

Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028  
Strategic Environmental Assessment  
Environmental Report Non-Technical Summary

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Client:

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## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Non-Technical Summary (NTS)</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Process</b> .....	<b>3</b>
2.1	What is SEA? .....	3
2.2	Steps in the SEA Process.....	3
2.3	Scoping (Stage 2) .....	4
2.4	SEA Environmental Report (Stage 3).....	4
2.5	SEA Statement (Stage 4).....	6
2.6	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) .....	6
2.7	Screening for Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).....	6
2.8	Consultation .....	7
<b>3</b>	<b>Dublin City Development Plan 2022 – 2028</b> .....	<b>10</b>
3.1	Introduction .....	10
3.2	Content of the Plan .....	10
3.3	Aims and Vision of the Plan .....	11
3.4	Monitoring and Progress.....	12
<b>4</b>	<b>Policy Context – Policies, Plans &amp; Programmes</b> .....	<b>13</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Environmental Baseline</b> .....	<b>14</b>
5.1	Introduction .....	14
5.2	Biodiversity (Flora and Fauna) .....	16
5.3	Population and Human Health.....	22
5.4	Soils & Geology .....	24
5.5	Water Quality .....	25
5.6	Air Quality, Noise & Climate Change .....	28
5.7	Cultural Heritage .....	31
5.8	Landscape & Visual.....	33
5.9	Material Assets .....	36
5.9.1	Water Supply .....	36
5.9.2	Wastewater .....	36
5.9.3	Utilities & Telecommunications.....	37
5.9.4	Energy .....	37
5.9.5	Transport .....	38
5.9.6	Waste Management .....	39
5.9.7	Green Infrastructure.....	39
<b>6</b>	<b>SEA Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b> .....	<b>40</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Consideration of Alternatives</b> .....	<b>44</b>
7.1	Limitations in Available Alternatives .....	44
7.2	Alternative Scenarios .....	44
7.3	Assessment of Alternatives .....	45
<b>8</b>	<b>Strategic Environmental Assessment of Plan</b> .....	<b>48</b>



8.1	Introduction .....	48
8.2	Environmental Assessment of Plan .....	48
8.3	Climate Mitigation and Adaption in the Plan .....	61
8.4	Interrelationship between Environmental Factors .....	61
8.5	Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment .....	61
8.6	Cumulative Impacts.....	62
9	Mitigation Measures .....	64
10	Monitoring .....	91
11	Conclusion.....	99



## 1 Non-Technical Summary (NTS)

Dublin City Council (DCC) has prepared the new Dublin City Development Plan 2022 – 2028 (the ‘Plan’. This document is the Non-technical Summary of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report for the Plan.

The Plan is a strategic document setting the vision and direction for the proper planning and sustainable development of the city over the period 2022 to 2028.

The preparation of the Plan was required to undergo a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), including the preparation of an SEA Environmental Report, in accordance with Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the ‘SEA Directive’), and associated implementing national legislation.

The purpose of the Environmental Report is to evaluate the likely environmental effects of the Plan and its alternatives, and to evaluate their significance with regard to the environmental baseline. This provides stakeholders and the public with a clear understanding of the likely environmental consequences of implementing the Plan.

The Environmental Report presents:

- A description of the environment and the key environmental issues;
- A description and assessment of alternatives for the Plan;
- An assessment of the provisions of the Plan;
- Mitigation measures that will avoid / reduce the environmental effects of implementing the Plan and
- Proposals for monitoring of the implementation of the Plan.

This document provides a non-technical summary (NTS) of the Environment Report, in order to ensure that the key issues and findings set out in the Environmental Report are readily understood by decision makers and the general public.

The Plan and associated SEA Environmental Report were made available for comment from statutory bodies, the public and interested parties during public display periods. The content of submissions or observations received as part of the public display / consultation stages informed the finalisation of the Plan and of the associated SEA process.

## Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028

### Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report Non-Technical Summary

The preparation of the SEA Environmental Report, the Non-technical Summary (NTS) and the SEA Statement have been undertaken by Brady Shipman Martin, Environmental, Landscape and Planning Consultants on behalf of Dublin City Council.

## 2 The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Process

### 2.1 What is SEA?

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the process by which environmental considerations are required to be fully integrated into the preparation of plans and programmes prior to their final adoption. The objectives of SEA are to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to promote sustainable development<sup>1</sup>.

SEA enables the planning authority to direct development towards robust, well-serviced and connected areas in their functional area, thereby facilitating the general avoidance of incompatible areas in the most sensitive, least well-serviced and least well-connected areas.

SEA provides greater certainty to the public and to developers. Plans are more likely to be adopted without delays or challenges and planning applications are more likely to be granted permission.

### 2.2 Steps in the SEA Process

Table 2.1 highlights the key stages in the SEA process and the progress made to date.

**Table 2.1 Key Stages in SEA**

Stage	Description	Status
<b>1. Screening</b>	Screening will determine if SEA is required.	Completed ✓
<b>2. Scoping</b>	Determines the spatial and temporal scope of the SEA in consultation with the designated statutory consultees.	Completed ✓
<b>3. Environmental Report</b>	Formal and transparent assessment of the likely significant impacts on the environment due to implementation of a Plan / Programme including all reasonable alternatives. The output from this stage is an Environmental Report, which is required to go on public display along with the Plan / Programme.	Completed ✓
<b>4. SEA Statement</b>	Summarises the process undertaken and identifies how environmental considerations and consultations have been integrated into the final Plan / Programme.	Completed ✓

<sup>1</sup> Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (2021). *Strategic Environmental Assessment*.

Stage	Description	Status
<b>5. Monitoring</b>	Monitoring the environmental performance of the implementation of the Plan	<b>Current Stage</b>

### 2.3 Scoping (Stage 2)

The Scoping Stage (Stage 2) ensures that the SEA is focused on the relevant environmental issues and examines issues at the appropriate level of detail. Scoping also includes consultation with the Environmental Authorities, and allows for the incorporation of the views of the Environmental Authorities within the Plan / Programme and the SEA Environmental Report.

Consultation submissions received during this stage have been considered in the Plan and the assessment process.

### 2.4 SEA Environmental Report (Stage 3)

The SEA Environmental Report is the main assessment and written output of the SEA process. The Environmental Report predicts and evaluates the likely significant effects of the Plan and the alternatives. The Environmental Report provides Dublin City Council, stakeholders and the public with a clear understanding of the likely environmental consequences of implementing the Plan. The Environmental Report considers the following in accordance with the requirements of the SEA Directive:

- Biodiversity (Flora & Fauna);
- Population & Human Health;
- Soils and Geology;
- Water Quality;
- Air, Noise and Climate;
- Landscape;
- Material Assets;
- Cultural Heritage; and
- Interactions and Cumulative Impacts.

Table 2.2 summarises the content of the SEA Environmental Report. In the first instance, the Environmental Report details the current condition of the environment of the study area under each of the sub-headings set out above. It also summarises the significant environmental



pressures that may affect each of the environmental topics and the current (baseline) condition of the environment.

**Table 2.2 Content of the SEA Environmental Report**

No.	Chapter	Description
1	<b>Introduction</b>	A brief introduction to the SEA Environmental Report.
2	<b>Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028</b>	A description of the Plan and a summary of its key policies and objectives.
3	<b>Methodology</b>	The steps taken in preparation of the SEA, including the methods used and technical difficulties encountered.
4	<b>Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes</b>	The relationship of the Plan to other relevant plans and programmes is highlighted.
5	<b>Environmental Baseline and Issues</b>	A description of the current environment of the area of the Plan is given, highlighting any existing environmental problems. This exercise results in a baseline against which the likely effects of implementing the Plan can be examined.
6	<b>Strategic Environmental Objectives</b>	A number of environmental protection objectives which have been established at international, EU or national Level and are relevant to the Plan are listed. Following this, a description of how the objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account in the preparation of the Plan is given.
7	<b>Description of Alternatives</b>	An assessment of the proposed alternatives to the Plan are considered at this stage.
8	<b>Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)</b>	An examination of the Plan policies and objectives in terms of their potential effects on the various environmental parameters.
9	<b>Mitigation Measures</b>	Should potentially significant effects be discovered, measures to avoid, reduce or offset these effects are proposed and integrated into the Plan.
10	<b>Monitoring Programme</b>	Proposals for monitoring the significant effects of the Plan on the environment are put forward. A number of indicators of change and targets are identified and existing monitoring arrangements are utilised.
11	<b>Conclusion</b>	A conclusion with regard to the overall potential impact on the environment resulting from the implementation of the Plan.

## **2.5 SEA Statement (Stage 4)**

A SEA Statement has been prepared and published alongside the final adopted Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028.

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

## **2.6 Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)**

A Screening Stage for Appropriate Assessment (AA) (Stage 1) was undertaken for the Plan. The need for Appropriate Assessment arises out of Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora ('the Habitats Directive'), which requires that proposed plans and programmes (including amendments or variations thereof) undergo a screening test for likely or potential effects on European Sites (also known as the Natura 2000 network) arising from their implementation.

The AA Screening exercise concluded that, due to the types of development that could arise as a result of implementing the Development Plan, significant effects could not be ruled out, and that the Plan would, therefore, need further assessment during its preparation.

Therefore, a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment was required and a Natura Impact Report (NIR) has been prepared in parallel with the preparation of the Plan and the Environmental Report (Volume 6).

## **2.7 Screening for Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)**

A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has also been undertaken in relation to the Plan, in accordance with the Office of Public Works (OPW) and Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government guidelines, The Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009). The preparation of the Plan, SFRA, SEA Environmental Report and AA have taken place concurrently, and the findings have informed both the Plan and SEA.

## 2.8 Consultation

Dublin City Council gave notice of its intention to review the existing Dublin City Development Plan 2016 – 2022 and to prepare a new Development Plan for the period 2022 – 2028 on 15 December 2020. A Strategic Issues Paper was prepared to help identify the issues relevant to the Dublin City Council functional area.

Pre-draft public consultation was undertaken over an eight week period from 15 December 2020 to 22 February 2021. The Strategic Issues Paper was published and made available at the City Council Offices (by appointment) and on a dedicated web site ([dublincitydevelopmentplan.ie](http://dublincitydevelopmentplan.ie)). A summarised, National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) approved, plain English version of the Strategic Issues Paper was also made available. Two background research papers – one each in relation to (i) height and (ii) retail – were also published.

The Strategic Issues Paper addressed the following ten themes, highlighting the key issues for the City over the period 2022 – 2028:

- Shaping the City
- Climate Action
- Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods
- The City Economy
- The City, Urban Villages and Retail
- Sustainable Movement and Transport
- Green Infrastructure, Open Space, Recreation and Natural Heritage
- Built Heritage and Archaeology
- Culture
- Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk

Each theme was accompanied by a set of questions to stimulate constructive feedback on the issues in question, and potential policy responses.

A total of 752 no. submissions were received at this stage. These submissions were summarised in the Chief Executive's Report (19 April 2021) and informed the SEA Scoping process with the Environmental Authorities.

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..

The Draft Plan, SEA Environmental Report, Natura Impact Report and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment were placed on public display for ten weeks from 29 November 2021 to the 14 February 2022. A total of 4,323 submissions and observations were received during the prescribed period in response to this stage of public consultation.

In accordance with the requirements of Section 12(4)(b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), a Chief Executive's Report (29 April 2022) was prepared, which summarised and detailed the submissions received on the Draft Plan and provided the response and recommendations of the Chief Executive to the issues raised.

On foot of this report, further motions were received from the elected members and a further CE Report providing a response and recommendations on these motions was issued (24 June 2022).

The Members of Dublin City Council, considered the Draft Plan and the Chief Executive's Report on submissions received, and resolved at Council meetings on the 5, 6 and 7 of July 2022 to amend the Draft City Development Plan. A number of these amendments constituted material alteration to the Draft City Development Plan. Accordingly, the Council resolved to place the Proposed Material Alterations (PMA) on public display from the 27 July 2022 to the 1 September 2022, in accordance with Section 12(7)(b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

A total of 1,096 written submissions / observations were received on the proposed material alterations and responses and recommendations were provided in the Chief Executive's Report of 21 September 2022. The recommendations were screened for Appropriate Assessment, Flood Risk and for SEA.

The Members reviewed the Chief Executive's Report and provided further motions on the material alterations, which were addressed in the Chief Executive's Report of the 25 October 2022. Again the recommendations were screened for Appropriate Assessment, Flood Risk and for SEA.

Special Council meetings to review the Chief Executive's Reports on the proposed material amendments to the Draft Dublin City Development Plan were convened on the 1 and 2

## Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028

### Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report Non-Technical Summary

November 2022. At the meetings, the Members resolved to make the Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028.

The new Plan, together with its SEA Environmental Report, SEA Non-technical Summary (this report), SEA Statement, AA Natura Impact Report and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, is effective for a six year period from the 14 December 2022.

