



County Galway Climate Action Plan 2024 -2029

Natura Impact Statement

November 2023

County Galway Climate Action Plan

Natura Impact Statement

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Doherty Environmental Consultants (DEC) Ltd have been appointed by Galway County Council to prepare a Natura Impact Statement of the draft County Galway Climate Action Plan (CAP). This NIR has been completed with respect to the requirements outlined in Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive and Section 177U of the Planning and Development Act and has been prepared in order to facilitate Galway County Council's requirement for completing an Appropriate Assessment of the Plan.

The proposed CAP is not directly connected with or necessary for the management of any European Site and hence the requirements of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive and Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000, apply. Section 177U(1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 requires that a screening for appropriate assessment of, inter alia, a land use plan be carried out by a competent authority to assess, in light of best scientific knowledge, whether the proposed Plan, individually or in combination with another plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a European site. A Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment has been completed and assessed the potential for the CAP to result in likely significant effects to European Sites. A summary of the screening is provided in the Section 2 below.

1.1 STATEMENT OF AUTHORITY

This Appropriate Assessment Screening Report has been prepared by Mr. Pat Doherty BSc., MSc, MCIEEM, of DEC Ltd. Mr. Doherty is a consultant ecologist with over 20 years' experience in completing ecological impact assessments and environmental impact assessments. Pat has been involved in the completion of assessment reports for proposed developments and land use activities under the EIA Directive and Article 6 of the Habitats Directive since 2003 and 2006 respectively. He has extensive experience completing such reporting for projects located in a variety of environments and has a thorough understanding of the biodiversity issues that may arise from proposed land use activities. Pat was responsible for completing one of the first Appropriate Assessment reports for large scale infrastructure developments in Ireland when he prepared the Appropriate Assessment for the N25 New Ross Bypass in 2006/07. Since then Pat has completed multiple examinations of both plans and projects in Ireland. He has completed Natura Impact Statements for national scale plans such as Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan and National Seafood Development Plan and regional and county scale plans including County Development Plans, Local Area Plans, Tourism Strategies

and Climate Action Plans. Pat has completed multiple Natura Impact Statements for a range of development types that include large scale infrastructure developments in sectors such as transport and energy as well as industrial, commercial and residential developments.

Pat has completed focused certified professional development training in Appropriate Assessment as well as in a range of ecological survey techniques and assessment processes. Training has been completed for National Vegetation Classification (NVC) and Irish Vegetation Classification (IVC) surveying, bryophyte survey for habitat assessment and identification, professional bat survey and assessment training, mammal surveying and specific training for bird and bat survey techniques. Ongoing training has been completed by approved training providers such as CIEEM, British Trust for Ornithology, the Botanic Gardens and the Field Studies Council.

1.2 EU HABITATS DIRECTIVE ARTICLE 6(3) ASSESSMENT

Legislative protection for habitats and species is provided within the European Union by the Habitats Directive. The Habitats Directive has been implemented in Ireland and throughout Europe through the establishment of a network of designated conservation areas known as the Natura 2000 (N2K) network. The N2K network includes sites designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), under the EU Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the EU Birds Directive 2009/147/EC (as amended). SACs are designated in areas that support habitats listed on Annex I and/or species listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive. SPAs are designated in areas that support: 1% or more of the all-Ireland population of bird species listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive; 1% or more of the population of a migratory species; and more than 20,000 waterfowl.

This Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment is being prepared in order to enable the competent authority to comply with Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC (The Habitats Directive). It is prepared to assess whether or not the project alone or in combination with other plans and projects is likely to have a significant effect on any European Site in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of the conservation objectives of the European Sites and specifically on the habitats and species for which the sites have been designated. Measures intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of the proposed project on European sites (i.e. “mitigation measures”) or best practice measures have not been taken into account in this screening stage appraisal.

1.2.1 Requirement for an Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive

According to section 177U(1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) the competent authority has a duty to:

- Determine whether the proposed Project is directly connected to or necessary for the management of one of more European Sites; and, if not,
- Determine if the Project, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have a significant effect on the European Site(s) in view of best scientific knowledge and the Conservation Objectives of the site(s).

This report contains information to support a Screening for Appropriate Assessment and is intended to provide information that assists the competent authority when assessing and addressing all issues regarding the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Project and to allow the competent authority to comply with the Habitats Directive. Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive defines the requirements for assessment of projects and plans for which likely significant effects on European Sites may arise. The Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive together list habitats and species that are of international importance for conservation and require protection. The Habitats Directive requires competent authorities, to carry out a Screening for Appropriate Assessment of plans and projects that are not directly connected to or necessary for the management of a European Site, to assess whether the plan or project alone or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have significant effects on European Sites in view of best scientific knowledge and the Site's conservation objectives. This requirement is transposed into Irish Law by, inter alia, Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). Section 177U(4) of Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act states:

"The competent authority shall determine that an appropriate assessment of a draft Land use plan or a proposed development, as the case may be, is required if it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the draft Land use plan or proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site. "

2.0 SUMMARY OF THE SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

A Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment has been completed for the draft CAP. This Screening was completed in line with the requirements of Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive, as transposed into Irish law in Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) in relation to land use planning.

The Screening represents the first stage of the Article 6(3) Habitats Directive assessment process and was undertaken to identify whether the plan has the potential to result in likely significant effects to European Sites. The first step of the Screening was to assess all actions proposed by the CAP for their potential to result in likely significant effects to European Sites. A total of 8 no. actions were identified as having the potential to result in likely significant effects to European Sites. These actions are listed in full in Table 6.1 of this NIR. During the screening a clear relationship was identified between land use activities, that may arise as a result of the implementation of these actions and European Sites.

For instance, actions that aim to promote/facilitate adaptation measures for existing key infrastructure such as roads and flood defences; the provision of infrastructure to enable modal shifts in transport from private vehicle to active travel and public transport; the implementation of nature-based actions with local authority lands; and the facilitation of community decarbonisation and future proofing initiatives could, in the absence of appropriate design and consideration, contribute to land use effects with potential to result in adverse effects to European Sites.

Given elements of the draft CAP will facilitate land use activities that will have the potential to result in impacts to European Sites, further consideration of the CAP, alone and in-combination with other land use plans is required as part of a Natura Impact Statement.

Accordingly, this NIS has been prepared to inform the Appropriate Assessment of the draft CAP's potential to result in likely significant effects to European Sites and their qualifying features of interest occurring within the zone of influence of the plan.

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 GUIDANCE

This NIS has been undertaken in accordance with National and European guidance documents: Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities (DEHLG 2010) and *Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 sites – Methodological Guidance of the Provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats directive 92/43/EEC*. The following guidance documents were also of relevance during this the preparation of this NIS:

- Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites – Methodological Guidance of the Provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/42/EED. European Commission (2021).
- Managing Natura 2000 Sites – The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats directive 92/43/EEC. European commission (2018).

3.2 BACKGROUND TO HABITATS DIRECTIVE ARTICLE 6 ASSESSMENTS

The EC (2021) guidelines outline the stages involved in undertaking an assessment of a project under Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive. The assessment process comprises the four stages outlined below. Stage 1 to 3 form part of the Article 6(3) process, while Stage 4 forms part of the Article 6(4) process. This NIR presents the findings of an assessment for Stage 2 of this assessment process.

- Stage 1 – Screening: This stage defines the proposed plan, establishes whether the proposed plan is necessary for the conservation management of the Natura 2000 site and assesses the likelihood of the plan to have a significant effect, alone or in combination with other plans or projects, upon a Natura 2000 site.
- Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment: If a plan or project is likely to have a significant affect an Appropriate Assessment must be undertaken. In this stage the impact of the plan or project to the Conservation Objectives of the Natura 2000 site is assessed. The

outcome of this assessment will establish whether the plan will have an adverse effect upon the integrity of the Natura 2000 site.

