

SEA Determination

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA Screening Determination under: European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (Statutory Instrument Number (S.I. No. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. No. 200/2011 - European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations 2011.

Dublin Region Air Quality Plan 2021

An SEA Screening determination as to whether the Dublin Region Air Quality Plan 2021 is likely to have significant effects on the environment is being made under the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (Statutory Instrument Number (S.I. No. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. No. 200/2011 - European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations 2011.

The Dublin Region Air Quality Plan 2021 has been tested against the relevant criteria 'requirements to carry out environmental assessment'. The first relevant criteria 9 (1)(a) relates to plans 'which are prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications and tourism, and which set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in Annexes I and II to the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive.

The Dublin Region Air Quality Plan 2021 does not come under any of the sectors specifically listed namely 'agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications and tourism'. Although the Dublin Region Air Quality Plan 2021 may refer to other plans and projects in order to capture the current baseline position in each of the relevant local authorities, the Plan does not identify or provide the framework for the delivery of these plans and projects.

The projects as well as the proposed measures listed in the Dublin Region Air Quality Plan 2021 can only be delivered through inclusion of dedicated objectives in the relevant statutory plans which are subject to SEA in their own right. In some cases, measures also require the provision of enabling legislation. The Plan will therefore not 'set the framework for future development consent of projects' listed in Annexes I and II to the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive.

The Dublin Region Air Quality Plan 2021 is consistent with other key relevant higher-level plans and programmes and aligns with national environmental commitments. In this context, the relevant objectives and policy commitments of the National Planning Framework and the Eastern and Midlands Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy have been considered, as appropriate.

The second relevant criteria 9 (1)(b) relates to plans 'which are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site but, either individually or in combination with other plans, are likely to have a significant effect on any such site.' The Dublin Region Air Quality Plan 2021 either individually or in combination with other plans, is not likely to have a significant effect on any European site for reasons outlined in the Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report.

In making the determination, the information contained in the accompanying SEA Screening Report (including information provided by environmental authorities and an examination of the need to undertake SEA against relevant criteria set out in Schedule 2A 'Criteria for determining whether a plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment' of the above Regulations) has been taken into account. That information has been carefully considered and its reasoning and conclusion agreed with and adopted — allowing a determination to be made that the Dublin Region Air Quality Plan 2021 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

Taking into account all of the above, SEA is not required to be undertaken on the Dublin Region Air Quality Plan 2021.

Signatories:

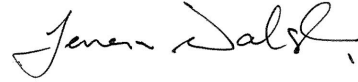
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