## **3 Dublin City Development Plan 2022 – 2028**

### **3.1 Introduction**

Dublin City Council has prepared the Dublin City Development Plan 2022 – 2028.

The Plan is a land use plan and overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the functional area of Dublin City Council over the six-year period, 2022 - 2028.

#### **3.1.1 Geographical Area of the Plan**

Dublin City Council is one of four Local Authority areas in the Dublin region. The Plan covers the functional area of Dublin City Council, which is 115 sq.km. in extent. The spatial structure of the City is shaped by both its natural setting and artificial 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.

### **3.2 Content of the Plan**

The Plan is set out in a series of volumes, as follows:

- Written Statement (Volume 1)
- Appendices (Volume 2)
- Mapping (Volume 3): The zoning maps and other strategic maps provide a graphic representation of the land use proposals and other specific objectives of the Plan.
- Record of Protected Structures (Volume 4)
- SEA Environmental Report (Volume 5)
- Natura Impact Report (Volume 6)
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (Volume 7)

The Written Statement is the main body of the Plan, outlining its vision, Core Strategy, policies and objectives. It includes 16 no. chapters, as follows:

1. Strategic Context & Vision
2. Core Strategy
3. Climate Action
4. Shape and Structure of the City

5. Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods
6. City Economy and Enterprise
7. City Centre, Urban Villages and Retail
8. Sustainable Movement and Transport
9. Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure & Flood Risk
10. Green Infrastructure & Recreation
11. Built Heritage and Archaeology
12. Culture
13. Strategic Development Regeneration Areas
14. Land Use Zoning
15. Development Standards
16. Phasing and Implementation

### **3.3 Aims and Vision of the Plan**

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. The key objective of the Core Strategy is to ensure that quantum and location of development is consistent with national and regional policy. It includes an assessment of the location and quantum of appropriately zoned lands available to accommodate the population and housing targets for the city.

The Vision for the City set out in the Core Strategy 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.”

### **3.4 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 Development Plan. The impact of policies and specific objectives should wherever possible be quantified.

Monitoring identifies whether the Development Plan remains consistent with national and regional policy and, where policy changes occur at national and / or regional level, advise whether the Plan should be varied to ensure consistency with these higher level policies.

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 Development Plan, on the progress achieved in achieving its objectives.

Section 10 of Development Plan Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2022 addresses plan implementation, monitoring and reporting with reference to the monitoring team, measurable objectives, annual (Core Strategy) and two-yearly (Plan Objectives) monitoring and reporting on the Plan.

The SEA process, through the recommendation of mitigation measures, provides for environmental monitoring throughout the lifetime of the 6-year Development Plan.



## 4 Policy Context – Policies, Plans & Programmes

The preparation of the Plan was considered within the context of a hierarchy of policies, plans and programmes of international, national, regional and local level as detailed in Chapter 3 (Methodology) of the SEA Environmental Report (Volume 2).

The Plan must comply with higher level plans, including Project Ireland 2040: National Planning Framework (NPF), which is implemented through the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSEs) and lower tier Development Plans and Local Area Plans. Both the NPF and RSEs have been subject to the SEA process. The Plan will, in turn, guide lower level strategic actions, policies and plan, including Local Area Plans.

The key legislative provisions of relevance to the Plan include the SEA Directive, the Habitats Directive and Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy ('the Water Framework Directive'), among others.

The key policies of relevance to the Plan include (but are not limited to) the following:

- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals / 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Project Ireland 2040: National Planning Framework & National Development Plan 2021 – 2030
- Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy 2019 – 2031 (including the Dublin Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP))
- Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2022 – 2042
- Climate Action Plan 2021
- National Energy & Climate Plan 2021 – 2030
- Housing for All – A New Housing Plan for Ireland (2021)

The Plan must also be prepared in accordance with the Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines, as detailed in Chapter 4 of the Environmental Report (Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes).

## 5 Environmental Baseline

### 5.1 Introduction

This section provides a summary of the environmental baseline (i.e. the current state of the environment) of the Dublin City Council functional area.

Baseline data has been collected regarding the environmental topics 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. Baseline data describe the existing status and trends in the environment, and facilitate the identification of any existing environmental issues to be taken into consideration in the assessment.

The environmental baseline, together with the Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) (refer to **Section 6**) are used to identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant environmental effects of the implementation of the Plan.

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

To date, the Dublin City Development Plan 2016 – 2022 has contributed towards environmental protection and sustainable development within the Dublin City Council functional area. If the current Development Plan were to expire and not be replaced, this would potentially result in a deterioration of the City's planning and environmental protection framework.

Although higher level policies (including the various EU Directives and transposing Irish Regulations) would still apply, the absence of the statutory framework provided by a Development Plan would result in new development would be less coordinated and controlled. Such development could result in an increase in the occurrence of negative effects on all environmental receptors, especially those arising cumulatively; i.e. as a result of the combination of the environmental effects of the range of activities occurring in an area, which may not be significant if considered in isolation.

Potential negative effects arising from the construction and / or operation of developments and associated infrastructure include:

- Loss, damage and / or fragmentation of biodiversity in designated sites (including European sites), protected habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and / or disturbance / displacement of wildlife.
- Loss, damage and / or fragmentation of biodiversity / green infrastructure and associated ecosystem services, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats.
- Negative direct and / or indirect impacts on human health as a result of environmental degradation, e.g. of soil, water, biodiversity, air quality and associated ecosystem services / natural capital.
- Loss, damage and / or degradation of hydrogeological and / or ecological functions of soil.
- Negative impacts on the status of waterbodies (including groundwater, surface water, lakes, transitional and coastal waters) arising from changes in quality, flow and / or morphology.
- Inadequate treatment of surface water run-off and / or wastewater that is discharged to waterbodies, resulting in negative water quality impacts.
- Increases in the risk and extent of flooding.
- Failure to comply with drinking water regulations and provide new development with adequate drinking water.
- Failure to reduce carbon emissions in line with national and European targets.
- Potential effects on protected and unrecorded archaeology and protected architectural heritage arising from the construction and operation of development.
- Negative visual impacts and / or conflicts in the absence of appropriate protections / 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 indicates that the overall quality of Ireland's environment is not what it should be, and the outlook is not optimistic unless we significantly increase the implementation of solutions. The environmental challenges that Ireland faces is cut across different environmental topics, such as climate, air, water and biodiversity and across organisations and all levels of society.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a huge impact on Ireland's economy, however, the degree to which this impact will obstruct national environmental policy ambitions, including the transition to a climate-neutral economy, will be seen in the future.

## 5.2 Biodiversity (Flora and Fauna)

Biodiversity plays a significant role in the delivery 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 / land, freshwater and marine environments. However, over the last few decades, human impacts on biodiversity have significantly increased and resulted in increased damage and loss of habitats and species.

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

Ecological networks act as corridors and stepping stones for wildlife, and are important for connecting areas of biodiversity, but also for migration and dispersal of species of flora and fauna. The City has a number of undeveloped or protected corridors, which act as links from the surrounding countryside in South Dublin, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and Fingal into the denser urban core of Dublin City. These ecological networks and protected corridors include:

- Liffey Valley;
- Dodder Valley and tributaries,; and
- Tolka Valley;
- Grand and Royal Canals; and
- The coastline.

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. Green infrastructure describes the functionality of rivers, inland waterways, floodplains, wetlands, woodlands, coastal areas, parks and gardens and the services they provide.

Dublin City has a rich diversity of ecosystems and wildlife in its terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments. The City's natural assets include parks (including the Phoenix Park), open spaces, landscapes, watercourses, public squares, coastline, marine habitats and urban tree

canopy; some of which have international importance for biodiversity and provide crucial ecosystem services, including flood defences and carbon sequestration.

Dublin City has c. 70 km of inland waterways (rivers and canals) and 23 km of coastline. The City's waterways and their riparian zones (river banks and towpaths) and its coastline are important wildlife habitats, which function as ecological corridors. The Rivers Liffey, Tolka and Dodder are highly significant regional salmonid catchments. The Grand Canal and Rivers Liffey and Dodder support important fisheries.

There are a number of Water Framework Directive Protected Areas in the Dublin City Council functional area; including bathing waters (Dollymount, Merrion Strand and Sandymount), and nutrient sensitive areas (River Liffey, Liffey Estuary and Tolka Estuary). There are also a number of water-dependent habitats in the Development Plan area, which appear on the Water Framework Directive Register of Protected Areas, and which relate to European Sites.

Additionally, the Malahide Shellfish Area is a designated shellfish water under Directive 2006/113/EC on the quality required of shellfish waters ('the Shellfish Waters Directive'), and is located c. 3.2 km north-east of the boundary of the functional area.

The Dublin City Council functional area contains or is immediately adjacent to four European sites designated for protection under the Habitats Directive and Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds ('the Birds Directive') which form part of a European network of important ecological sites known as the 'Natura 2000 network':

- The North Dublin Bay Special Area of Conservation [site code 000206];
- The South Dublin Bay Special Area of Conservation [site code 000210];
- The North Bull Island Special Protection Area [ site code 004006]; and
- The South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary Special Protection Area [site code 004024]

The assessment undertaken in the Natura Impact Report (NIR) states that there are 23 European sites located within the Zone of Influence (Zoi) of the Plan for which a source pathway receptor linkage is identified (refer to Figures 5.1 and 5.2). Four of these sites are located in the administrative boundary of DCC and in Dublin Bay: North Dublin Bay SAC, South Dublin Bay SAC, North Bull Island SPA and South Dublin Bay and River Tolka SPA. All of these European sites are hydrologically connected to the Plan area via the following watercourses: Mayne River, Santry River, Naniken River, River Tolka, River Liffey, Royal Canal, Liffey Estuary

Upper, Liffey Estuary Lower, Grand Canal, River Dodder, River Camac, River Poddle and the Brewery Stream. The remaining 19 sites (8 Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and 11 Special Protection Areas (SPAs)) are outside the DCC administrative boundary, but within the potential ZOI by virtue of:

- •Hydrological pathways
- •use of ex-situ inland feeding sites by SCI winter bird species (such as Brent Geese) from European sites across the wider Dublin Area.

As part of the public consultation on the Plan, a submission was received from the Development Applications Unit of Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage stating that the Council should take into account the possibility that the implementation of the Plan might affect Natura 2000 sites from which water is currently abstracted to supply the city such as the Poulaphouca Reservoir Special Protection Area (SPA) and the Glenasmole Valley Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and sites such as the River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA and the Lower Shannon SAC, which may be affected in future by plans to source water from the Shannon river system to meet Dublin's increased water demand.

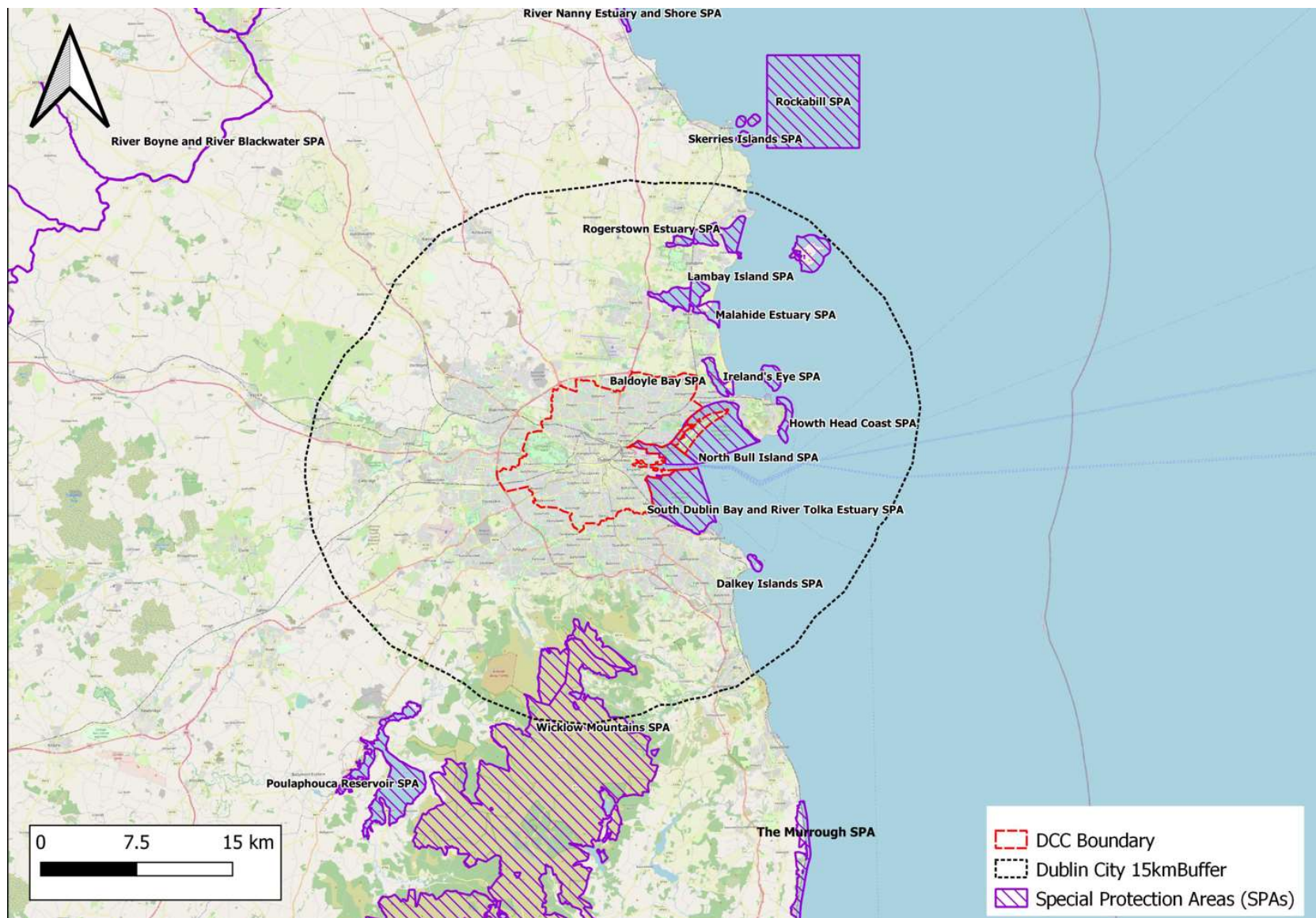
On-going and future projects, including the new Shannon source, are identified in existing higher-level plans e.g. National Development Plan 2021 – 2030, the National Water Resource Plan Draft Framework Plan 2021, with further detail in the Irish Water Draft Regional Water Resources Plan – Eastern and Midlands Plan. These higher level plans have been subject to their own AA and SEA processes. Any projects arising from these plans will be overseen by Irish Water and will be subject to environmental assessment, including Appropriate Assessment.