- Stage 3 – Assessment of Alternative Solutions: If it is concluded that, subsequent to the implementation of mitigation measures, a plan has an adverse impact upon the integrity of a Natura 2000 site it must be objectively concluded that no alternative solutions exist before the plan can proceed.
- Stage 4 – Where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain but imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI) exist for the implementation of a plan or project an assessment of compensatory measures that will effectively offset the damage to the Natura site 2000 will be necessary.

3.3 STAGE 2: APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT STEPS

The EC Guidance Assessment Criteria for Appropriate Assessment seeks the following information:

1. A description of the elements of the project that are likely to give rise to significant effects to European Sites;
2. The Setting out the Conservation Objectives of the Site;
3. A description of how the project will affect key species and key habitats;
4. A description of how the integrity of the site (determined by structure and function and conservation objectives) is likely to be affected by the project (e.g. loss of habitat, disturbance, disruption, chemical changes, hydrological changes etc.);
5. A description of the mitigation measures that are to be introduced to avoid, reduce or remedy the adverse effects on the integrity of European Sites.

3.4 INFLUENCE OF THE APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT PROCESS ON THE PLAN

The purpose of the Appropriate Assessment of the Plan is not only to assess the implications of this Plan on European Sites and their qualifying features of interest occurring within its zone of influence, but also to provide safeguards that aim to minimise the ecological implications of

the Plan and avoid likely significant effects to European Sites. This was completed by identifying any elements of the Plan and the current Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown CDP that aim to protect the natural environment.

3.5 SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Information relied upon included the following information sources, which included maps, ecological and water quality data:

- Online data available on European sites as held by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) from www.npws.ie;
- GIS based ecological datasets held by the NPWS;
- GIS based ecological datasets held by Galway County Council;
- Galway County Development Plan 2024 – 2030 Natura Impact Statement

3.6 OVERLAP WITH THE STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF THE DRAFT CAP

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the draft CAP was carried out concurrently with the NIS. There were several areas of overlap and in accordance with good practice in terms of the following stages:

- Sharing of baseline data gathering and sharing, data on European sites and potential sensitivities and threats.
- Objectives that will result in land use activities were examined by the NIS team for potential adverse effects on integrity of the European Sites in terms of their Conservation Objectives but also any other ecological impacts outside of the European site scale were highlighted to the SEA team for them to address in the SEA process.
- SEA team was able to highlight potential interactions between other environmental issues such as water quality and infrastructure and the sensitivities of European sites to the NIS team.

3.7 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The purpose of an Appropriate Assessment is to examine the potential for a land use plan to result in land use activities that could compromise the conservation objectives of a European Site. For many conservation objectives that have been given site-specificity, they are themselves broken down into a series of attributes and targets for each Qualifying Interest.

To make the assessment process efficient and manageable without losing quality of analysis, the Conservation Objectives were distilled to five common themes that could then be used as assessment criteria to examine each Objective that has been identified as having the potential to result in likely significant effects to European Sites. Each of the five criteria was quite general in nature which allows an easier assessment but also resulted in a very light “trigger” for the potential for adverse effects on integrity of European Sites to be identified.

The common themes which have become the five assessment criteria for the analysis of zoning parcels are described below:

- **Is the site located within 6km of a Lesser Horseshoe Bat Roost SAC?** This criterion refers to the potential impact that development can have on foraging areas, roosts and flight paths used by this Annex II/IV species. County Galway is a stronghold for this species and development both in isolation and when viewed in combination can have adverse effects. Research carried out on this species has suggested that the majority of feeding activity takes place within 2-3km of roosts during the year with occasional movements in excess of 4km (Bontadina, 2002; Biggane, 2003). The core sustenance zone for lesser horseshoe bats is also considered to be up to 2.5km surrounding roost sites (NPWS, 2018). This distance can reduce down to a few hundred metres in the birthing season whilst larger scale movements of up to 15km are not unreasonable when bats move between winter and summer roosts. For the purposes of identifying a zone of influence, a precautionary value of 6km was applied to identify a theoretical maximum foraging range.
- **Are there hydrological/hydrogeological linkages between Objectives and European sites and potential for impacts arising to and from surface, ground and coastal water quality?** European sites in County Galway host a range of freshwater (surface and ground) and marine-dependent QIs and SCIs. These QI’s and special

conservation interests are reliant on freshwater, groundwater and/or coastal water quality. Therefore any Objectives that could directly or indirectly affect water quality or supply could potentially affect the European site.

- **Will there be a risk of direct habitat loss or loss of ecological networks supporting European sites?** For example, walking trails and other new development occurring on undeveloped lands within the European sites etc.
- **Will there be a risk of direct or indirect disturbance to European site habitats and/or species?** Even though many of the land use activities that arise from the draft CAP actions may not be directly within European sites, they could affect European Site and their Qualifying Interest (Qis) via indirect disturbance, e.g. recreation at coastal sites, river walkways, noise disturbance due to construction.
- **Will there be a risk of direct or indirect threats to European sites by invasive species?** Many freshwater and terrestrial European sites are vulnerable to the adverse effects of invasive species introductions and land use activities associated with certain Actions will have the potential to result in the spread of such species.

4.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY GALWAY CAP

4.1 BACKGROUND TO COUNTY GALWAY CCAP

Through the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, Ireland is now on a legally binding path to net-Zero emissions no later than 2050, and to a 51% reduction in emissions by the end of this decade. The Act provides the framework for Ireland to meet its international and EU climate commitments and to become a leader in addressing climate change.

As required by the 2021 Act, Galway County Council is preparing their first Local Authority Climate Action Plan (LA-CAP) which must be adopted by the Elected Members before 23rd February 2024. This will continue the work undertaken over the first Climate Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 which was non statutory.

4.1.1 Local Authority Climate Action Plans

Local Authorities will have a particularly important role in the delivery of both climate mitigation and adaptation. This is reflected in the provisions of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act, 2021, which requires each Local Authority to prepare a CAP specifying the mitigation and the adaptation measures to be adopted by the Local Authority.

Local authorities are key drivers in advancing climate policy at the local level and the Galway CAP aims to strengthen the alignment between national climate policy and local circumstances with the prioritisation and acceleration of evidence-based measures, to assist in the delivery of the climate neutrality objective for Galway County Council.

Galway County Council will use its CAP in planning how it will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase climate resilience from across its own assets and infrastructure, whilst also taking on a broader role to influence, facilitate and co-ordinate the climate actions of communities and other stakeholders and what it will do to advocate for climate action in Galway. In order to ensure that the CAP is centred around a strong understanding of the role and remit of Galway County Council on climate action, the Plan is being developed through the following framework.

