the monitoring programme as set out in Section 9 of the Environmental Report'.

The Environmental Protection Agency in their submission stated that consideration should be given in section 1.3.1 Eastern CFRAM Flood Risk Management Plan to the inclusion in the Plan of an objective to incorporate the recommendations of the Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) study upon its adoption. This has been noted and it is recommended that this be included. The Eastern CFRAM Plan will only cover Tolka river flood extents and these are very unlikely to change from GSDSDS Tolka Study and later 1,000 year extent. For this current LAP the best available knowledge is used. In future development Flood Risk Assessments the guidance given in this LAP plus any extra evidence of flood risk from any source must be used to evaluate the risk to the development. This evidence can take the form of new flood events, new studies, and changes in Legislation, site investigations or any other available data which can significantly affect the flood risk of a proposed development.

The Office of Public Works in their submission welcomed the inclusion of objectives IW04 and IW05 in the LAP.

They acknowledged that whilst a stage I Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) has been carried out, a Stage II FRA is needed to define indicative flood zones and inform development zoning on the basis of the sequential test, appropriate development and justification test. The production of flood maps indicating the flood zones as outlined in the guidelines is necessary. The CRFRAM studies will identify fluvial flood zones for areas at risk and deliver flood maps appropriate to a stage 2 FRA by the end of 2013, but until then it still remains the Local Authority's responsibility to assign appropriate development in flood risk areas.

The Department of the Environment Community and Local in their submission referred to the Flood Risk Assessment and that the maps did not cover the entire areas. They also requested clarity on which areas are prone to flooding, and to identify zones A, B and C.

In response to the submissions from the OPW and DOECLG it was recommended that a more detailed Stage 2 Flood Risk Assessment be included, with more detailed maps to include a flood zone map, indicating flood zones A, B and C. As part of the FRA the Justification Test was included and also a clear Flood Management Strategy for the area. The existing estimated flood zones A, B and C can be identified from GSDSDS Tolka Study and later 1,000 year extent maps. These are very unlikely to change with production of flood maps from Eastern CFRAMS early in 2014.

A Managers report was prepared on the submissions received from the public display. This was then circulated to the City Councillors on Tuesday the 23rd July for their consideration. A deadline of the 31st of July was set for receipt of motions. The manager's report on councillor's motions and also the manager's report on submission received (during the public consultation period) were considered at the monthly council meeting on September 2nd 2013. The Council resolved to alter the Draft LAP in accordance with the recommendations of the two reports and to place the proposed material alterations on display for a four week period. The alterations were accompanied by both SEA and AA assessments of the alterations. The materials alterations were placed on display from 23rd September 2013 to 21st October during which time submissions and observations were invited.

3.4.1 Evaluation of Proposed Material Alterations to Draft LAP

A total of 9 submissions were received on the proposed amendments to the draft LAP including a number of submissions from the Statutory Authorities.

The submissions received were grouped into three categories, (i) State organisations, from whom 3 submissions were received; (ii) consultants representing landowners or business interests, of which there were 3; and (iii) 3 submissions from residents associations/ interested individuals..

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) acknowledged the inclusion of a number of points raised in their previous submission. They acknowledged the amendments to show a stronger commitment to the integration of key environmental issues. They also acknowledged the inclusion of the reference to the Fingal Sludge Management Plan and the CFRAM study is noted. They pointed out that DCC should be compliant with the requirements of national and EU environmental legislation. The EPA in their submission also set out the requirements and information to be contained in the SEA Statement.

The Department of Environment Community and Local Government (DECLG) sent in a submission in relation to the Flood Risk Assessment Appendix A. They required clarity on the text of the FRA as to which areas are prone to flooding. The text suggests that there are large areas of potential flood areas, whereas the mapping signals the majority of the lands as a flood category C, generally indicative of a very small risk of flooding, and not consistent with the need to provide a Justification Test. It is also noted that the lands that are identified as flood zone categories A & B are highlighted as amenity/biodiversity lands, and as such a water compatible development is required as per the Flooding Guidelines. In response to this additional text was proposed in the Flood Risk Assessment to clarify the above concerns. In relation to the other submissions received which were mainly from the land owners and residents groups, only minor text amendments were proposed.

A Managers report was prepared on the submissions received from the public display of proposed alterations and this was accompanied by an SEA and AA assessment. This was then circulated to the City Councillors on Friday the 15th November 2013.

3.4.2 Making of the Local Area Plan

At the Council meeting on the 2nd December 2013, the Council by resolution agreed to make the Local Area Plan for Ashtown – Pelletstown.