Therefore, sites such as the River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA and the Lower Shannon SAC, have not been brought into the ZOI for the Plan.

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



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





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. While not statutorily designated, proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) are also of significance for wildlife and habitats. There are eight pNHAs within or adjacent to the functional area of Dublin City Council:

- North Dublin Bay pNHA [site code 000206];
- South Dublin Bay pNHA [site code 000210];
- 'Dolphins, Dublin Docks' pNHA [site code 000201]'
- Royal Canal pNHA [site code 002103];
- Grand Canal pNHA [site code 002104];
- Booterstown March pNHA [site code 001205];
- Santry Demesne [site code 000178]; and
- Liffey Valley pNHA [site code 000128].

Existing biodiversity issues and threats, which are also relevant to Dublin City, include but are not limited to:

- **Development:** Construction and operation of infrastructural, residential, commercial, industrial, and recreational developments.
- **Water quality impacts:** Pollution of water bodies, e.g. due to poor working practices, leakages or accidental spillage of materials, unattenuated surface water run-off and wastewater emissions.
- **Climate change:** For example, the loss of wetlands and dunes due to climate change related events, e.g. storms and flood events.
- **Lighting:** High levels of artificial lighting can have detrimental impacts on the occurrence of bat species.
- **Natural processes:** For example, natural erosion of soft coastal areas.
- **Land management:** Land use change and sealing of soils can release CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere and further reduce areas of 'carbon sinks'.
- **Invasive species:** Invasive species can have a range of negative ecological impacts, e.g. outcompeting native species or carrying pathogens.

### 5.3 Population and Human Health

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 population of Dublin City is expected to increase between 21,350 - 31,450 persons to an overall population of between 625,750 and 640,000) by 2028.

The CSO's 2021 population estimate for the Dublin Region was 1,430,000 persons. Dublin City Council's share of the 2016 Census regional population figure for Dublin was approximately 42%. Assuming the same share for the CSO 2021 estimated regional population figure for Dublin, this gives an estimated population figure of 600,600 for Dublin City Council in April 2021. This indicates an estimated 8.3% rise in the population of Dublin City over a five year period from 2016 through to 2021.

The preliminary Census 2022 results for the administrative area of Dublin City Council in April 2022 recorded 588,233 persons. This is a preliminary increase of approximately 33,000 persons on the 2016 census of 554, 554. This equates to approximately a 6% increase in a 6 year period averaging a 1 % increase per year, in-line with previous results.

The official Census 2022 results will be published April 2023.

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.

Human health has the potential to be impacted upon by environmental factors such as the quality of air, water and soil; through which individuals can be exposed to contaminants and pathogens.

The quality of the urban environment; e.g. the safety of the environment, access to quality housing, education, healthcare and other supporting infrastructure and amenities, green space, public transport services, walking and cycling infrastructure, cultural resources, etc.;

significantly affect physical and mental health, public safety and crime and the overall wellbeing and prosperity of communities.

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 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 Dublin City include but are not limited to:

- **Housing:** There is an increasing demand for housing units in the city. However, large areas of the city that are well served by existing or proposed infrastructure remain undeveloped or underdeveloped. Concentrations of underutilised lands are evident in a number of areas of the city (e.g. the Liberties and northeast inner city).
- **Flooding:** Dublin City is vulnerable to fluvial and coastal flooding events.
- **Urban Decay:** There are ongoing issues of dereliction, particularly in the inner city.
- **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.
- **Access to Green Space:** There are deficits in green space as a legacy of historic development of the City. The *Access to and the use of Blue / Green Spaces in Ireland during a Pandemic*<sup>2</sup> 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 adverse human health effects.

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<sup>2</sup> A small-scale research study report commissioned by the Environmental Protection Agency Research Programme by the SHEER Wellbeing Project Team, NUI Galway

## 5.4 Soils & Geology

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).

Much of Dublin is dominated by rocks of Carboniferous age. During the Carboniferous period, subsidence resulted in marine sediments accumulating across most of Dublin City and the county. The calp limestone, which covers most of Dublin, was deposited in the basins that formed over 300 million years ago. The limestone itself is comprised of dark grey, fine-grained, graded limestone with interbedded black, poorly fossilised shales.

Most of the limestone is covered by a thick layer of Quaternary 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 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'. 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. 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.

As Dublin is a built-up city, much of the topsoil and alluvium has been removed. 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. Urban soils are generally overlain by a non-agricultural, man-made layer formed from mixing, infilling or contamination by industrial uses.

A significant portion of Dublin City is built on infilled or reclaimed land, including the North Docklands, North Lotts and East Wall. The reclamation began during the eighteenth century.

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

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.

Existing soil and geology issues / pressures and threats on land within the Dublin City administrative area, include but are not limited to:

- The loss and / or damage of soil from land-use change, erosion, disposal of organic wastes to soils, industry and urbanisation.
- Contamination of soil can occur from unauthorised waste-related activities, leakages and accidental spillages of chemicals. Contaminated soil can create technical and financial constraints for developments and poses a human health risk.
- Disturbance of contaminated soils could potentially result in water pollution and further land contamination.
- Soil sealing, i.e. covering of the ground by an impermeable material, can potentially put biodiversity at risk, increase the risk of flooding and prevents natural drainage.
- Loss and / or damage of soil releases CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere and reduces areas of 'carbon sinks'.

## 5.5 Water Quality

Water is fundamental to all life - humans, plants and animals. It is also critical in economic terms in generating and sustaining wealth in a number of key areas such as agriculture, fishing, power generation, industry, transport and tourism. Water resources are fragile and require continued protection.

Nearly half of the surface waters in Ireland are failing to meet the water quality objectives set by the Water Framework Directive because of pollution and other human disturbance. Water quality in Ireland has seen an overall decline in surface water quality, especially in rivers, between 2004 and 2012. Preserving a high standard of water is essential for human health and the natural environment.

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

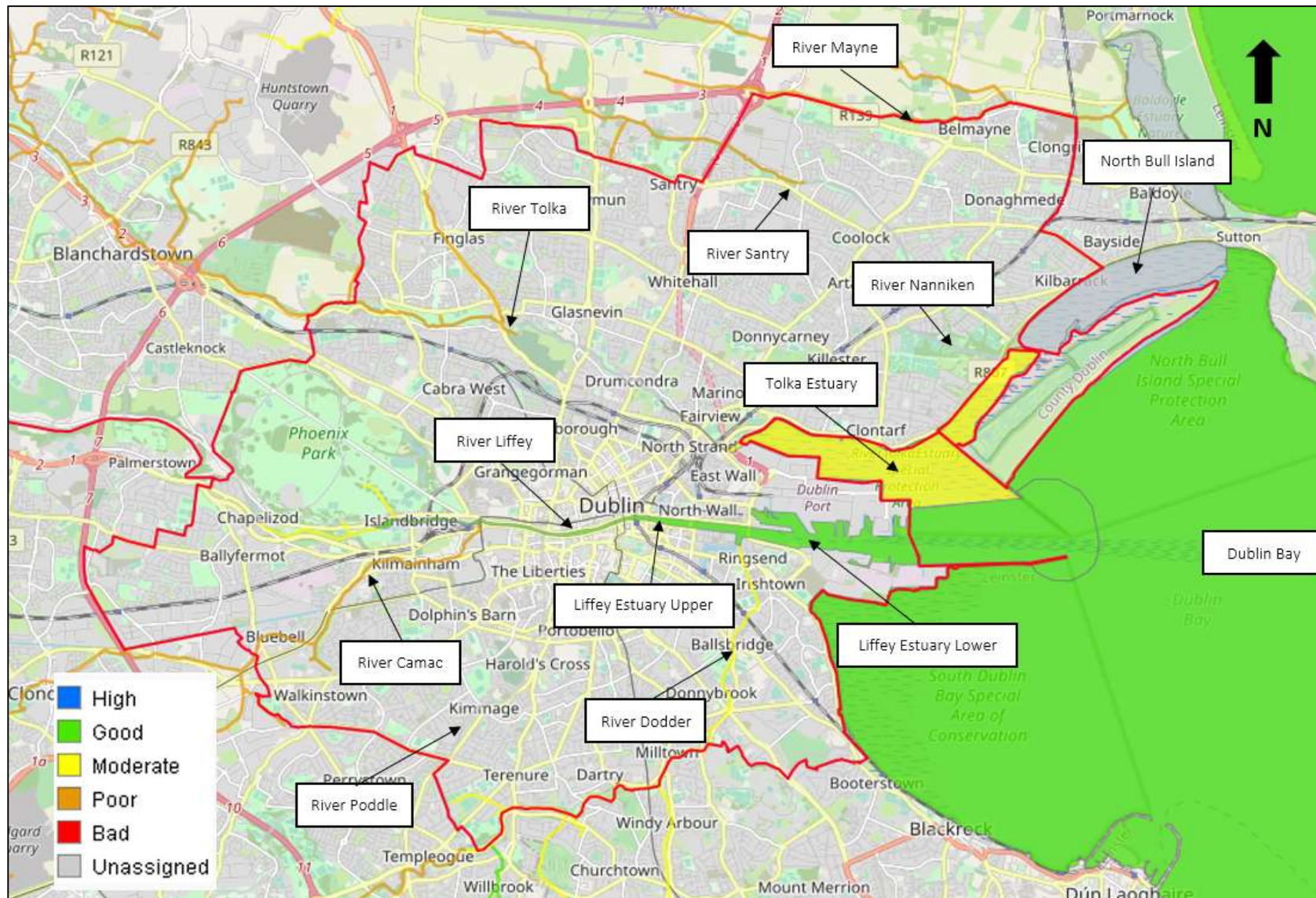
have been culverted, open channel sections make a positive contribution to biodiversity value of local parks and the river corridor in the city. The city's rivers and canals and their riparian zones form important elements of the city's green infrastructure network.

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.

The Water Framework Directive status of the river waterbodies in Dublin City ranged from 'moderate' to 'poor' during the 2017 – 2020 monitoring period. 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 Water Framework Directive, due to a number of factors including upstream pollution, sewer overflows / misconnections and urban run-off. 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.

Figure 5.3: WFD Waterbody Status for Dublin City 2013-2018



The WFD status of the transitional waterbodies in Dublin City ranged from ‘good’ to ‘moderate’ during the 2013 – 2018 monitoring period. The Liffey Estuary Upper and Liffey Estuary Lower had ‘good’ status, the Tolka Estuary had ‘moderate’ status, and North Bull Island was unassigned. The status of the Dublin Bay Coastal Waterbody was ‘good’ during the 2013 – 2018 monitoring period. The ultimate deadline for Member States for achievement of ‘good’ status is 2027 at the latest.

There are two designated bathing waters in the functional area; at Dollymount Strand and Sandymount Strand. In 2020, Dollymount Strand had ‘good’ water quality status, while Sandymount Strand had ‘sufficient’ status. Merrion Strand, which was formerly a designated bathing water, had ‘poor’ status in 2019, and was subsequently declassified as a bathing water.