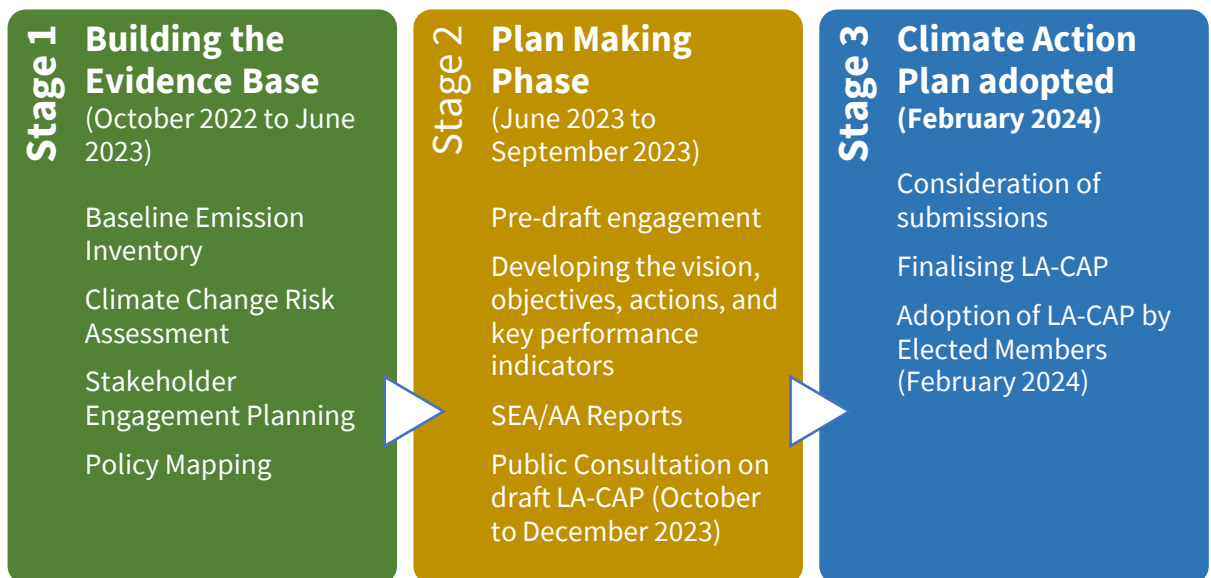
- Fully accountable: Targeted actions for areas where Galway County Council has full accountability for climate action within their own operations.
- Influence: Actions for where Galway County Council can influence businesses, communities, and individuals in the delivery of local climate action through the functions and services they provide.
- Coordination: Actions for where Galway County Council can coordinate and facilitate local and community action bringing together stakeholders in partnership to achieve climate action related projects.
- Advocate: Actions aligned to Galway County Councils role as advocate on climate action through raising awareness, communicating, informing, and engaging in open dialogue on the topic.

While the Climate Action Plan will be ambitious to reflect the leadership role of Galway County Council on climate action, the Plan will not include actions whereby their implementation and achievement fall outside their role, remit, and governance.

4.1.2 Development of the LA-CAP

The development of the Climate Action Plan will follow a number of stages as explained in the Figure 4.1. below.

Figure 4.1 Stages in the development of the Climate Action Plan



4.2 SCALE, NATURE AND LOCATION OF THE COUNTY GALWAY CCAP

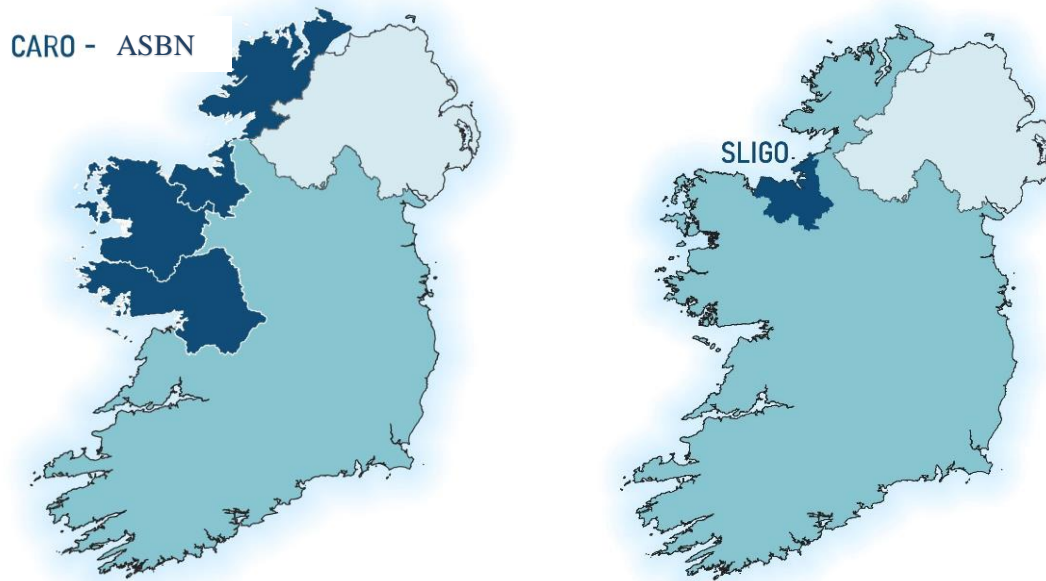
The plan will cover all of the functional area of County Galway. **Figure 4.2** shows the location of County Galway, and the Atlantic Seaboard North Climate Action Regional office extent (CARO).

The plan is still being progressed but a number of principal themes are identified and these will be supported by actions. These themes include:

- Sustainability and resource management.
- Governance
- Community resilience and transition
- Environment and Biodiversity
- Transport and mobility

The Plan will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment, Ecological Impact Assessment and requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent granting. Actions arising from the plan will demonstrate compliance with the environmental protection measures in the current Galway County Development Plan 2017-2023 (extended), Draft Galway CDP 2024 -2030, and SEA Environmental Reports and Natura Impact Reports that accompanies same.

Figure 4.2: County Galway and the Atlantic Seaboard North CARO



5.0 EUROPEAN SITES

5.1 OVERVIEW OF EUROPEAN SITES

County Galway is situated in the west coast of Ireland, bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to the west,, County Mayo to the north and south and the Roscommon and Clare to the south.

The County has a diverse topography varying from wide and open expanses of peatland and moorland, limestone pavement, extensive forested areas, estuarial mudflats, high Atlantic cliffs, inland lakes and waterways and fertile plains.

The Plan area is rich in biodiversity, containing many important, and protected, habitats and species such as, coastal habitats from cliffs to estuaries, reefs, machairs, mudflats, sandy beaches, and terrestrial habitats such as lakes, turloughs, fens, wetlands, woodlands, bogs, wildfowl (duck and geese), waders, salmon, lamprey and otters. However, it also contains many other habitats which are not protected such as scrub, parks, streams, hedgerows, tree lines, roadside verges, housing estate open spaces and gardens.

There are a total of 30 European Sites; 20 Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and 10 Special Protection Areas (SPA), occurring within Galway. Collectively referred to as the Natura 2000 network, SACs and SPAs are designated in consideration of Habitats Directive Annex I habitats and Annex II species and classified in consideration of Birds Directive Annex I bird species. The 30 European Sites make up a sizeable percentage of the land cover within the county. This area reflects the international and national significance of Galway's wealth of natural heritage. Few Natura 2000 sites are exclusively designated or classified in consideration of terrestrial or aquatic qualifying interests; many consist of a combination of terrestrial, freshwater and marine habitats and species. In the natural environment also there is considerable overlap between terrestrial and aquatic fauna and flora, with each co-existing and co-reliant in many cases.

As well as within Co. Galway there are a high number of European Site bordering the county. In order to identify these sites the spatial boundary data for the European site network, as published by the NPWS in July 2023 was used. All European Sites which were deemed to be within the zone of influence of the potential implications of the draft CAP are considered further in Section 3.2 below and are listed in Table A1.1 in Appendix 1.

5.2 ZONE OF INFLUENCE OF THE PLAN

The approach to defining the zone of influence of the County Galway CAP follows the approach used during for the draft Galway County Development Plan 2024 - 2030. The land use effects of the CAP, be they direct or indirect effects, will be primarily restricted to County Galway only. However a wider zone of influence is used for impacts relating to surface waters that are hydrologically connected to the Plan area and that support freshwater-dependent habitats; habitats for SACs or SPAs; habitats for Annex 2 qualifying species; and habitat for SPA special conservation interest bird species.

5.3 IDENTIFICATION OF EUROPEAN SITES

The approach to defining the zone of influence of the County Galway CAP follows the approach used during for the draft Galway County Development Plan 2024 - 2030. The land use effects of the CAP, be they direct or indirect effects, will be primarily restricted to County Galway only. However a wider zone of influence is used for impacts relating to surface waters that are hydrologically connected to the Plan area and that support freshwater-dependent habitats;

habitats for SACs or SPAs; habitats for Annex 2 qualifying species; and habitat for SPA special conservation interest bird species.