4.0 Reason for choosing the Planning Scheme, as adopted, over other Alternatives

4.1 Introduction

This section summarises Section 6 of the Environmental Report which evaluates the various Alternatives chosen and their impact on the Environmental Protection Objectives as set out in Section 4 of the Environmental Report.

Article 5 of the SEA Directive requires the plan-making authority to identify, describe and evaluate alternative ways of realising the objectives of the plan. As stated in the Directive an environmental report shall be prepared in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified , described and evaluated.

Section 5 of the Environmental Report set out the various LAP alternatives. Three plan alternatives were examined by the planning team in the course of the preparation of the Local Area Plan:

The three alternatives assessed were:

Alternative 1 – Reissue the Pelletstown Action Area Plan 2000 (a Do nothing scenario)

Alternative 2 – Don't prepare an LAP and allow the Z14 principles for strategic development and regeneration areas as a mechanism for development in the area and

Alternative 3 – Develop a framework for proper planning and sustainable development if the Pelletstown Ashtown Areas (Preparation of an LAP)

4.2 Environmental Assessment of Alternatives.

The alternatives are evaluated using compatibility criteria in order to determine how they would be likely to affect the status of the SEOs. The SEOs and the alternative scenarios are compared against each other to identify which interactions – if any- would cause effects specific components of the environment.

The various alternatives were tested against the set of environmental objectives as set out in section 4 of the Environmental Report.

All three alternatives will place increased pressures on wastewater infrastructure, which in turn could potentially lead to deterioration in water quality and impact negatively upon biodiversity in the city if not mitigated against. However, all three alternatives are all reliant on the wastewater treatment infrastructure being upgraded as well as a new wastewater treatment plan coming on stream at regional level.

All options require developing land which uses a land resource and soil. It is recognised that the lands of the LAP area, within the city boundary, are zoned and serviced for development and have been subject to past planning permissions and development works. The alternative options each seek to complete an area under-going development. Consolidating the city area, providing quality compact residential areas integrated with public transport and services and integrating environmental protection and open space amenity within these developments is inherently sustainable in its approach.

The preparation of an LAP for the area was seen as having the greatest benefits on the environmental receptors. The LAP seeks to guide the successful completion of the area in accordance with the principles of good planning and sustainable development. It presents a clear phasing strategy and provide updated policies and objectives to co-ordinate the delivery of open space, quality housing, schools, public transport and improvements in the condition of vacant sites in the interim period. The LAP allows a co-ordinated approach between different developers to integrate new developments and from an environmental perspective, integrate positive sustainable designs within schemes. A SUDS strategy connected walking and cycling routes, a GI strategy, integrated sequence of open space areas, optimising densities close to public transport etc can all be co-ordinated. Policies and objectives can require each application to deliver high performance criteria for sustainable design and layouts including green technology, SUDS, renewable energy etc. Compliance with such requirements, would provide effective mitigation against the impact of development, & would not be as strong if no statutory LAP was in place.

With this process, environmental assessments can be conducted testing the environmental performance of the overall planning framework and identifying mitigation measures to assist the designs of future planning applications. Having selected this alternative, three possible options with an influence on land use and density of development within the LAP area were examined. Three options were examined, a) promoting higher densities across the entire LAP area, b) promoting lower densities across the entire LAP area, and c) promoting variations to net densities including high density adjacent to public transport and medium densities at other locations for family housing. Based on the analysis of the alternative scenarios as detailed in Table 6 of the Environmental Report, Option C was selected as the preferred approach. This approach has been found to have the most positive impact on the environment

5.0 Section - Monitoring Measures and Reporting

5.1 Introduction

Article 10 of the SEA Directive requires that monitoring should be carried out in order to identify at an early stage any unforeseen adverse effects due to the implementation of the Plan, and to be able to take remedial action if required. Monitoring is carried out by reporting on a set of indicators which enable positive and negative impacts on the environment to be measured. Environmental targets and indicators were developed during the SEA process and were developed during the SEA and the preparation of the Plan,(see section 4 of the Environmental Report). The monitoring is based on these indicators.

Section 9 of the Environmental Report,(Table 16) sets out the Monitoring Programme. The monitoring programme has been devised having regard to the existing monitoring systems in place and in use by Dublin City Council. Monitoring plays an important role in assessing whether the LAP is achieving its environmental objectives and targets, whether these need to be re-examined and whether the proposed mitigation measures are being implemented. It also enables at an early stage, the identification of any unforeseen adverse effects and enables appropriate remedial action to be taken.