Groundwater is important for a drinking water supply as well as the supply to surface waters. Groundwater Water Framework Directive status in Dublin City (2013 – 2018) was generally ‘good’. The vulnerability of aquifers in the functional area ranges from low (in the north and north-east) to moderate / high (in the south and north-west) to extreme / rock at or near surface or karst (small pockets in the north-west and south). The majority of the City is underlain by a locally important aquifer (bedrock which is moderately productive only in local zones).

Dublin City is susceptible to fluvial, pluvial, coastal, estuarine and groundwater flooding; which will be exacerbated by climate change. Dublin City Council has implemented, and continues to advance, flood alleviation projects across its functional area. A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment has been carried out in relation to the Plan.

The principal threat to water in Dublin City is pollution, which can affect surface and groundwater bodies. Any development under the scope of the Plan has the potential to affect water quality, water consumption, flood risk and wastewater generation. Sources of pollution include combined sewer overflows, leaks and spillages, unattenuated surface water run-off, and emissions of treated effluent. Physical changes to surface waters (e.g. culverting and channelization) can also negatively affect the hydrological environment.

## **5.6 Air Quality, Noise & Climate Change**

The current trends in air quality in Ireland are reported in the latest EPA publication, Air Quality in Ireland 2021. The report indicates that air quality in Ireland is generally good; however, there



are localised issues in some of our cities, towns and villages. Ireland exceeded the World Health Organization (WHO) air quality guideline values at 33 no. monitoring sites across Ireland – mostly due to the burning of solid fuel in our cities, towns and villages.

The main sources of air pollution in Dublin City are domestic solid fuel burning, diesel fuelled vehicles, industry and natural sources such as sea salt and wind-blown dust. The EPA monitors air pollutants levels in Dublin City and compares them to EU legal limit values and the WHO guideline values.

Annual average PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations were modelled for Dublin in 2017. The PM<sub>2.5</sub> mapping clearly indicates that Dublin City was above the WHO guideline values for PM<sub>2.5</sub>. These results support monitoring carried out by them EPA and the conclusion of previous Air Quality in Ireland reports.

In 2019, levels of sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO), and particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) were all within acceptable EU levels. However, EU limit values of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), were breached at one monitoring location. Long-term exposure to levels of NO<sub>2</sub> in excess of the EU limits poses a potential threat to human health. The EPA's 2019 publication, Urban Environmental Indicators: Nitrogen dioxide levels in Dublin, has found that:

1. Highest levels of NO<sub>2</sub> are at locations with heavier traffic.
2. There are many areas where NO<sub>2</sub> is problematic – In particular places, NO<sub>2</sub> 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 NO<sub>2</sub> are well within the EU limits in many residential areas – Away from busy roads the levels of NO<sub>2</sub> 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 NO<sub>2</sub> have been exceeded, local authorities in Dublin will be required to prepare air quality action plans to address the causes and provide solutions in the affected areas.

The key issues regarding air quality in the Dublin City Council area are likely to be the impacts on air quality from domestic fossil fuel use and local traffic.

Low environmental noise levels are important to ensure good health and quality of life for the population of Dublin City. The Dublin Agglomeration Noise Action Plan 2018 – 2023 has been prepared jointly by the four Local Authorities<sup>3</sup> in the County. Its objective is to avoid, prevent and reduce where necessary, the long-term exposure to environmental noise. Road traffic is the major source of environmental noise in the City. Dublin Airport's zone of operation overlaps with Dublin City Council's functional area, and is a source of environmental noise in certain parts of the north of the City.

The key issues in relation to noise pollution in the Dublin City functional area are likely to be road traffic and noise from new developments and industry.

Anthropogenic climate change is a phenomenon that has widespread economic, social and environmental implications. 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. These effects have been experienced in Dublin City, which has seen an increase in extreme weather events over the last 15 years.

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

Dublin City Council has prepared a Climate Action Plan 2019 – 2024, which outlines goals in relation to five key action areas: energy and buildings, transport, flood resilience, nature-based solutions and resource management. According to the Council's Climate Action Plan, nature-based solutions are critical for climate change mitigation and adaptation. They can play an important role in protecting and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystems, flood prevention and carbon sequestration, temperature regulation, water quality, erosion prevention and filtering pollutants from air and water.

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<sup>3</sup> Dublin City Council, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, Fingal County Council and South Dublin County Council.

The key issues in relation to climate change mitigation and adaptation in the Dublin City functional area include the myriad threats posed by extreme weather events (on biodiversity, population and human health, property and infrastructure, etc.), the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (particularly those associated with high rates of private car usage in the City, and energy consumption to support the City's inhabitants, commerce and industry), and the need to provide sustainable and liveable communities.

## 5.7 Cultural Heritage

Dublin is an ancient city with many sites of archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage importance.

Archaeological heritage is protected under the National Monuments Acts (1930-2004), Natural Cultural Institutions Act 1997 and the Planning Acts. The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) is an inventory, put on a statutory basis by amendment to the National Monuments Act 1994, of sites and areas of archaeological significance, numbered and mapped. A recorded monument is a monument included in the list and marked on the map, which comprises the Record of Monuments and Places set out county by county. The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) is a manual containing a numbered list of all certain and possible monuments accompanied.

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.

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

Architectural heritage is protected under the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and National Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999, which provides for the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage; and the Planning and Development Act 2000, which provides for the Record of Protected Structures, Architectural Conservation Areas, and Areas of Special Planning Control, all of which are set out in the Local Authority Development Plans.

There are over 8,400 no. structures on the Record of Protected Structures in the Dublin City Council functional area. There are currently 24 no. Architectural Conservation Areas in the functional area, as follows:

- 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

Two Areas of Special Planning Control have been established in the City: O'Connell Street and Environs, and Grafton Street and Environs. Additionally, the current Dublin City Development Plan 2016 – 2022 has three Conservation Area designations as follows:

- Z8 Georgian Conservation Areas
- Z2 Residential Conservation Areas
- Conservation areas covering the quays, rivers and canals

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.

Existing issues, pressure and threats affecting the cultural heritage resource in Dublin City include development and climate change (i.e. damage due to severe weather events). There is a continuing need to balance day-to-day operations and development with the protection of the cultural resource that is so much a part of the fabric of Dublin City.

## 5.8 Landscape & Visual

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.

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

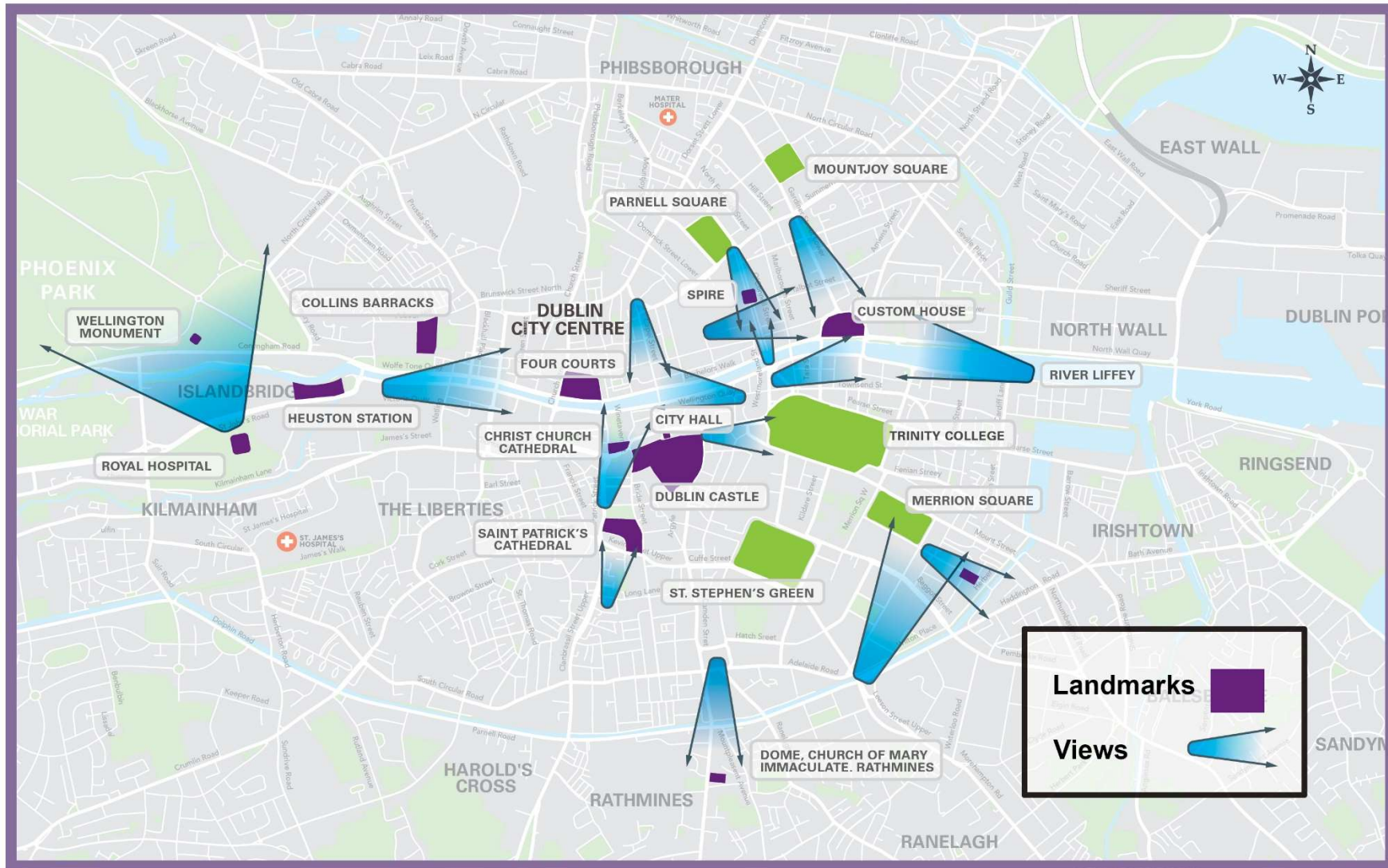
There are currently six Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) in the Plan area:

- 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.

**Figure 5.4** illustrates the key views and prospects in the City, as included in the Plan.

Existing issues, pressures and threats affecting landscape / townscape and visual amenity in the City include development (which can have a negative visual impact) and deficits in green space in some neighbourhoods.

Figure 5.4: Key Views and Prospects in Dublin City (extract from Plan)



## 5.9 Material Assets

Material assets are resources that are valued and essential to an area. These may be of natural or human origin and the value may arise for economic or cultural reasons. Material assets include water supply, wastewater treatment infrastructure, waste management infrastructure, transport infrastructure, telecommunications and utilities infrastructure.

### 5.9.1 Water Supply

The Dublin Region Water Supply Area is served by the following water supply schemes, operated by the local authorities on behalf of Irish Water:

- Ballymore Eustace Water Treatment Plant – Poulaphouca Reservoir - River Liffey & King's River.
- Vartry Water Treatment Plant – Vartry Reservoirs – Vartry River.
- Leixlip Water Treatment Plant – River Liffey.
- Ballyboden Water Treatment Plant – Bohernabreena Upper Reservoir – River Dodder.

Irish Water, has plans 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.

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

The quality of drinking water in public supplies remains high. None of the Dublin Region water supply schemes is on the EPA's remedial action list for drinking water quality.

### 5.9.2 Wastewater

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 to serve the Greater Dublin Area (GDA). 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.

New developments in the City (including housing, offices and retail development) will generate pressure on existing water and wastewater sources to meet demands. The Ringsend WwTP is operating over capacity, and municipal wastewater discharges are creating pressure on receiving waterbodies.

### **5.9.3 Utilities & Telecommunications**

ESB Networks and EirGrid are the utility providers responsible for the electricity distribution and transmission systems. 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.

Dublin City Council 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.

### **5.9.4 Energy**

The key issue in terms of energy is the need to reduce reliance on fossil fuels in favour of renewables.

DCC works with CODEMA (the City of Dublin Energy Management Agency) which aims to accelerate Dublin's low-carbon transition in order to mitigate the effects of climate change and improve the lives of citizens. CODEMA has developed 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. Potential renewable energy solutions for

the Dublin City functional area include district heating, solar photovoltaic panels mounted on buildings, and offshore wind.

A key project in Dublin City is Dublin District Heating. The Covanta Waste-to-Energy Facility at Poolbeg, which became fully operational in 2017, converts residual waste 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. Dublin City Council has identified Ringsend / Irishtown as a Decarbonising Zone and work is progressing in conjunction with CODEMA and the Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) on a plan to provide for demonstrator projects that will harness a range of energy technologies and initiatives.

### 5.9.5 Transport

The key issues in terms of transport are the need to integrate land use planning with public transport provision and to promote a modal shift away from the private car in favour low / zero carbon and active alternatives.

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.

The most recent cordon counts of November 2019 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 modes

The National Planning Framework and the Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2022 – 2042 set out a number of transport projects that will serve the Plan area. Three key projects include:

- The Bus Connects Project
- The extended Luas Tram line to Finglas
- The Metrolink train line from the City to the Airport and Swords

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.