In line with the approach to defining the zone of influence as set out above, the screening of the draft CAP identified 172 European Sites that are either located within County Galway, within a 15km buffer of the county boundary or hydrologically connected to the Plan Area of County Galway. The 172 European Sites comprise 135 SACs and 37 SPAs.

Each of these 172 sites are considered to fall within the zone of influence of the draft CAP. These 172 European Sites are listed in Appendix 1.

5.4 CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES

The function of this NIS is to examine the potential adverse effects of the draft CAP on European Sites and the conservation objectives set out for the features of interest for which these sites are designated as SACs and SPAs. Generic Conservation Objectives have been published for all European Sites occurring in Ireland. The generic Conservation Objectives for SACs and their qualifying habitats and qualifying species are:

- To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the SAC has been selected at favourable conservation status;
- To maintain the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected at favourable conservation status;
- To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site; and
- To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.

The generic Conservation Objectives for SPAs and their special conservation interests are:

To maintain the bird species of special conservation interest, for which the SPA has been designated, at favourable conservation status.

Favourable Conservation status of a habitat is achieved when:

- Its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing;

- The specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future; and

The conservation status of its typical species is “favourable”. Favourable Conservation status of a species is achieved when:

- Population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats;
- The natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future; and
- There is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long term basis.

In addition to the published generic Conservation Objectives for all European Sites, Site Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) have been published for individual European Sites. These SSCO identify the attributes that underpin the conservation status of qualifying features of interest/special conservation interests and provide targets for ensuring that their favourable status is maintained and/or restored. As outlined in Section 3.7 above five assessment criteria have been used during this NIS that aim to capture the attributes and targets that underpin the site-specific conservation objectives for European Site. These five criteria are used to examine the potential for land use activities associated with Objectives to result in adverse effects to European Sites.

6.0 ASSESSMENT OF THE DRAFT CAP

6.1 ELEMENTS OF THE DRAFT CAP WITH POTENTIAL TO RESULT IN ADVERSE EFFECTS

The actions of the draft CAP have been examined for their potential to result in land use effects, which in turn could contribute, in the absence appropriate safeguards and consideration, to adverse effects to European Sites. A total of 8 no. actions have been identified as having the potential to support future land use activities that could in turn result in adverse effects to European Sites.

It is noted that actions of the draft CAP are strategic in nature and lack specificity with regard to the nature and location of future land use activities that may be supported by the 8 no. action

listed in Table 6.1 below. As such the identification of potential adverse effects is based on a consideration of conceivable land use activities that could arise as a result of the supporting policy framework established by the draft CAP. The consideration of such adverse effects is set out in Table 6.1 below.

Table 6.1: Draft CAP Actions Identified as Having Potential to Contribute to Adverse Effects to European Sites

Action No.	Action	Adverse Effects
<i>Strategic Goals</i>		
GL 2.6	Continue the programme of upgrading of public lighting within County Galway to energy efficient lighting systems while having due regard to the impact of the spectrum of light used on biodiversity	In the absence of the inclusion of measures that aim to safeguard crepuscular and nocturnal fauna that are sensitive to night time lighting from negative disturbance effects of lighting, the conversion of lighting will have the potential to result in adverse disturbance effects. In terms of European Sites, those that will could be adversely affected will include SACs and SPAs that are designated for their role in supporting lesser horseshoe bats and bird species that are known to be sensitive to night time lighting.
TR 1.9	Expand the greenway network in the County establishing linkages with towns and villages in line with the strategic national cycle network	The expansion of the greenway network in the County could conceivably result in direct impacts such as habitat loss or habitat degradation or indirect impacts such as habitat and species disturbance and changes in key indicators of conservation status such as water quality.
TR 1.4	Work with communities to identify potential active travel, greenway and public transport projects and support modal shift	The support of active travel and greenway initiatives and projects could conceivably result in the support of new infrastructure that in turn could have potential to result in direct impacts such as habitat loss or habitat degradation or indirect impacts such as habitat and species disturbance and changes in key indicators of conservation status such as water quality.

Action No.	Action	Adverse Effects
DZ 1.3	Facilitate and support the development of group approaches for residential and commercial energy assessments, retrofit, renewable heating, and solar installation both within and outside the Decarbonisation Zone. Support Gníomhaireacht Fuinnimh an Iarthar (GFI) Energy Agency.	The support of group-based renewable energy will have the potential to result in impact to European Sites. A number of European Sites occur within and surrounding the DZ. These include Inishmore Island SAC; Inishmore SPA; Inishmann Island SAC; and Inisheer Island SAC. The provision of group-based renewable energy projects in the DZ could be connected to these European Sites via pathways such as hydrological pathways, with potential emission of poor quality and inadequately treated surface water runoff and/or foul waters. Local community-based renewable energy developments can also, if sited inappropriately, result in disturbance, habitat loss or fatalities to mobile species e.g. birds that are representative of features of interest of European Sites.
DZ 1.9	Support the identification and development of appropriate community energy facilities.	The support of group-based renewable energy will have the potential to result in impact to European Sites. A number of European Sites occur within and surrounding the DZ. The provision of group-based renewable energy projects in the DZ could be connected to these European Sites via pathways such as hydrological pathways, with potential emission of poor quality and inadequately treated surface water runoff and/or foul waters. Local community-based renewable energy developments can also, if sited inappropriately, result in disturbance, habitat loss or fatalities to mobile species e.g. birds that are representative of features of interest of European Sites.
DZ 1.11	Support the identification and development of opportunities related to Microgrid Options with Battery Storage.	The support of micro-grid options with battery storage will be likely to require infrastructure works that could have the potential to result in impact to European Sites, especially given the . A number of European Sites occur within and surrounding the DZ. The provision of group-based renewable

Action No.	Action	Adverse Effects
		<p>energy projects in the DZ could be connected to these European Sites via pathways such as hydrological pathways, with potential emission of poor quality and inadequately treated surface water runoff and/or foul waters. Local community-based renewable energy developments can also, if sited inappropriately, result in disturbance, habitat loss or fatalities to mobile species e.g. birds that are representative of features of interest of European Sites.</p>
<p>AD 1.3</p>	<p>Ensure the continued incorporation of Flood Risk Management and Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plans into the spatial planning of the County, having due regard to the need to promote nature based solutions and Sustainable Drainage Systems, and environmental sensitivities at these locations.</p>	<p>European Sites occur in all surface water catchments within Galway. The SACs and SPAs occurring in these catchments support freshwater and/coastal habitats and species that are dependent on or sensitive to freshwater hydrological processes and any changes to them. The delivery of schemes for flood risk management will have the potential to result in direct impacts such as habitat loss or habitat degradation, should the occur within European Sites or indirect impacts such as habitat and species disturbance and changes in key indicators of conservation status such as water quality and hydrological regimes.</p>
<p>AS 1.8</p>	<p>Work with the OPW and other stakeholders to identify and support Minor and Major Flood Protection and Flood Proofing Schemes throughout the county</p>	<p>European Sites occur in all surface water catchments within Galway. The SACs and SPAs occurring in these catchments support freshwater and/coastal habitats and species that are dependent on or sensitive to freshwater hydrological processes and any changes to them. The delivery of support for minor and major flood protection and flood proofing schemes will have the potential to result in direct impacts such as habitat loss or habitat degradation, should the occur within European Sites or indirect impacts such as habitat and species disturbance and changes in key indicators of conservation status such</p>

Action No.	Action	Adverse Effects
		as water quality and hydrological regimes.

6.2 IDENTIFICATION OF THE NATURE OF ADVERSE EFFECTS

The potential impacts of the implementation of the draft CAP Actions listed in Table 6.1 to European Site is examined in Table 6.2 below by evaluating the potential for each of these Action to result in adverse effects to the 4 assessment criteria.