The monitoring programme is subject to review at each reporting stage to reflect new data. Should this identify significant adverse impacts (such as impacts on designated sites etc) early on in the implementation of the LAP, this should trigger a review of both the LAP and associated monitoring programme. All information gathered from planning applications and reports submitted which include information on any surveys carried out or environmental constraints mapping should be integrated into the monitoring programme.

5.2 Indicators and Targets

This section sets out the proposed monitoring measures in accordance with Article 10 of the SEA Directive which requires that “*significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans and programmes in order, inter alia, to identify at an early stage unforeseen effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action*”. A monitoring programme has been devised having regard to the existing monitoring systems in place and in use by Dublin City Council.

Monitoring places an important role in assessing whether the LAP for Ashtown Pelletstown is achieving its environmental objectives and targets, whether these need to be re-examined and whether the proposed mitigation measures are being implemented.

5.3 Data Sources

Measurements for indicators generally come from existing monitoring sources, such as those maintained by the Dublin City Council and other relevant authorities, eg. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and the Central Statistics Office (CSO). The Development Management process in Dublin City Council will provide passive monitoring of various indicators and targets as applications come in. In the case where significant adverse effects, including positive, cumulative or indirect impacts have the potential to occur, i.e in the case of entries to the RMP, or RPS or impact on ecological networks for example, as a result of undertaking of individual projects, such instances should be identified and recorded and should feed into the monitoring process. Monitoring will focus on aspects of the environment that are likely to be significantly impacted on by the LAP. Where possible indicators have been chosen based on the availability of the necessary information and the degree to which data will allow the target to be linked directly to the implementation of the plan.

5.4 Monitoring

For the purposes of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the LAP, the SEA team developed environmental protection Indicators (EPOs), targets and indicators early on in the SEA process, see section 4 of the Environmental Report. Monitoring of the indicators is essential in order to track the impacts of the proposed

development on the environment. A monitoring programme setting out the environmental protection objectives, targets, indicators, frequency of reporting and department responsibility is included in the Environmental Report (see Table 16 of the ER - Monitoring Programme)

5.5 Reporting

The City Council, as Development Agency, will be responsible for monitoring and reporting on feedback. The City Council will prepare an Annual Progress Report detailing planning permissions granted, development commenced and/or completed, progress on objectives and progress on sustainability indicators.

5.6 Responsibility

Dublin City Council, as Development Agency, will be responsible for gathering the monitored data, the preparation of the interim report and the implementation of corrective actions, if necessary.

5.7 Thresholds at which corrective action will be taken

- The occurrence of Flood events
- Court cases taken by the DoECLG regarding impacts upon archaeological heritage including entries to the Record of Monuments and Places; and,
- complaints received from statutory consultees regarding avoidable impacts resulting from development which is granted permission under the LAP
- boil notices on drinking water;
- fish kills;

5.8 Conclusion

The Strategic Environmental Assessment carried out during the preparation of the Local Area Plan for Ashtown – Pelletstown has ensured that any potential significant environmental impacts of the Plan have been identified and that they have been given appropriate consideration. Consultation on the proposed plan and environmental report has further contributed to the development and finalisation of the adopted LAP. The SEA statement is not the final stage of the process as the plan will be monitored over its lifetime and reported on at regular intervals to assess its impact on the environment.

Appendix 1 – Monitoring Table

	Environmental Protection Objective	Target	Indicator	Frequency of Reporting	Department Responsible
Population / Human Health	<i>To protect and enhance people's quality of life based on high quality residential, community, working and recreational environments and on sustainable travel patterns</i>	All Drinking Water and Drinking Water Sources to comply with the European Communities (Drinking Water) (No.2) Regulations, 2007 and European Communities (Quality of Surface Water Intended for the Abstraction of Drinking Water) Regulations, 1989	Status of drinking water and drinking water sources	Annual	Environment and Engineering Department (Water Division)
		Sustainable densities achieved in new residential / mixed-use schemes	Average density of new residential development	Annual	Planning and Economic Development Department
		All water bodies to meet targets set in ERDB plan	Ecological status of water bodies	Annual	Environment and Engineering Department (Drainage Division)