### **5.9.6 Waste 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.

A key challenge in this regard is meeting the demand for sustainable waste management infrastructure and services as the City's population continues to grow.

### **5.9.7 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 limitations and social distancing requirements brought about as a result of COVID-19 further highlighted the continuing need for the provision and access to these assets in our urban areas.

## 6 SEA Objectives, Targets and Indicators

Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) are methodological measures derived from environmental protection objectives established at international and / or national level. 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.

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 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. The Strategic Environmental Objectives are set out in **Table 6.1**.

**Table 6.1 Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEO) for the Plan**

THEME	SEO
<b>Biodiversity (Flora &amp; Fauna) (B)</b>	<b>(B_1)</b> 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>(B_2)</b> Ensure no adverse effects on the integrity of any European site, regarding its qualifying interests, associated conservation status, structure and function.
	<b>(B_3)</b> 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>(B_4)</b> Enhance biodiversity in line with the National Biodiversity Strategy and its targets.
<b>Population &amp; Human Health (PHH)</b>	<b>(PHH_1)</b> Promote economic growth to encourage retention of working age population and funding of sustainable development and environmental protection.
	<b>(PHH_2)</b> Provide high quality residential, community, working and recreational environments with access to sustainable transport options.
	<b>(PHH_3)</b> Ensure that existing population and planned growth is linked with the required infrastructure and the services.
	<b>(PHH_4)</b> Protect human health and well-being from environment-related pressures.
<b>Soils &amp; Geology (SG)</b>	<b>(SG_1)</b> Safeguard sensitive soil, resources and geological heritage sites against pollution and degradation.
	<b>(SG_2)</b> Promote the sustainable use of infill and brownfield sites over the use of greenfield within the city.
	<b>(SG_3)</b> Safeguard designated geological sites.

THEME	SEO
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.
	(W_2) Avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding and areas that are vulnerable to current and future erosion.
	(W_3) Integrate sustainable water management solutions (such as SuDS, porous surfacing and green roofs) into development proposals.
Air Quality & Noise (AN)	(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.
	(AN_2) Minimise travel related emissions and encourage a modal change from car to more sustainable forms of transport.
	(AN_3) Aim to meet Air Quality Directive standards for the protection of human health - Air Quality Directive.
	(AN_4) Significantly decrease noise emissions associated with traffic and transport and other noise related industry <i>etc.</i>
Climate Change (CC)	(CC_1) Minimise contribution to Climate Change by adopting mitigation and adaptation measures.
	(CC_2) Integrate sustainable design solutions into the city's infrastructure ( <i>e.g.</i> energy efficient buildings; green infrastructure).
	(CC_3) Contribute towards the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in line with national targets.
	(CC_4) Encourage and promote development resilient to the effects of climate change.
	(CC_5) Promote the use of renewable energy, energy efficient development and increased use of public transport.

THEME	SEO
<b>Cultural Heritage (CH)</b>	<b>(CH_1)</b> Protect places, features, buildings and landscapes of cultural, archaeological and / or architectural heritage from impact as a result of development.
<b>Landscape &amp; Visual (LV)</b>	<b>(LV_1)</b> 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.
<b>Material Assets (MA)</b>	<b>(MA_1)</b> 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.
	<b>(MA_2)</b> Promote the circular economy, reduce waste, and increase energy efficiencies.
	<b>(MA_3)</b> Ensure there is adequate sewerage and drainage infrastructure in place to support new development.
	<b>(MA_4)</b> A reduction in energy demand from the transport sector and support moves to electrification of road and rail transport modes.

## 7 Consideration of Alternatives

The SEA Directive and Regulations require that reasonable alternatives (taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme) are identified, described and evaluated for their likely significant effects on the environment.

Article 5(1) of the SEA Directive and 13E(1) of the Planning Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (as amended 2011) requires that the Planning Authority considers within the Environmental Report:

- Reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme;
- The alternatives are identified, described and evaluated;
- An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with; and
- A description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how encountered in compiling the required information).

### 7.1 Limitations in Available Alternatives

The Plan is required to be prepared by the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), which specifies various types of objectives that must be provided for by the Plan. The alternatives available for the Plan are significantly limited by the requirements of plans such as the National Planning Framework, Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Eastern and Midland Region, the Dublin Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP), Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016 – 2035, and Statutory Planning Guidelines.

### 7.2 Alternative Scenarios

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.

Given these restrictions the following Plan alternatives have been formulated for the delivery of the c. 40,138 residential units required between 2022 and 2028.



- **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 Strategic Development Regeneration Areas / KDC / Strategic Development Zones areas. Growth in other areas, including Z5 city centre areas, would be of lower priority.

### 7.3 Assessment of Alternatives

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.

**Table 7.1 Assessment of Plan Alternatives**

Alternative Considered	Positive	Negative	Uncertain	Neutral
<b>Alternative 1:</b> Focused on Identified Growth Centres	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
<b>Alternative 2:</b> Market-Led Approach		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,
<b>Alternative 3:</b> Phased Approach with Selected Growth Concentration	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

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.

### 7.3.1 Preferred Option

Following the evaluation and assessment, the preferred strategic alternative for the approach to the Plan is Alternative 1: Growth focused on Identified Growth Centres. The principal reasons for this are that this alternative:

- Is 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.

## 8 Strategic Environmental Assessment of Plan

### 8.1 Introduction

The purpose of this section of the Environmental Report is to predict and evaluate as far as possible the environmental effects of the Plan. This Non-Technical Summary (NTS) is a summary of the detailed assessment of the policies and objectives and land-use zonings contained within the Plan and in the SEA Environmental Report, which will identify where, if any, effects on the environment may occur.

In accordance with SEA Guidelines, the assessment characterises impacts under four headings:

<b>Potential Positive Impact:</b>	A change which improves the quality of the environment.
<b>Potential Negative Impact:</b>	A change which reduces or lessens the quality of the environment.
<b>Uncertain Impact:</b>	The nature of any impact cannot be ascertained at this stage.
<b>Neutral or No Relationship:</b>	A change which does not affect the quality of the environment.

### 8.2 Environmental Assessment of Plan

The assessment, which identifies potential positive, neutral, uncertain and / or negative effects, is presented in full in Table A8.1 in Appendix A1 of the SEA Environmental Report and in summary in Tables 8.1 to 8.12 below. The assessment has considered the full extent of the Plan, including the written Plan, and associated land-use maps and appendices.

As identified in Table A8.1 in Appendix A1 of the SEA Environmental Report, the majority of the policies and objectives of the 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 Plan.

**Table 8.1: Chapter 1 – Strategic Context and Vision and Chapter 2 - Core Strategy**

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
<b>Potential Positive Impact</b>	SCV1 United Nations Sustainability Goals; 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; CSO8 Promote Active Land Management; CSO9 Vacant Sites; CSO10 Support the Development of Brownfield, Vacant and Regeneration Sites; CSO12 Seek Funding for the Delivery of Compact Growth; CSO13 Kilmainham and Inchicore Development Strategy Projects; CSO15 Progress Report on the Implementation of the Development Plan.
<b>Potential Uncertain Impact</b>	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 (City Edge); CSO3 Local Statutory Plan for the North East Inner City (NEIC); CSO7 Promote Delivery of Residential Development and Compact Growth; CSO11 Derelict Sites Act and Compulsory Purchase; CSO14 Co-ordinated Approach to Future Development of Strategic Growth Areas.

**Table 8.2: Chapter 3 - Climate Action**

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
<b>Potential Positive Impact</b>	CA2 Mitigation and Adaptation; CAO2 Variation of Development Plan to Reflect New Guidance / Legislation; CAO3 Quantification of Greenhouse Gases; CA4 Improving Mobility Links in Existing Areas; CA17 Supporting the Potential of District Heating in Dublin City; CA19 Decarbonising Zones; CA21 Sustainable Energy Communities; CA22 Dublin Region Energy Masterplan; CA23 The Circular Economy; CA25 Electric Vehicles.
<b>Potential Uncertain Impact</b>	CA1 National Climate Action Policy; CAO1 Dublin City Council Climate Change Action Plan; CAO4 Regional Strategy for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging; CA3 Climate Resilient Settlement Patterns, Urban Forms and Mobility; CA5 Climate Mitigation and Adaptation in Strategic Growth Areas; CA6 Retrofitting and Reuse of Existing Buildings; CA7 Energy Efficiency in Existing Buildings; CA8 Climate Mitigation Actions in the Built Environment; CA9 Climate Adaptation Actions in the Built Environment; CA10 Climate Action Energy Statements; CA11 Energy from Renewable Sources; CA12 Micro-Renewable Energy Production; CA13 Offshore Wind-Energy Production; CA14 Geothermal Energy; CA15 Waste Heat, District Heating & Decentralised Energy; CA16 The Dublin District Heating System (DDHS); CA18 Capture & Utilisation of Waste Heat; CA20 Strategic Energy Zones; CA24 Waste Management Plans for Construction &

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
	Demolition Projects; CA26 Flood and Water Resource Resilience; CA27 Flood Risk Assessment and Adaptation; CA28 Natural Flood Risk Mitigation; CA29 Climate Action and Green Infrastructure; CA30 Coastal Zone Management.

**Table 8.3: Chapter 4 - Shape and Structure of the City**

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
<b>Potential Positive Impact</b>	SC5 Urban Design and Architectural Principles; SC9 Key Urban Villages, Urban Villages and Neighbourhood Centres; SC13 Green Infrastructure; SC19 High Quality Architecture.
<b>Potential Uncertain Impact</b>	SC1 Consolidation of the Inner City; SC2 City’s Character; SC3 Mixed Use Development; SC4 Recreational and Cultural Events; SC6 Docklands; SC7 Dublin Port; SC8 Development of the Inner Suburbs; SC10 Urban Density; SC11 Compact Growth; SC12 Housing Mix; SC14 Building Height Strategy; SC15 Building Height Uses; SC16 Building Height Locations; SC17 Building Height; SC18 Landmark/Tall Buildings; SC19 High Quality Architecture; SC21 Architectural Design; SC22 Historical Architectural Character; SC23 Design Statements.
<b>Potential Neutral or No Relationship</b>	SC20 Urban Design

**Table 8.4: Chapter 5 - Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods**

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
<p><b>Potential Positive Impact</b></p>	<p>QHSN5 Community Led Regeneration; QHSN7 Upper Floors; QHSN8 Reduction of Vacancy; QHSNO6 Upper Floor Building Design; QHSN13 Healthy Dublin City Framework and the Healthy Ireland Framework 2019-2025; QHSN14 High Quality Living Environment; QHSN15 Dublin City Council’s Integration Strategy 2021-2025; QHSN16 Accessible Built Environment; QHSN17 Sustainable Neighbourhoods; QHSN18 Needs of an Ageing Population; QHSN21 Gated Residential Development; QHSNO7 Addressing Dementia; QHSN22 Adaptable and Flexible Housing; QHSN23 Independent Living; QHSN24 Reconfiguration of Family Homes; QHSNO8 Women’s and Girl’s Safety in the Public Realm; QHSNO9 Autism Friendly or Neurodiversity Community Plans; QHSNO10 Intergenerational Models of Housing; QHSN25 Housing for People with Disabilities; QHSN26 Dublin City Council’s Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability 2016; QHSNO11 Universal Design; QHSN27 Homeless Action Plan 2022-2024, a Framework for Dublin; QHSN28 Temporary Homeless Accommodation and Support Services; QHSN29 Temporary Accommodation Located in the City Centre; QHSN31 Traveller Culture; QHSN34 Social, Affordable Purchase and Cost Rental Housing; QHSN36 High Quality Apartment Development; QHSN37 Houses and Apartments; QHSN39 Management; QHSN42 Built to Rent Accommodation; QHSN43 Shared Accommodation/Co-living; QHSN44 Build to rent/student accommodation/co-living development; QHSN48 Community &amp; Social Audit; QHSN49 Phasing; QHSN50 Inclusive Social &amp; Community Infrastructure; QHSNO14 Community Infrastructure Audit SDRAs; QHSNO15 Community Safety Strategy; QHSNO16 Culture Near You Tool; QHSN54 Shared use of Educational Facilities; QHSNO17 Assess Need for New or Expanded Educational Facilities; QHSNO20 Corpus Christi Parochial Hall, Drumcondra; QHSN58 Culture in Regeneration; QHSN59 City’s Library Service.</p>
<p><b>Potential Uncertain Impact</b></p>	<p>QHSN1 National and Regional Policy; QHSN2 National Guidelines; QHSN3 Housing Strategy and HNDA; QHSN4 Key Regeneration Areas; QHSN6 Urban Consolidation; QHSN9 Active Land Management; QHSN10 Urban Density; QHSN11 15 Minute City; QHSN12 Neighbourhood Development; QHSNO1 Land Development Agency; QHSNO2 Lands at Alfie Byrne Road; QHSNO3 Darndale; QHSNO4 Densification of Suburbs; QHSNO5 Peripheral Open Space Study; QHSN19 Youth Friendly City; QHSN20 Community Facilities for People with Specific Planning and Design Needs; QHSNO12 Dublin City Council Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024; QHSNO13 Traveller Accommodation; QHSN30 Dublin City Council Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024; QHSN32 Domestic Violence Refuges; QHSN33 Emergency Accommodation; QHSN35 Diversity of Housing Type and Tenure; QHSN38</p>

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
	Housing and Apartment Mix; QHSN40 Build to Rent Accommodation; QHSN41 Built to Rent Accommodation; QHSN45 Third-Level Student Accommodation; QHSN46 Houseboats; QHSN47 High Quality Neighbourhood & Community Facilities; QHSN51 Amenities and Retail; QHSN52 Sláintecare Plan; QHSN53 Education Provision; QHSN55 Childcare Facilities; QHSNO18 The Provision of Schools and the Planning System: A Code of Practice for Planning Authorities (2008); QHSNO19 Pre-School Facilities; QHSN56 Places of Worship and Multi-faith Facilities; QHSN57 Burial Grounds; QHSN60 Community Facilities.
<b>Potential Neutral or No Relationship</b>	QHSNO21 Ballymun Library.