Table 6.2: Identification of adverse effects to the Qualifying Features/Special Conservation Interests of European Sites

Actions	Lesser horseshoe bat roost SAC	Hydrological pathway to European Site whose conservation objectives are reliant on surface, ground and coastal water quality	Direct habitat loss of European Site	Direct or indirect disturbance to European Site habitat and/or species	Direct or indirect impacts to European Site from invasive species
<i>GL2.6</i>	Yes. the conversion of public lighting to LED, could in the absence of appropriate design safeguards, result in disturbance, fragmentation and habitat loss for lesser horseshoe bats.	The implementation of this action will not result in perturbations to surface waters.	The implementation of this action will not result in direct habitat loss.	The implementation of this action, could in the absence of appropriate design safeguards, result in indirect habitat loss of lesser horseshoe bats and bird species of SPAs that are sensitive to night time lighting.	The implementation of this action will not result in the spread of invasive species.
<i>TR 1.9</i>	Yes. The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could result in the loss of foraging and/or commuting habitats relied upon by lesser horseshoe bat SAC populations where such developments are located within the core sustenance zone of a lesser horseshoe bat SAC.	Yes. European Sites occur in all surface water catchments within Galway and the majority of these sites support freshwater and coastal dependent qualifying habitat and species. These qualifying habitat and species are reliant on good water quality and the provision of new infrastructure development supported	The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could overlap with European Sites. In the event of such overlap the potential could arise for the loss of qualifying habitat under circumstances where due consideration and safeguards do not inform such developments.	Yes. The provision of developments supported by this action could have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways such watercourse etc.	Yes. In the event that developments supported by the action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.

Actions	Lesser horseshoe bat roost SAC	Hydrological pathway to European Site whose conservation objectives are reliant on surface, ground and coastal water quality	Direct habitat loss of European Site	Direct or indirect disturbance to European Site habitat and/or species	Direct or indirect impacts to European Site from invasive species
		by this action could, in the absence of suitable safeguards, have the potential to result in perturbations to water quality with downstream impacts to qualifying habitats and species.			
<i>TRI.4</i>	Yes. The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could result in the loss of foraging and/or commuting habitats relied upon by lesser horseshoe bat SAC populations where such developments are located within the core sustenance zone of a lesser horseshoe bat SAC.	Yes. European Sites occur in all surface water catchments within Galway and the majority of these sites support freshwater and coastal dependent qualifying habitat and species. These qualifying habitat and species are reliant on good water quality and the provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could, in the absence of suitable safeguards, have the potential to result in perturbations to water quality with downstream	The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could overlap with European Sites. In the event of such overlap the potential could arise for the loss of qualifying habitat under circumstances where due consideration and safeguards do not inform such developments.	Yes. The provision of developments supported by this action could have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways such watercourse etc.	Yes. In the event that developments supported by the action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.

Actions	Lesser horseshoe bat roost SAC	Hydrological pathway to European Site whose conservation objectives are reliant on surface, ground and coastal water quality	Direct habitat loss of European Site	Direct or indirect disturbance to European Site habitat and/or species	Direct or indirect impacts to European Site from invasive species
		impacts to qualifying habitats and species.			
<i>DZ1.3</i>	No. None of the SACs occurring within the SZ are designated for the presence of lesser horseshoe bat populations.	Yes. The provision of infrastructure to support community energy facilities could conceivably be connected to the European Sites occurring within and surrounding the DZ via surface or groundwater hydrological pathways.	Yes. Given that the majority of the Aran Islands are designated as European Sites the potential will exist of direct loss of qualifying habitat of a European Sites in the event that such infrastructure is inappropriately sited within or adjacent to the DZ.	Yes. The provision of developments supported by this action could have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways.	Yes. In the event that developments supported by the action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.
<i>DZ 1.9</i>	No. None of the SACs occurring within the SZ are designated for the presence of lesser horseshoe bat populations.	Yes. The provision of infrastructure to support community energy facilities could conceivably be connected to the European Sites occurring within and surrounding the DZ via surface or groundwater hydrological pathways.	Yes. Given that the majority of the Aran Islands are designated as European Sites the potential will exist of direct loss of qualifying habitat of a European Sites in the event that such infrastructure is inappropriately sited within or adjacent to the DZ.	Yes. The provision of developments supported by this action could have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways.	Yes. In the event that developments supported by the action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.

Actions	Lesser horseshoe bat roost SAC	Hydrological pathway to European Site whose conservation objectives are reliant on surface, ground and coastal water quality	Direct habitat loss of European Site	Direct or indirect disturbance to European Site habitat and/or species	Direct or indirect impacts to European Site from invasive species
<i>DZ 1.11</i>	No. None of the SACs occurring within the SZ are designated for the presence of lesser horseshoe bat populations.	Yes. The provision of infrastructure to support microgrid options and battery storage could conceivably be connected to the European Sites occurring within and surrounding the DZ via surface or groundwater hydrological pathways.	Yes. Given that the majority of the Aran Islands are designated as European Sites the potential will exist of direct loss of qualifying habitat of a European Site in the event that such infrastructure is inappropriately sited within or adjacent to the DZ.	Yes. The provision of developments supported by this action could have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways.	Yes. In the event that developments supported by the action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.
<i>AD 1.3</i>	Yes. Works associated with flood protection and proofing schemes could conceivably result in direct impacts to lesser horseshoe bat populations associated with SAC in the event that roosting opportunities or riparian foraging habitat is affected by such schemes.	Yes. European Sites occur in all surface water catchments within Galway and the majority of these sites support freshwater and coastal dependent qualifying habitat and species. These qualifying habitat and species are reliant on good water quality and the provision of new flood relief infrastructure supported by this action could, in the absence of suitable safeguards, have the potential to result in	The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could overlap with European Sites. In the event of such overlap the potential could arise for the loss of qualifying habitat under circumstances where due consideration and safeguards do not inform such developments.	Yes. The provision of developments supported by this action could have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways such as watercourse etc.	Yes. In the event that developments supported by the action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.

Actions	Lesser horseshoe bat roost SAC	Hydrological pathway to European Site whose conservation objectives are reliant on surface, ground and coastal water quality	Direct habitat loss of European Site	Direct or indirect disturbance to European Site habitat and/or species	Direct or indirect impacts to European Site from invasive species
		perturbations to water quality with downstream impacts to qualifying habitats and species.			
AS 1.8	Yes. Works associated with flood protection and proofing schemes could conceivable result in direct impacts to lesser horseshoe bat populations associated with SAC in the event that roosting opportunities or riparian foraging habitat is affected by such schemes.	Yes. European Sites occur in all surface water catchments within Galway and the majority of these sites support freshwater and coastal dependent qualifying habitat and species. These qualifying habitat and species are reliant on good water quality and the provision of new flood relief infrastructure supported by this action could, in the absence of suitable safeguards, have the potential to result in perturbations to water quality with downstream impacts to qualifying habitats and species.	The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could overlap with European Sites. In the event of such overlap the potential could arise for the loss of qualifying habitat under circumstances where due consideration and safeguards do not inform such developments.	Yes. The provision of developments supported by this action could have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways such watercourse etc.	Yes. In the event that developments supported by the action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.

Actions	Lesser horseshoe bat roost SAC	Hydrological pathway to European Site whose conservation objectives are reliant on surface, ground and coastal water quality	Direct habitat loss of European Site	Direct or indirect disturbance to European Site habitat and/or species	Direct or indirect impacts to European Site from invasive species
<i>Action 6</i>	Yes. The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could result in the loss of foraging and/or commuting habitats relied upon by lesser horseshoe bat SAC populations which such developments are located within the core sustenance zone of such an SAC.	Yes. County Galway supports a high number of European Sites that support freshwater and coastal dependent qualifying habitat and species. These qualifying habitat and species are reliant on good water quality and the provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could, in the absence of suitable safeguards, have the potential to result in perturbations to water quality with downstream impacts to qualifying habitats and species.	The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could overlap with European Sites. In the event of such overlap the potential could arise for the loss of qualifying habitat under circumstances where due consideration and safeguards do not inform such developments.	Yes. The provision of developments supported by this action could have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways such watercourse etc.	Yes. In the event that developments supported by the action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.
<i>Action 7</i>	Yes. The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could result in the loss of foraging and/or commuting habitats relied upon by lesser horseshoe bat SAC populations which such	Yes. County Galway supports a high number of European Sites that support freshwater and coastal dependent qualifying habitat and species. These qualifying habitat and species are reliant on good water	The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could overlap with European Sites. In the event of such overlap the potential could arise for the loss of qualifying habitat under	Yes. The provision of developments supported by this action could have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats	Yes. In the event that developments supported by the action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.