	Environmental Protection Objective	Target	Indicator	Frequency of Reporting	Department Responsible
Biodiversity/Flora & Fauna	<i>To protect and enhance the diversity and range of habitats, species and wildlife corridors/green corridors</i>	No adverse impacts on designated nature areas / species / habitats	Survey and monitor extent and distribution of invasive species	Annual	Culture, Recreation & Amenity Dept.
			Survey and monitor bird population	Annual	Culture, Recreation & Amenity Dept.
			Survey and monitor distribution of bat populations	Annual	Culture, Recreation & Amenity Dept.
			Total area of designated sites (Natura 2000 and pNHA's)	Annual	Culture, Recreation & Amenity Dept.
		Identification of other undesignated areas of natural heritage throughout the city	Length of linked green corridor/routes	Annual	Culture, Recreation & Amenity Dept.
		Implementation of new setback/buffer zones along River Mayne for developments	Level of set back achieved	Annual	Culture, Recreation & Amenity Dept.
	Increased provision for soft landscape in existing and new developments	Permeability index for new sites for development	Annual	Culture, Recreation & Amenity Dept.	
			22		

	Environmental Protection Objective	Target	Indicator	Frequency of Reporting	Department Responsible
Water	<i>W1 To comply with EU Water Framework Directive to ensure and maintain good ecological status of all receiving water in the LAP area</i>	All water bodies to meet targets set in ERDB plan	Ecological status of water bodies	Annual	Environment and Engineering Department (Drainage Division)
	<i>W2 To reduce and manage the risk of flooding</i>	Compliance with the Floods Directive and with OPW/DoEHLG's Flood Risk Management Guidelines	Number of planning permissions compliant with the Floods Directive and OPW / DoEHLG's 'Flood Risk Management in the Planning Process' standards	Annual	Environment and Engineering Department (Drainage Division)
		Flood Risk Assessment be carried out for new developments	Number of planning permissions incorporating flood risk assessment and conditions requiring appropriate flood resilient measures for new developments	Annual	Environment and Engineering Department (Drainage Division)
		Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems in new developments	Number of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems required in new planning applications	Annual	Environment and Engineering Department (Drainage Division)

	Environmental Protection Objective	Target	Indicator	Frequency of Reporting	Department Responsible
Water	<i>W3 To provide adequate wastewater treatment, water distribution networks and drainage networks</i>	Provision of adequate water, wastewater treatment and drainage infrastructure in accordance with Dublin City Council's Strategic Water Plan for Water Services 2009	Capacity of water supply and wastewater infrastructure versus demand	Annual	Environment and Engineering Department (Drainage Division)
Air Quality & Noise	<i>AN 1 To protect good air quality status and minimise all forms of air pollution (i.e. Nitrogen oxides & Particulate Matter)</i>	Maintain good air quality values	Values of monitored pollutants in the air	Annual	Culture, Recreation & Amenity Dept.
	<i>AN2 To maintain and, where possible, improve the good acoustical quality for the current and future residents of the plan area</i>	Minimise noise pollution	% of residents exposed to noise levels above undesirable levels	Annual	Roads & Traffic (Noise & Air Quality Unit)
Climatic Factors	<i>CF To minimise emissions of greenhouse gases</i>	Decrease greenhouse emissions	Average energy consumption of new residential housing stock Tonnes of CO2/Capita/Year	Annual	Environment and Engineering Department in association with Codema

	Environmental Protection Objective	Target	Indicator	Frequency of Reporting	Department Responsible
Material Assets	<i>MA1 To reduce traffic levels by encouraging modal change from car to more sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking & cycling</i>	Extension and improvement of the cycling and walking network in the area	% change in modal split Length of new cycling paths/lanes and walking routes developed	Annual	Roads & Traffic Department
	<i>MA2 To reduce the generation of waste and adopt a sustainable approach to waste management</i>	Increased recycling (59% recycling target by 2013 – Regional Figure)	% of waste recycled Tonnes of waste per capita per year	Annual	Environment & Engineering Department (Waste Management Division)
Landscape & Soils	<i>LS1 To conserve and enhance valued natural landscapes and features within them including those of geological value</i>	Develop new areas of open space	Change in area of open space	Annual	Culture, Recreation & Amenity Dept.
		Minimise negative visual impacts from new developments	Number of developments requiring a landscape impact assessment	Annual	Planning and Economic Development Department
	<i>LS2 To protect, improve and maintain the quality of soils and give preference to the re-use of brownfield lands, rather than developing greenfield sites</i>	Brownfield sites to be developed in the area	Number of developments granted for brownfield sites (or total area of development)	Annual	Planning and Economic Development Department

	Environmental Protection Objective	Target	Indicator	Frequency of Reporting	Department Responsible
Cultural Heritage	<i>CH To protect and conserve the cultural heritage including the built environment and settings; archaeological (recorded monuments, architectural structures, materials and urban fabric) and manmade landscape features</i>	Ensure that the cultural heritage of the LAP area is maintained and protected from damage or deterioration	No. of archaeological sites investigated Number of planning applications with input from or screened by the City Archaeologist	Annual Annual	Planning and Economic Development Department