**Table 8.5: Chapter 6 - City Economy and Enterprise**

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
<b>Potential Positive Impact</b>	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; CEE6 Dublin as an EU Capital City; 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; CEE22 New Growth Sectors; CEE23 Smart Dublin; CEE33 Access to Education; CEE34 Craft Enterprises.
<b>Potential Negative Impact</b>	CEE24 The Marine Sector.
<b>Potential Uncertain Impact</b>	CEE5 Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor; CEE7 Strategic and Targeted Employment Growth; CEE8 The City Centre; CEE9 The Docklands; CEE10 The Outer City; CEE11 Key Urban Villages; CEE12 Transition to a Low Carbon, Climate Resilient City Economy; CEE19 Regeneration Areas; CEE20 Vacant Sites; CEE21 Supply of Commercial Space and Redevelopment of Office Stock; CEE25 Data Centres; CEE26 Tourism in Dublin; CEE27 Tourism Initiatives; CEE28 Visitor Accommodation; CE29 Event Venues; CEE30 Hospitals & Health-care; CEE31 Strategic Role of Hospital Complexes; CEE32 Education and the City Economy; CEE35 Dublin Port.
<b>Potential Neutral or No Relationship</b>	CEE01 Study on the Supply and Demand for Hotels, Aparthotels and Hostels.



**Table 8.6: Chapter 7 - City Centre, Urban Villages and Retail**

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
<p><b>Potential Positive Impact</b></p>	<p>CCUV1 Retail Planning Guidelines; CCUV2 Retail Hierarchy; CCUV3 Sequential Approach; CCUV4 The Role of Retail; CCUV5 Retail Design Brief; CCUV7 Variety in Shopping Offer; CCUV8 Competition &amp; Innovation; CCUV9 Independent Retailing; CCUV10 Specialist Shops; CCUV11 Omni-Channel Retail; CCUV12 Shopfront Design; CCUV6 Large Scale Retail / Mixed Use Developments; 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 Diversifying the City Centre; CCUVO4 WeareDublinTown; CCUVO7 Marketing the City Centre; CCUV08 Review of Architectural Conservation Areas / Areas of Special Planning Control; CCUV21 Scale of Retail Development in Key Urban Villages / Urban Villages; CCUV23 Active Uses; CCUV24 Co - Working Hubs; CCUV25 Neighbourhood Centres / Local Shopping; 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; CCUV40 Public Safety; CCUV43 Public Realm - Key Urban Villages / Urban Villages; CCUV44 New Development; CCUVO15 City Centre Public Realm Strategy; CCUVO19 Linking Office and Culture Clusters to the Retail Core; CCUV46 Removal of Unauthorised Advertisements; CCUV47 Pedestrian Wayfinding Signage System; CCUVO21 Audit of Redundant and Unnecessary Street Furniture; CCUVO22 Manage Pedestrian Wayfinding System.</p>
<p><b>Potential Uncertain Impact</b></p>	<p>CCUV6 Large Scale Retail / Mixed Use Developments; CCUV13 Vacant Units; CCUV18 Residential Development; CCUV19 Parking and Retail Core; CCUVO5 Underutilised and Inactive City Centre Streets; CCUVO6 Car Parks and Last Mile Delivery; CCUV20 Mixed Use Key Urban Villages / Urban Villages; CCUV22 Intensification; CCUVO10 Shopfront Improvement Scheme; CCUV26 New Growth Areas; CCUV27 Provision of Convenience Retail; CCUVO11 Victorian Fruit and Vegetable Market; CCUVO12 Iveagh Market; CCUV35 Night Time Economy; CCUV37 Plan Active and Healthy Streets; CCUV38 High Quality Streets and Spaces; CCUV39 Permeable, Legible and Connected Public Realm; CCUV41 New Infrastructure Development; CCUV42 Public Realm – City Centre; CCUVO13 Civic Spine / College Green Dame Street Project; CCUVO14 Pedestrianisation South William Street; CCUVO16 Public Realm Plans / Masterplans; CCUVO17 Improve Links North / South; CCUVO18 Streets and Lanes Dublin 1; CCUVO20 Civic Amenities; CCUV45 Advertising Structures.</p>

**Table 8.7: Chapter 8 - Sustainable Movement and Transport**

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
<p><b>Potential Positive Impact</b></p>	<p>SMT3 Integrated Transport Network; SMT6 Mobility Management and Travel Planning; SMT7 Travel Plans for New and Existing Developments; SMT8 Public Realm Enhancements; SMT10 Public Realm Strategy; SMT12 Pedestrians and Public Realm; SMT13 Urban Villages and the 15 Minute City; SMT05 Review of the City Centre Transport Study; SMT06 Servicing/Logistics Strategy; SMT17 Active Travel Initiatives; SMT18 The Pedestrian Environment; SMT010 Walking and Cycling Audits; SMT011 Walkability Audits; SMT013 Design Standards for Cycle Parking in Developments; SMT020 Green Roofs on Bus Shelters; SMT24 Shared Mobility and Adaptive Infrastructure; SMT022 Shared Bike Schemes and Micro-Mobility Schemes; SMT25 On-Street Parking; SMT26 Commuter, Shopping, Business and Leisure Parking; SMT023 Elimination of ‘Free’ On-Street Parking; SMT024 Control Supply and Price of Public Parking; SMT026 Surface Parking in the City; SMT33 Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets; SMT35 Traffic Calming and Self-Regulation Street Environments; SMT033 Traffic Signal Control; SMT034 Speed Limits and Traffic Calmed Areas; SMT035 Review of Traffic Management and Calming Plans; SMT036 Environmental and Road Safety Impacts of Traffic in the City.</p>
<p><b>Potential Negative Impact</b></p>	<p>SMT22 Key Sustainable Transport Projects; SMT30 National Road Projects; SMT027 Road, Street and Bridge Schemes.</p>
<p><b>Potential Uncertain Impact</b></p>	<p>SMT1 Modal Shift and Compact Growth; SMT2 Decarbonising Transport; SMT01 Transition to More Sustainable Travel Modes; SMT4 Integration of Public Transport Services and Development; SMT5 Mobility Hubs; SMT9 Public Realm in New Developments; SMT11 Pedestrian Network; SMT02 Improving the Pedestrian Network; SMT14 City Centre Road Space; SMT15 ‘Last-Mile’ Delivery; SMT16 Walking, Cycling and Active Travel; SMT19 Integration of Active Travel with Public Transport; SMT20 Walking and Cycling for School Trips; SMT21 Accessibility and Design at Schools; SMT07 Review of Temporary Pedestrian and Cycling Improvement Interventions; SMT08 Cycling Infrastructure and Routes; SMT09 Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan; SMT012 Cycle Parking Spaces; SMT014 Cycle Parking Facilities; SMT015 River Liffey Boardwalk; SMT016 Blaquiere Bridge; SMT23 The Rail Network and Freight Transport; SMT017 Additional Interchanges and Rail Stations; SMT018 Bus Infrastructure; SMT019 ‘Park and Ride’ Services; SMT021 Cross Guns Bridge; SMT27 Car Parking in Residential and Mixed Use Developments; SMT28 Repurposing of Multi-Storey Car Parks; SMT29 Expansion of the EV Charging Network; SMT025 Feasibility Study of Residential and Non-Residential Car Parking Provision; SMT028 Investigate Feasibility of Pedestrian/Cycle</p>

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
	Connections; SMT029 Tolka Park Pedestrian/Cycle Connection; SMT030 Coolock Lane to Oscar Traynor Road Pedestrian/Cycle Connections; SMT031 Summerhill Pedestrian/Cycle Connection; SMT032 Dominick Street Lower Pedestrian/Cycle Connection; SMT31 Transport Tunnels; SMT32 Dublin – Belfast Economic Corridor; SMT34 Street and Road Design.
<b>Potential Neutral or No Relationship</b>	SMT03 Public On-Street Accessible Parking Bays; SMT04 Taxi Ranks.

**Table 8.8: Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk**

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
<b>Potential Positive Impact</b>	SI2 Integrating Water Services with Development; SI4 Drainage Infrastructure Design Standards; SI6 Water Conservation; SIO2 Wastewater Waste Treatment; 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; SIO9 Planning for Surface Water Management; SI13 Minimising Flood Risk; SI14 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment; SI15 Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment; SI20 Basement Flood Risk 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; 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 Neutral Host

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
	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.
<b>Potential Negative Impact</b>	SIO30 Facilitating Offshore Renewable Energy.
<b>Potential Uncertain Impact</b>	SI1 Support for Irish Water; SI3 Separation of Foul and Surface Water Drainage Systems; SI5 Safeguarding of Public Water Services Infrastructure; SIO1 Commitment to Working in Partnership with Irish Water; SIO3 Irish Water Conservation Measures; SIO6 Groundwater Protection; SIO7 River Restoration Flagship Projects; SIO8 River Restoration Strategies/ Masterplans; SI16 Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment; SI17 Catchment-Based Flood Risk Management Plans; SI18 Protection of Flood Alleviation Infrastructure; SI19 Provision and Upgrading of Flood Alleviation Assets; SI21 Managing Surface Water Flood Risk; SIO10 OPW Flood Relief Maintenance; SIO11 Cross-Boundary Flood Management; SIO12 OPW Catchment-Based Flood Risk; SIO14 Local Recycling / Reuse Infrastructure; SIO17 Innovative Waste Management Solution; SIO18 Community Food Waste Composting; SIO20 Managing Contamination Risk from Existing Infrastructure; SI41 Lighting Standards; SI45 Support for Digital Connectivity; 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; SIO29 Smart Grid.

**Table 8.9: Chapter 10 - Green Infrastructure and Recreation**

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
<b>Potential Positive Impact</b>	GI1 Green Infrastructure Assets; GI3 Multi-functionality (GI); 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; GI17 Habitat Restoration; GI18 Minimise Impact – Light and Noise; GIO7 National

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
	<p>Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021; GIO8 Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan 2021 – 2025; GIO9 Invasive Alien Species; GIO10 All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021 – 2025; GIO11 North Bull Island 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; 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 &amp; Phoenix Park Proposed SAA; GI26 Securing Acquisition of Additional Public Open Space; GIO22 Dublin City Parks Strategy; GIO24 Public Open Space Audit; GIO27 Phoenix Park Management Plan; GIO30 Fitzwilliam Square and Four Masters Park; 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; GIO34 Working with Agencies; 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; GIO37 Bathing Beaches and Blue Flag Status; GI40 Tree Planting – General; GI41 Protect Existing Trees as Part of New Development; GI42 Tree Management; GI43 Hedgerows; GI44 Resilient Urban Forest; GIO41 Dublin City Tree Strategy 2016; GIO42 Trees as Wildlife Corridor or ‘Stepping Stones’; GIO43 Urban Tree Canopy Plan; GI45 National Physical Activity Plan 2016; GI49 Protection of Existing and Established Sport and Recreational Facilities; GI50 Fenced Playing Pitches on Existing Open Space; GIO44 National Public Health Policy; GIO45 Active Cities Project; GIO46 Playing Fields Study; GIO47 Liaising with Sporting Organisations; GIO49 Dublin City Play Strategy ‘Pollinating Play’ 2021; GIO50 Play Friendly Communities; GIO51 STRIDE: 2017 – 2020; GIO53 Informal recreational Space – Undeveloped Land;</p>
<p><b>Potential Uncertain Impact</b></p>	<p>GI2 Connectivity; GI8 Metropolitan Greenways; GI16 Habitat Creation and New Development; GIO6 Metropolitan and Local Greenways; GIO9 Invasive Alien Species; GI22 Managed Access; GIO21 Protection and Connectivity of the Dublin Mountains with Dublin City; GI24 Multi-Functionality (GI); GI25 Open Space Provision (sq. m.) per 1,000 Persons Benchmark; GIO25 Facilities and Amenities in Parks/Public Open Spaces; GIO26 Management Plans; GIO28 Urban Farming and Food Production; GIO29 Scully’s Field; GI27 Addressing Public Open Space Deficits in Identified Areas; GI28 New Residential Development; GIO23 Manage / Protect / Enhance Parks; GI29 Protect Character of River Corridors; GI32 Linear Parks and Recreational Use of Waterways Aspects; GIO31 Mount Bernard Park; GI33 River Liffey; GI34 New Development and Public Open Space along River Corridors; GIO32 North City Walk; GI36</p>

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
	Recreational and Tourism Amenities; GIO33 Liffey Vale House Education Centre; GIO35 Water Animation Strategy Docklands; GIO36 Providing Coastal Recreational Amenities; GIO38 Dublin Bay Discovery Centre; GIO39 Dublin Bay UNESCO Biosphere Conservation and Research Strategy; GIO40 National Marine Planning Framework; GI46 To Improve and Upgrade / Provide Access to Sports / Recreational Facilities; GI47 Private Recreational Lands; GI48 Multiple Use of Sports and Recreational Facilities; GI51 Children’s Playing Facilities – General; GI52 Children’s Playing Facilities in New Residential and Mixed Developments; GIO48 Multi Sports Hub in Conjunction with Fingal County Council; GIO52 Dalymount Park, Tolka Park and St. Patrick’s Athletic FC Richmond Park; GIO54 Water Sports and Leisure Activities; GIO55 Olympic Standard Velodrome; GIO56 Marrowbone Lane Depot.
<b>Potential Neutral or No Relationship</b>	GI53 Public Rights of Way; GIO57 Public Rights of Way.