Actions	Lesser horseshoe bat roost SAC	Hydrological pathway to European Site whose conservation objectives are reliant on surface, ground and coastal water quality	Direct habitat loss of European Site	Direct or indirect disturbance to European Site habitat and/or species	Direct or indirect impacts to European Site from invasive species
	developments are located within the core sustenance zone of such an SAC.	quality and the provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could, in the absence of suitable safeguards, have the potential to result in perturbations to water quality with downstream impacts to qualifying habitats and species.	circumstances where due consideration and safeguards do not inform such developments.	or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways such watercourse etc.	
<i>Action 10</i>	Yes. The planting of trees in inappropriate locations such as along woodland or forestry ride lines could result in the loss of lesser horseshoe bat commuting or foraging habitat.	The implementation of this action will not result in perturbations to surface waters.	The implementation of this action will not result in direct habitat loss.	The implementation of this action, could in the absence of appropriate design safeguards, result in indirect habitat loss of lesser horseshoe bats and bird species of SPAs that are sensitive to night time lighting.	The selection of inappropriate tree species or the use of planting substrate that is not certified to be free of invasive species could result in the spread of such species.
<i>Future Proof our Communities</i>					

Actions	Lesser horseshoe bat roost SAC	Hydrological pathway to European Site whose conservation objectives are reliant on surface, ground and coastal water quality	Direct habitat loss of European Site	Direct or indirect disturbance to European Site habitat and/or species	Direct or indirect impacts to European Site from invasive species
<i>Action 15</i>	Yes. Developments associated with future-proofing projects could result in the loss of foraging and/or commuting habitats relied upon by lesser horseshoe bat SAC populations which such developments are located within the core sustenance zone of such an SAC.	Yes. The Mulranny area supports a high number of European Sites that support freshwater and coastal dependent qualifying habitat and species. These qualifying habitat and species are reliant on good water quality and new development, that could be supported by this action could, in the absence of suitable safeguards, have the potential to result in perturbations to water quality with downstream impacts to qualifying habitats and species.	Development associated with future-proofing projects could overlap with European Sites. In the event of such overlap the potential could arise for the loss of qualifying habitat under circumstances where due consideration and safeguards do not inform such developments.	Yes. The provision of developments supported by the action will have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways such watercourse etc.	Yes. In the event that developments supported by this action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.
<i>Action 22</i>	Yes. Developments associated with future-proofing projects could result in the loss of foraging and/or commuting habitats relied upon by lesser horseshoe bat SAC populations which such developments	Yes. The Mulranny area supports a high number of European Sites that support freshwater and coastal dependent qualifying habitat and species. These qualifying habitat and species are reliant on good water	Development associated with future-proofing projects could overlap with European Sites. In the event of such overlap the potential could arise for the loss of qualifying habitat under circumstances where due	Yes. The provision of developments supported by the action will have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats	Yes. In the event that developments supported by this action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.

Actions	Lesser horseshoe bat roost SAC	Hydrological pathway to European Site whose conservation objectives are reliant on surface, ground and coastal water quality	Direct habitat loss of European Site	Direct or indirect disturbance to European Site habitat and/or species	Direct or indirect impacts to European Site from invasive species
	are located within the core sustenance zone of such an SAC.	quality and new development, that could be supported by this action could, in the absence of suitable safeguards, have the potential to result in perturbations to water quality with downstream impacts to qualifying habitats and species.	consideration and safeguards do not inform such developments.	or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways such watercourse etc.	
<i>DZ Action 6</i>	Yes. Developments facilitated by future community plans design statements and tourism could result in the loss of foraging and/or commuting habitats relied upon by lesser horseshoe bat SAC populations which such developments are located within the core sustenance zone of such an SAC.	Yes. The Mulranny area supports a high number of European Sites that support freshwater and coastal dependent qualifying habitat and species. These qualifying habitat and species are reliant on good water quality and new development, that could be supported by this action could, in the absence of suitable safeguards, have the potential to result in perturbations to water quality with downstream	Development facilitated by future community plans design statements and tourism could overlap with European Sites. In the event of such overlap the potential could arise for the loss of qualifying habitat under circumstances where due consideration and safeguards do not inform such developments.	Yes. The provision of developments supported by the action will have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways such watercourse etc.	Yes. In the event that developments supported by this action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.

Actions	Lesser horseshoe bat roost SAC	Hydrological pathway to European Site whose conservation objectives are reliant on surface, ground and coastal water quality	Direct habitat loss of European Site	Direct or indirect disturbance to European Site habitat and/or species	Direct or indirect impacts to European Site from invasive species
		impacts to qualifying habitats and species.			
<i>DZ Action 11</i>	Yes. Developments associated with the provision of infrastructure to harness renewable natural resources that could be supported by this action can result in the loss of foraging and/or commuting habitats relied upon by lesser horseshoe bat SAC populations which such developments are located within the core sustenance zone of such an SAC.	Yes. The Mulranny area supports a high number of European Sites that support freshwater and coastal dependent qualifying habitat and species. These qualifying habitat and species are reliant on good water quality and new development, that could be supported by this action could, in the absence of suitable safeguards, have the potential to result in perturbations to water quality with downstream impacts to qualifying habitats and species.	Whilst development associated with the provision of infrastructure to harness renewable natural resources could overlap with European Sites. In the event of such overlap the potential could arise for the loss of qualifying habitat under circumstances where due consideration and safeguards do not inform such developments.	Yes. The provision of developments supported by the action will have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways such watercourse etc.	Yes. In the event that developments supported by the action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.
<i>DZ Action 14</i>	Yes. the conversion of public lighting to LED, could in the absence of appropriate design	The implementation of this action will not result in perturbations to surface waters.	The implementation of this action will not result in direct habitat loss.	The implementation of this action, could in the absence of appropriate design safeguards, result	The implementation of this action will not result in the spread of invasive species.

Actions	Lesser horseshoe bat roost SAC	Hydrological pathway to European Site whose conservation objectives are reliant on surface, ground and coastal water quality	Direct habitat loss of European Site	Direct or indirect disturbance to European Site habitat and/or species	Direct or indirect impacts to European Site from invasive species
	safeguards, result in disturbance, fragmentation and habitat loss for lesser horseshoe bats.			in indirect habitat loss of lesser horseshoe bats and bird species of SPAs that are sensitive to night time lighting.	
<i>DZ Action 18</i>	Yes. The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could result in the loss of foraging and/or commuting habitats relied upon by lesser horseshoe bat SAC populations which such developments are located within the core sustenance zone of such an SAC.	Yes. The Mulranny area supports a high number of European Sites that support freshwater and coastal dependent qualifying habitat and species. These qualifying habitat and species are reliant on good water quality and the provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could, in the absence of suitable safeguards, have the potential to result in perturbations to water quality with downstream impacts to qualifying habitats and species.	The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could overlap with European Sites. In the event of such overlap the potential could arise for the loss of qualifying habitat under circumstances where due consideration and safeguards do not inform such developments.	Yes. The provision of developments supported by this action could have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways such watercourse etc.	Yes. In the event that developments supported by the action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.