**Table 8.10: Chapter 11 - Built Heritage and Archaeology**

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
<b>Potential Positive Impact</b>	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; BHA12 Industrial, Military and Maritime, Canal-side and Rural Heritage; 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; 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

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
	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.
<b>Uncertain Impact</b>	BHA03 Areas of Special Planning Control; BHA11 Rehabilitation and Reuse of Existing Older Buildings; BHA13 Maritime Heritage and Maritime Villages; BHA14 Mews; BHA17 Industrial Heritage of Waterways, Canals and Rivers; BHA32 Water Related Heritage Strategies; BHA33 Dublin Port Heritage Quarter; BHA34 OPW Historic Sites.

**Table 8.11: Chapter 12 - Culture**

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
<b>Potential Positive Impact</b>	CU1 Shared Vision for Culture; CU2 Cultural Infrastructure; CU3 Dublin UNESCO City of Literature; 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; CUO6 Arts & Culture Infrastructure; CU7 Cultural Clusters and Hubs; CU8 South Georgian Quarter Cultural Hub; CU9 Parnell Square & North Inner City Cultural Cluster; CUO14 Dublin 8 Regeneration; CU10 Temple Bar Cultural Hub; CUO16 Planning Applications within Temple Bar; CUO17 Variety and Diversity of Retail of Temple Bar; CUO18 Temple Bar as a Mixed Use Cultural Quarter; CUO19 Gallery of Photography and the Irish Film Institute (IFI); CUO20 Artistic Spaces; CUO21 LGBT+ Community; CU11 Cultural Facilities within Docklands; 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; CUO24 Masterplans; CUO27 Toolkit Guide to Workspace; CUO28 Reuse of Vacant Space; CUO29 Performing Arts Venue; COU30 Co-Design and Audits; CUO31 Artist Workspaces; CUO32 Artist Live-work Space; CU18 Music as a Key Cultural Asset CUO34; Industrial Estate Regeneration Areas; CU19 Audio Visual Sector; CU21 Night Time Economy Task Force Report; CU23 Performance and Entertainment Spaces; CUO38 Noise Impacts* See also Policy CCUV36; CUO40 Victorian and Edwardian Public Houses; CUO41 Music and Dance; CUO42 Street Art; CUO43 Canvas Spaces; CUO44 Cultural & Artistic Space Audit; CUO45 Buildings within Communities for Arts & Cultural Spaces; CUO46 Inclusivity; CUO47 Accessibility; CUO48 Multilingualism Community Infrastructure; CU26 Irish Language; CU27 Traditional Arts; CUO49 Dublin Gaeltacht; CUO50 Irish Medium Education; CUO52 Key Venues & Cultural Facilities; CUO53 Irish language on Shopfronts; CUO54 Naming of new developments; CU28

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
	Promotion of Irish Language; CUO55 Dublin City Language and Cultural Hub; CUO56 Irish Language Quarter; CU29 Public Realm for Cultural Events; CU30 Life Worth Living Taskforce; CUO57 Percent for Arts Scheme; CUO58 Public Art; CUO59 Commemorative Art and Monuments; CUO60 Broadstone Plaza.
<b>Potential Uncertain Impact</b>	CU4 Cultural Resources; CU6 Abbey Theatre; CUO7 City Library CUO8; Poetry Ireland; CUO9 14-17 Moore St; CUO10 Convent and Magdalene Laundry building on Sean McDermott St.; CUO11 Markets and Capel Street; CUO12 Cultural Spaces in Dublin 8; CUO13 Heritage Network and Trail; CUO15 Museum/Heritage Facility at Inchicore Works; CUO22 Implementation of the North Lotts & Grand Canal Dock SDZ & Poolbeg West SDZ Requirements; CUO23 Poolbeg Hotel, Harbour and Power Station Complex; CUO25 SDRAs and Large Scale Developments; CUO26 Demolition or Replacement of a Use of Cultural Value; CUO33 Music Rehearsal Spaces; CUO35 Music Venues; CUO37 Audio and Visual Community Spaces; CU20 Cultural Activities in the Evening; CU22 Range of Cultural and Amenity Options; CUO39 Purpose Spaces for Evening and Night Time Activities; CU24 Civic Arts & Cultural Spaces in Urban Villages; CU25 Libraries; CUO51 Na Píobairí Uilleann.
<b>Potential Neutral or No Relationship</b>	CUO36 Audio-Visual Sector.

**Table 8.12: Chapter 13 – Strategic Development Regeneration Areas (SDRAs)**

SEA Assessment	Plan Policies and Objectives
<b>Potential Uncertain Impact</b>	SDRA01



Mitigation for potential impacts on European Sites is addressed in the Natura Impact Report (NIR), and mitigation for potential uncertain environmental effects on biodiversity is effectively mitigated by the existing policies and objectives of the Plan (refer to Table 9.2 also).

Therefore, and notwithstanding that the SEA process highlights potential uncertain environment effects (refer to full assessment in Table A8.1 in Appendix A1 of SEA Environmental Report), the Plan also includes a wide range of policies and objectives for sustainable development and environmental protection of the city.

The Plan contains a significant number of policies and objectives which by their drafting and substance are protective of environmental factors or of the environment as a whole. The protective policies and objectives assist in the mitigation of potential uncertain and / or negative effects.

### **8.3 Climate Mitigation and Adaption in the Plan**

Climate Change, and considerations around Climate Mitigation and Adaption are to the forefront of the Plan and specifically addressed in Chapter 3 - Climate Action. The Plan incorporates specific Climate Action polices (CA1, CA2, CA3, CA4, CA5 and CA6) and objectives (CAO1, CAO2, CAO3), which support implementation of International and National objectives on climate action, transition to a climate resilient low carbon city, 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 includes 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.

### **8.5 Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment**

Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment (AA) has been undertaken alongside the preparation of the Plan, the SEA and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).

The NIR assesses the effects of the Plan on European sites designated for certain habitats and species and mitigation for potential impacts on European Sites is fully addressed in the NIR. In addition to the policies and objectives screened-in for potential impact on biodiversity in Table

A8.1 in Appendix A1 of this SEA report, some policies and objectives have also screened-in for Appropriate Assessment where potential for impact on European sites cannot be excluded. These policies and objectives and the mitigation of their potential impact is addressed in detail in the NIR, the conclusion of which is:

“...following an examination, analysis and evaluation of the relevant information, including in particular the nature of the predicted impacts associated with the Plan, and that the implementation of mitigatory measures identified in Section 8 of the NIR that the 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”.

A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has also been undertaken alongside the preparation of the Plan, the SEA and the NIR, the recommendations of which have been integrated into the Plan.

## 8.6 Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative effects are referred to SEA Guidance documents and are defined in the EPA Sea Process Checklist (2008) as “effects on the environment that result from incremental changes caused by the strategic action together with other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions. These effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over time or space.”

These effects can be insignificant individually but cumulatively over time and from a number of sources can result in the degradation of sensitive environmental resources. The EPA publication, Good Practice Guidance on Cumulative Effects Assessment in Strategic Environmental Assessment (2020) notes that:

“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. [Cumulative effects assessment] in SEA should focus on the key cumulative issues of

climate change, water quality, flood risk, air quality, biodiversity and landscape, plus any other locally significant cumulative effects.”

Section 8.2 of the SEA Environmental Report presents the results of the assessment of the potential for cumulative effects in relation to the Plan.

## 9 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation measures are the measures used to prevent, reduce and, as fully as possible, offset any significant adverse impacts on the environment of implementing the Plan. 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 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.

Mitigation for policies and objectives of the Plan screening-in for Appropriate Assessment is addressed in the Natura Impact Report (NIR).

The mitigation process for policies and objectives with potential environmental effects, including on biodiversity, is set out in Table 9.1. This will ensure that implementation of the Plan will have a neutral to positive impact on the environment as a whole.

**Table 9.1: Mitigation Measures- List of Protective Policies and Objectives in the Plan**

No.	Policy / Objective
SCV1 United Nations Sustainability Goals	It is the policy of Dublin City Council to contribute, via this Development Plan, towards achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as per link <a href="https://sdgs.un.org/goals">https://sdgs.un.org/goals</a> .
Chapter 1: Section 1.5 The following will apply to all plans	To ensure that plans, including land use plans, will only be adopted, if they either individually or in combination with existing and/or proposed plans or projects, will not have a significant effect on a European Site, or where such a plan is likely or might have such a significant effect (either alone or in combination), the planning authority will, as required by law, carry out an appropriate assessment as per requirements of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC of the 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, as transposed into Irish legislation. Only after having ascertained that the plan will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site, will the planning authority adopt the plan, incorporating any necessary mitigation measures. A plan which could adversely affect the integrity of a European site may only be adopted in exceptional circumstances, as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive as transposed into Irish legislation. Plans will also be subject to screening for the requirement for environmental assessment, and to environmental assessment if required, in accordance with the provisions of Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the SEA Directive) as transposed into national legislation.
Chapter 1: Section 1.5 The following will apply to all development proposals	To ensure that planning permission will only be granted for a development proposal that, either individually or in combination with existing and/or proposed plans or projects, will not have a significant effect on a European site(s), or where such a development proposal is likely or might have such a significant effect (either alone or in combination), the planning authority will, as required by law, carry out an appropriate assessment as per requirements of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC of the 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, as transposed into Irish legislation. Only after having ascertained that the development proposal will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site, will the planning authority agree to the development and impose appropriate mitigation measures in the form of planning conditions. A development proposal which could adversely affect the integrity of a European site may only be permitted in

No.	Policy / Objective
	<p>exceptional circumstances, as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive as transposed into Irish legislation.</p> <p>Development proposals will also be subject to screening for the requirement for environmental impact assessment, and to environmental impact assessment if required, in accordance with the provisions of Directive 2011/52/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU (the EIA Directive) as transposed into national legislation.</p>
CA1 National Climate Action Policy	To support the implementation of national objectives on climate change including the 'Climate Action Plan 2021: Securing Our Future' (including any subsequent updates to or replacement thereof), the 'National Adaptation Framework' 2018 and the 'National Energy and Climate Plan for Ireland 2021-2030' and other relevant policy and legislation.
CA4: Improving Mobility Links in Existing Areas	To support retrofitting of existing built-up areas with measures which will contribute to their meeting the objective of a low-carbon city, such as reopening closed walking and cycling links or providing new links between existing areas.
CA21 Sustainable Energy Communities	To support, encourage and facilitate the ongoing efforts and future development of Sustainable Energy Communities in Dublin City through the SEAI 'Sustainable Energy Communities' Initiative.
CA23 The 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, as updated together with The Whole of Government Circular Economy Strategy 2022-2023. <a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/b542d-whole-of-government-circular-economy-strategy-2022-2023-living-more-using-less/">https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/b542d-whole-of-government-circular-economy-strategy-2022-2023-living-more-using-less/</a>
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.
QHSN13 Healthy Dublin City Framework and the Healthy Ireland	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.

No.	Policy / Objective
Framework 2019-2025	
QHSN15 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.
QHSN16 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 and consistent with obligations under Article 4 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities.
QHSN17 Sustainable Neighbourhoods	To promote sustainable neighbourhoods which cater to the needs of persons in all stages of their lifecycle, e.g. children, people of working age, older people, people living with dementia and people with disabilities.
QHSN18 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 2019.
QHSN22 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) and the Universal Design Guidelines for Homes in Ireland 2015.
QHSN25 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 facilitates equality of outcome, 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.

No.	Policy / Objective
QHSN26 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.
QHSN27 Homeless Action Plan 2022 – 2024, a Framework for Dublin	To support the implementation of the Homeless Action Plan 2022 – 2024 a Framework for Dublin or any subsequent review and the Housing First National Implementation Plan 2022-2026 and support related initiatives to address homelessness.
QHSN31 Traveller Culture	To recognise and support the separate identity, culture, tradition and history of the Travelling people and to reduce the levels of disadvantage that Travellers experience.
QHSN34 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.
QHSN37 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.
QHSN50 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.
QHSNO20 Corpus Christi Parochial Hall, Drumcondra	To protect and retain the Corpus Christi Parochial Hall as an important and necessary community amenity in Drumcondra.



No.	Policy / Objective
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.
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 and taking account of the contents and relevant recommendations of the Moore Street Advisory Group Report, the OPW and other stakeholders including the response of the Minister for Heritage and Electoral Reform.
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.
S12 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.
S14 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).
S16 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.
S17 Water Quality Status	To promote and maintain the achievement of at least good status in all water bodies in the city.
S19 Groundwater Pollution	To promote the progressive reduction of pollution of groundwater.

No.	Policy / Objective
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.
SIO9 Planning for Surface Water Management	To undertake Surface Water 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 surface water management, SuDS and green infrastructure.
S114 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, including all measures to mitigate identified climate change and flood risks, including those recommended under Part 3 (Specific Flood Risk Assessment) of the Justification Tests, 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.
S115 Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment	<p>All development proposals shall carry out, to an appropriate level of detail, a Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment (SSFRA) that shall demonstrate compliance with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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 any future amendments, and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) as prepared by this Development Plan.</li> <li>• The application of the sequential approach, with avoidance of highly and less vulnerable development in areas at risk of flooding as a priority and / or the provision of water compatible development only. 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 and those associated with existing flood defences. The SSFRA will include site-specific mitigation measures, flood-resilient design and construction, and any necessary management measures (the SFRA and Appendix B 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. Allowances for climate change shall be included in the SSFRA.</li> </ul>

No.	Policy / Objective
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On lands where the Justification Test for Plan Making has been passed and where a small proportion of the land is at significant risk of flooding, the sequential approach to development will be applied, and development will be limited to Minor Development (Section 5.28 of the Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines 2009) on the portion at significant risk of flooding. There will be a presumption against the granting of permission for highly or less vulnerable development which encroaches onto or results in the loss of the flood plain. Water compatible development only will be considered in such areas at risk of flooding which do not have existing development on them.</li> </ul>
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.
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 and having regard to the guidance set out in Nature Based Solutions to the Management of Rainwater and Surface Water Runoff in Urban Areas, Water Sensitive Urban Design Best Practice Interim Guidance Document (DHLGH, 2021). 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.
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 of Private Driveways /	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).

No.	Policy / Objective
Vehicular Entrances / Grassed Areas	
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 designed to taking in charge standards).
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. To support opportunities in the circular resource efficient economy in accordance with the National Policy Statement on Bioeconomy (2018).
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.
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.
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.

No.	Policy / Objective
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 commit to make available to the public the resulting air quality measurements through the <a href="https://dublincityairandnoise.ie/">https://dublincityairandnoise.ie/</a> website in real time, where feasible.
S135 Ambient Noise Quality	To seek to preserve and maintain noise quality in the city in accordance with good practice and relevant legislation.
S136 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.
S137 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.
S139 Protection of Designated Quiet Areas	To protect the designated Quiet Areas within the city from increased exposure to noise.
S140 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 ensure the protection / prevention of noise sensitive uses within this zone 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.

No.	Policy / Objective
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).
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.

No.	Policy / Objective
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 (as amended), To protect and enhance the ecological functions and connectivity of habitats and species of proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) to be designated by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), the Fisheries Acts 1959 (as amended) and the Flora (Protection) Order 2022 S.I. No. 235 of 2022 wherever they occur within Dublin City, or have been identified as supporting the favourable conservation condition of any European sites.
GI11 Proposed Natural Heritage Areas	To protect and enhance the ecological functions and connectivity of habitats and species of proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) to be designated by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS).
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 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.
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

No.	Policy / Objective
	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.
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.
GIO8 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.
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 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 Nature Reserve Action Plan 2020-2025 for the implementation of Management Objectives.



No.	Policy / Objective
GIO12 Geological Sites	To recognise the importance of City 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.
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.

No.	Policy / Objective
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.
GIO22 Dublin City Parks Strategy	To support the implementation of the Dublin City Parks Strategy 2019 or as updated.
GIO24 Public Open Space Audit	To support the preparation of a Public Open Space Audit for the City Centre Area.
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.
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).

No.	Policy / Objective
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.
GIO37 Bathing Beaches and Blue Flag Status	To ensure all bathing areas, including Dollymount and Sandymount, are maintained to a high standard and to protect and improve water quality and bathing facilities at designated and other monitored waters in order to bring them to designated bathing waters as far as is possible and/or 'Blue Flag' standard.
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 2016.
GIO42 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.
GIO43 Urban Tree Canopy Plan	To support the preparation of an Urban Tree Canopy Plan for the City Centre Area and Inner City in the lifetime of this plan. To increase the tree canopy cover to a minimum of 10% in all areas with an emphasis in increasing the

No.	Policy / Objective
	tree canopy cover in areas where there is a deficit, and a minimum of 5% each year in the city centre (a minimum of 5% per year over 6 years = a minimum of 30% over the life time of the plan).
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.
GIO45 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.
GIO49 Dublin City Play Strategy ‘Pollinating Play’ 2021	To support the implementation of the Dublin City Play Strategy ‘Pollinating Play’ 2021 – 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.
GIO50 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.

No.	Policy / Objective
	<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>
<p>BHA2 Development of Protected Structures</p>	<p>That development will conserve and enhance protected structures and their curtilage and will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(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.</li> <li>(b) Protect structures included on the RPS from any works that would negatively impact their special character and appearance.</li> <li>(c) Ensure that works are carried out in line with best conservation practice as advised by a suitably qualified person with expertise in architectural conservation.</li> <li>(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.</li> <li>(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.</li> <li>(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.</li> <li>(g) Ensure that new and adapted uses are compatible with the architectural character and special interest(s) of the Protected Structure.</li> <li>(h) Protect and retain important elements of built heritage including historic gardens, stone walls, entrance gates and piers and any other associated curtilage features.</li> <li>(i) Ensure historic landscapes, gardens and trees (in good condition) associated with Protected Structures are protected from inappropriate development.</li> </ul>

No.	Policy / Objective
	Have regard to ecological considerations for example, protection of species such as bats.
BHA3 Loss of Protected Structures	That the City Council will resist the total or substantial loss of protected structures in all but exceptional circumstances.
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.
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>

No.	Policy / Objective
	<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 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 ACAs, within the identified priority areas in accordance with the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines, (2011).
BHA9 Conservation Areas	<p>To protect the special interest and character of all Dublin’s Conservation Areas – identified under Z8 and 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"> <li>1. Replacement or improvement of any building, feature or element which detracts from the character of the area or its setting.</li> <li>2. Re-instatement of missing architectural detail or important features.</li> <li>3. Improvement of open spaces and the wider public realm and reinstatement of historic routes and characteristic plot patterns.</li> <li>4. Contemporary architecture of exceptional design quality, which is in harmony with the Conservation Area.</li> <li>5. The repair and retention of shop and pub fronts of architectural interest.</li> <li>6. Retention of buildings and features that contribute to the overall character and integrity of the conservation area.</li> <li>7. The return of buildings to residential use.</li> </ol> <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</p>

No.	Policy / Objective
	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.
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 locks and graving docks), rail and rural (vernacular) heritage.
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.
BHA06 Twentieth Century Buildings, 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.
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.
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.
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



No.	Policy / Objective
	<p>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>(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 plan.</p>
<p>BHA19 Historic Street Furniture and the RPS</p>	<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>
<p>BHA22 Upgrading Environmental Performance</p>	<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"> <li>▪ The significance of the structure, and</li> <li>▪ The extent of intervention, including impact on historic fabric, the technical requirements of a traditionally constructed building, visibility, siting and design.</li> </ul> <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>
<p>BHA23 Climate Action</p>	<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>

No.	Policy / Objective
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.
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.
BHA26 Archaeological Heritage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To protect and preserve Monuments and Places listed on the statutory Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) as established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 which have been identified in the Record of Monuments and Places and the Historic Environment Viewer (<a href="http://www.archaeology.ie">www.archaeology.ie</a>) and all wrecks over 100 years old including those in the Shipwreck Inventory of Ireland</li> <li>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 Monuments and Places listed on the statutory Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) as established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994.</li> <li>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, all wrecks and associated objects over 100 years old 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.</li> </ol>

No.	Policy / Objective
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Development proposals within the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) as established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994, Notification of sites over 0.5 hectares size with potential underwater impacts 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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>6. Preserve the character, setting and amenity of upstanding and below ground town wall defences.</li> <li>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 Housing, Local Government and Heritage and be subject to an appropriate level of archaeological assessment.</li> <li>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.</li> </ol>
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).

No.	Policy / Objective
BHAO19 Built Heritage and Archaeology	To provide for the protection, preservation and promotion of the built heritage, including architectural heritage, archaeological heritage and underwater 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 Strategic Heritage Plan 2022-2028.
BHA28 Historic Place and Street Names	To preserve historic place and street and development names and ensure that new street and development names reflect appropriate local archaeological, historical or cultural associations.
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.
CUO17 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.
CUO18 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. There will be a presumption against further expansion of floor space for licenced premises, or the sale of food or alcohol for consumption off the premises, and any application will have to demonstrate how such expansion will not have a detrimental impact on the character of the area. Any further expansion of restaurant floor space will be assessment on a case by case basis and will also be required to demonstrate how such an expansion will not have a detrimental impact 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.

No.	Policy / Objective
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.
CUO38 Noise Impacts *See also Policy CCUV36	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. *See also Policy CCUV36
CUO40 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.
CUO44 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, (including music) and to set a series of actions, policy tools and initiatives to address identified shortfalls.
CUO46 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.
CUO47 Accessibility	To encourage people of all abilities and ages including wheelchair users 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.
CUO48 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.

No.	Policy / Objective
CU26 Irish Language	To continue supporting Gaeilge as part of our identity and as a living language within the City and to promote 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.
CUO49 Dublin Gaeltacht	To support the promotion of the Irish language and support initiatives to establish Irish language network areas/ “Dublin Gaeltacht” in Dublin; and the implementation of Dublin City Council’s initiative Baile Átha Cliath le Gaeilge to increase the opportunities and space for people to use and learn.
CUO50 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.
CUO52 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.
CUO55 Dublin City Language and Cultural Hub	To promote and support the development of a flagship Dublin City Language and Cultural Hub on Harcourt Street as outlined in the National Development Plan 2021-30 and Project Ireland 2040.
CUO59 Commemorative Art and Monuments	When commissioning commemorative art or monuments that consideration is given to increasing the representation of women and minorities.

## 10 Monitoring

Article 10 of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EEC) requires that the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the Plan are monitored in order to identify, at an early stage, unforeseen adverse effects and in order to undertake appropriate remedial action.

Monitoring can use existing sources of information and does not necessarily require new research to be undertaken. However, monitoring can be effective in identifying where additional research should be targeted to supplement where information is deficient.

The primary purpose of monitoring is to allow the actual impacts of the Dublin City Development Plan 2022 – 2028 on adoption to be assessed against the Strategic Environmental Objectives and their associated targets (overall aim) and indicators (measurement of monitoring change).

The environmental monitoring programme is outlined in **Table 10.1**.

Dublin City Council will work with other agencies, including EPA, NPWS, IFI, and those with environmental mandates to gather data for the purposes of monitoring the Plan. 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	Targets	Indicators	Data Sources and Responsibility
<b>Biodiversity (Flora &amp; Fauna) (B)</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	Targets	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	
<b>Population &amp; Human Health (PHH)</b>	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	Targets	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 2022 (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	Targets	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	Targets	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	Targets	Indicators	Data Sources and Responsibility
<b>Landscape &amp; Visual (LV)</b>	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
<b>Material Assets (MA)</b>	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

## Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028

### Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report Non-Technical Summary

Theme	Targets	Indicators	Data Sources and Responsibility
	Increase provision of parks and green links	New parks / upgraded parks New green route cycle paths	DCC Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department / 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

In summary, the assessment of the 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 Plan, as currently presented, balances growth with environmental protection and can deliver a sustainable future for the inhabitants of the area.

Taking into account the mitigation measures which has been integrated into the Plan, it has been determined that significant residual adverse environmental effects will not occur as a result of the implementation of the Plan.

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