Actions	Lesser horseshoe bat roost SAC	Hydrological pathway to European Site whose conservation objectives are reliant on surface, ground and coastal water quality	Direct habitat loss of European Site	Direct or indirect disturbance to European Site habitat and/or species	Direct or indirect impacts to European Site from invasive species
<i>DZ Action 19</i>	Yes. The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could result in the loss of foraging and/or commuting habitats relied upon by lesser horseshoe bat SAC populations which such developments are located within the core sustenance zone of such an SAC.	Yes. The Mulranny area supports a high number of European Sites that support freshwater and coastal dependent qualifying habitat and species. These qualifying habitat and species are reliant on good water quality and the provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could, in the absence of suitable safeguards, have the potential to result in perturbations to water quality with downstream impacts to qualifying habitats and species.	The provision of new infrastructure development supported by this action could overlap with European Sites. In the event of such overlap the potential could arise for the loss of qualifying habitat under circumstances where due consideration and safeguards do not inform such developments.	Yes. The provision of developments supported by this action could have the potential to result in direct and indirect disturbance to qualifying habitat or species where the development site is connected to such habitats or the habitats relied upon by such species via impact pathways such watercourse etc.	Yes. In the event that developments supported by the action result are located in areas that are already infested by non-native invasive species, the potential will exist for their spread.

6.3 IN-COMBINATION EFFECTS

This Section provides an outline of the potential cumulative effects on the European Sites within the zone of influence of the Plan. There is potential for a wide range of plans and project to combine with the draft CAP and documented threats and pressures to these European Sites. Table 6.3 below provides a non-exhaustive list of the Plans that represent those most likely to combine with the draft CAP to result in potential cumulative effects. An assessment for potential cumulative effects to arise is provided for each of the Plans listed in Table 6.3.

Table 6.3: In-Combination Assessment with Other Plans

Principal Plans	Comment	Statement
National Planning Framework (under revision)	This plan was subject to full SEA and AA and concluded that subject to full adherence and implementation of measures likely significant effects were not identified	No in-combination impacts were predicted as a result of implementation of the Plan, the revised NPF will be subject to full SEA and AA.
CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 / FoodVision 2030 /	The CAP Strategic Plan is the key mechanism for agriculture and needs to comply with all environmental legislation and the mitigation measures for interventions as detailed in the SEA ER and NIS	No in-combination impacts were predicted as a result of implementation of the Plan, the revised NPF will be subject to full SEA and AA
Northern and Western Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy 2020-2032;	These plans were subject to full SEA and AA and concluded that subject to full adherence and implementation of measures likely significant effects were not identified.	No in-combination impacts were predicted as a result of implementation of the Plans.
Third Cycle River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022-2027 draft	The third and current cycle aims to build particularly on the initiatives of the second cycle,	No in-combination impacts were predicted as a result of implementation of the Plans

Principal Plans	Comment	Statement
	<p>particularly the governance and implementation structures, and to improve the establishment of Irish Water, An Forum Uisce, the Local Authority Waters Programme and the Agricultural Sustainability Support and Advisory Programme.</p> <p>These actions support the policies in the LAP. However, any developments that may arise as a result of this plan will be required to have a project level AA and EIA which will assess these in detail and provide suitable mitigation measures where appropriate.</p> <p>The Third Cycle RMP is subject to full SEA And AA.</p>	
<p>Galway County Development Plan 2017-2023 (extended) & Draft Galway County Development Plan 2024 - 2030</p>	<p>Both Galway County Development Plans have been prepared in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000, and have been subject to full SEA, AA and SFRA.</p> <p>The both plans set out the overall strategy for planning and sustainable development for the county. Chapter 10 of the both plans outlines the aims</p>	<p>No in-combination impacts were predicted as a result of implementation of the Plans.</p>

Principal Plans	Comment	Statement
	of the Galway County Council to protect and enhance the natural heritage and biodiversity of designated and non-designated ecological sites and sets out the policies and objectives for this.	
Galway County Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2017 -2022; new LECP in prep.	These plans were subject to SEA and AA screening and concluded that subject to full adherence and implementation of measures likely significant effects were not identified.	No in-combination impacts were predicted as a result of implementation of the Plans.
County Galway Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024	Galway Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (2019-2024 and any subsequent versions). This Plan has been subject to SEA/AA screening and is being replaced by the CAP 2024 - 2029	No in-combination impacts were predicted as a result of implementation of the Plans.

7.0 MITIGATION MEASURES

Given that the draft CAP is required to align with and sit alongside the Galway County Development Plan 2024 -2030 in terms of planning hierarchy applicable to the county it follows that all environmental safeguards set out in the County Development Plan will be applicable to the safeguarding European Sites from potential adverse effects identified for the draft CAP.

The following subsections below sets out the suite of mitigation measures to ensure the draft CAP does not give rise to significant environmental effects.

All mitigation measures included in the following section are relevant to the protection of European Sites and their qualifying features of interest/special conservation interests. All

general mitigation measures that provide safeguards to biodiversity in general are also included in the list of mitigation measures outlined in the following section.

Section 7.1 sets out the relevant policies and objectives of the Galway CDP 2024 – 2030 that aim to protect the environment. These policies and objectives will act as safeguards to the potential adverse effects associated with the 8 no. actions of the draft CAP listed in Section 6.1 above.

Section 7.2 set out the results of the SEA and AA process review of the draft CAP actions that has culminated with the provision of additional wording to selected actions. The additional wording provides clarity and focus with respect to environment protection as well as providing for the opportunity for positive environmental effects across a variety of actions set out in the draft CAP.

7.1 MITIGATION MEASURES FROM D GALWAY CDP 2022-2028

The policies and objectives set out in the current CDP 2022-2028 that will provide safeguards for the potential adverse impacts that could arise out of land use activities supported by the draft CAP are outlined in Table 7.1 below.

Table 7.1: Galway CDP 2022-2028 Policies & Objectives that provide Environmental Safeguards & Protection for European Sites

County Development Plan Reference	County Development Plan Mitigation Policy/Objective
NHB 1 Natural Heritage and Biodiversity of Designated Sites, Habitats and Species	<p>Protect and where possible enhance the natural heritage sites designated under EU Legislation and National Legislation (Habitats Directive, Birds Directive, European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 and Wildlife Acts) and extend to any additions or alterations to sites that may occur during the lifetime of this plan.</p> <p>Protect and, where possible, enhance the plant and animal species and their habitats that have been identified under European legislation (Habitats and Birds Directive) and</p>

County Development Plan Reference	County Development Plan Mitigation Policy/Objective
	<p>protected under national Legislation (European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (SI 477 of 2011), Wildlife Acts 1976-2010 and the Flora Protection Order (SI 94 of 1999).</p> <p>Support the protection, conservation and enhancement of natural heritage and biodiversity, including the protection of the integrity of European sites, that form part of the Natura 2000 network, the protection of Natural Heritage Areas, proposed Natural Heritage Areas, Ramsar Sites, Nature Reserves, Wild Fowl Sanctuaries (and other designated sites including any future designations) and the promotion of the development of a green/ ecological network</p>
<p>NHB 2 European Sites and Appropriate Assessment</p>	<p>To implement Article 6 of the Habitats Directive and to ensure that Appropriate Assessment is carried out in relation to works, plans and projects likely to impact on European sites (SACs and SPAs), whether directly or indirectly or in combination with any other plan(s) or project(s). All assessments must be in compliance with the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011. All such projects and plans will also be required to comply with statutory Environmental Impact Assessment requirements where relevant.</p>
<p>NHB 3 Protection of European Sites</p>	<p>No plans, programmes, or projects etc. giving rise to significant cumulative, direct, indirect or secondary impacts on European sites arising from their size or scale, land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans, programmes, etc. or projects.*</p>

County Development Plan Reference	County Development Plan Mitigation Policy/Objective
NHB 4 Ecological Appraisal of Biodiversity	Ensure, where appropriate, the protection and conservation of areas, sites, species and ecological/networks of biodiversity value outside designated sites. Where appropriate require an ecological appraisal, for development not directly connected with or necessary to the management of European Sites, or a proposed European Site and which are likely to have significant effects on that site either individually or cumulatively
NHB 5 Ecological Connectivity and Corridors	Support the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and ecological connectivity in non-designated sites, including woodlands, trees, hedgerows, semi-natural grasslands, rivers, streams, natural springs, wetlands, stonewalls, geological and geo-morphological systems, other landscape features and associated wildlife areas where these form part of the ecological network and/or may be considered as ecological corridors in the context of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.
NHB 6 Implementation of Plans and Strategies	Support the implementation of any relevant recommendations contained in the National Heritage Plan 2030, the National Biodiversity Plan, the All Ireland Pollinator Plan and the National Peatlands Strategy and any such plans and strategies during the lifetime of this plan
NHB 7 Mitigation Measures	Require mitigating measures in certain cases where it is evident that biodiversity is likely to be affected. These measures may, in association with other specified requirements, include establishment of wildlife areas/corridors/parks, hedgerow, tree planting, wildflower meadows/marshes and other areas. With regard to residential development, in certain cases, these measures may be carried out in conjunction with the provision of open space and/or play areas.

County Development Plan Reference	County Development Plan Mitigation Policy/Objective
NHB 8 Increased Awareness of the County's Biodiversity and Natural Heritage	Facilitate increased awareness of the County's biodiversity and natural heritage through the provision of information to landowners and the community generally, in cooperation with statutory and other partners
NHB 9 Protection of Bats and Bats Habitats	Seek to protect bats and their roosts, their feeding areas, flight paths and commuting routes. Ensure that development proposals in areas which are potentially important for bats, including areas of woodland, linear features such as hedgerows, stonewalls, watercourses and associated riparian vegetation which may provide migratory/foraging uses shall be subject to suitable assessment for potential impacts on bats. This will include an assessment of the cumulative loss of habitat or the impact on bat populations and activity in the area and may include a specific bat survey. Assessments shall be carried out by a suitably qualified professional and where development is likely to result in significant adverse effects on bat populations or activity in the area, development will be prohibited or require mitigation and/or compensatory measures, as appropriate. The impact of lighting on bats and their roosts and the lighting up of objects of cultural heritage must be adequately assessed in relation to new developments and the upgrading of existing lighting systems.
NHB 10 NPWS & Integrated Management Plans	Article 6(1) of the Habitats Directive requires that Member States establish the necessary conservation measures for European sites involving, if need be, appropriate management plans specifically designed for the sites or integrated into other development plans. The NPWS's current priority is to identify site specific conservation objectives; management plans may be considered after this is done. Where Integrated Management Plans are being prepared by the NPWS for European sites (or parts thereof), the NPWS shall be engaged with in order to ensure that plans are fully integrated with the Plan and other

County Development Plan Reference	County Development Plan Mitigation Policy/Objective
	plans and programmes, with the intention that such plans are practical, achievable and sustainable and have regard to all relevant ecological, cultural, social and economic considerations, including those of local communities
NHB 11 Increases in Visitor Numbers to Semi-Natural Areas, Visitor and Habitat Management	Seek to manage any increase in visitor numbers in order to avoid significant effects including loss of habitat and disturbance, including ensuring that any new projects, such as greenways, are a suitable distance from ecological sensitivities, such as riparian zones. Where relevant, the Planning Authority and those receiving permission for development under the Plan shall seek to manage any increase in visitor numbers and/or any change in visitor behaviour in order to avoid significant effects, including loss of habitat and disturbance. Management measures may include ensuring that new projects and activities are a suitable distance from ecological sensitivities. Visitor/Habitat Management Plans will be required for proposed projects as relevant and appropriate.
WR 1 Water Resources	Protect the water resources in the plan area, including rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, springs, turloughs, surface water and groundwater quality, as well as surface waters, aquatic and wetland habitats and freshwater and water dependant species in accordance with the requirements and guidance in the EU Water Framework Directive 2000 (2000/60/EC), the European Union (Water Policy) Regulations 2003 (as amended), the River Basin District Management Plan 2018 – 2021 and other relevant EU Directives, including associated national legislation and policy guidance (including any superseding versions of same) and also have regard to the Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub-Basin Management Plans
WR 2 River Basin Management Plans	It is a policy objective of the Planning Authority to implement the programme of measures developed by the River Basin

County Development Plan Reference	County Development Plan Mitigation Policy/Objective
	District Projects under the Water Framework Directive in relation to: Surface and groundwater interaction, Dangerous substances, Hydromorphology, Forestry, On site wastewater treatment systems, Municipal and industrial discharges, Urban pressures, Abstractions.
WTWF 1 Wetland Sites	Protect and conserve the ecological and biodiversity heritage of the wetland sites in the County. Ensure that an appropriate level of assessment is completed in relation to wetland habitats that are subject to proposals which would involve drainage or reclamation that might destroy, fragment or degrade any wetland in the county. This includes lakes and ponds, turloughs, watercourses, springs and swamps, marshes, fens, heath, peatlands, some woodlands as well as some coastal and marine habitats. Protect Ramsar sites under The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (especially as Waterfowl Habitat)
P 1 Protection of Peatlands	Ensure that peatland areas which are designated (or proposed for designation) as NHAs, SACs or SPAs are conserved for their ecological, climate regulation, education and culture, archaeological potential including any ancient walkways (toghers) through bogs.
P 2 Best Practice in Peatland conservation and management	Work in partnership with relevant stakeholders on all suitable peatland sites to demonstrate best practice in sustainable peatland conservation, management and restoration techniques and to promote their heritage and educational value subject to Ecological Impact Assessment and Appropriate Assessment Screening, as appropriate
P 3 Framework Plans	Seek to support relevant agencies such as Bord na Mona in advancing rehabilitation works for the peatlands and related infrastructure, to provide for the future sustainable and environmentally sensitive use of peatlands sites including for amenity purposes

County Development Plan Reference	County Development Plan Mitigation Policy/Objective
IS 1 Control of Invasive and Alien Invasive Species	It is a policy objective of the Planning Authority to support measures for the prevention and eradication of invasive species
IS 2 Invasive Species Management Plan	Ensure that proposals for development do not lead to the spread or introduction of invasive species. If developments are proposed on sites where invasive species are currently or were previously present, an invasive species management plan will be required. A landscaping plan will be required for developments near water bodies and such plans must not include alien invasive species
PO 1 Delivery of All Ireland Pollinator Plan	To facilitate the delivery of the All Ireland Pollinator Plan where possible. In the interest of preserving and enhancing biodiversity and working in conjunction with the All Ireland Pollinator Plan - It shall be the policy objective of the Planning Authority to ensure that at least 20% of the green space on all housing estates being built will have to be dedicated, developed and maintained as a pollinator zone. The area dedicated can be confined to one single lot or various lots around the site providing that the total area of the lots meets the minimum requirement of 20%. The pollinator zones should be planted with a mix of pollinator friendly-bulbs, self-seeding annuals and biennials, perennials, shrubs, trees, fruit trees and fruit bushes and the majority of this planting should consist of native plants.
TWS 1 Trees, Hedgerows, Natural Boundaries and Stone Walls	Protect and seek to retain important trees, tree clusters and tree boundaries, ancient woodland, natural boundaries including stonewalls, existing hedgerows particularly species rich roadside and townland boundary hedgerows, where possible and replace with a boundary type similar to the existing boundary. Ensure that new development proposals take cognisance of significant trees/tree stands and that all planting schemes developed are suitable for the specific site and use suitable native variety of trees of Irish provenance and

County Development Plan Reference	County Development Plan Mitigation Policy/Objective
	hedgerows of native species. Seek Tree Management Plans to ensure that trees are adequately protected during development and incorporated into the design of new developments.
TWHS 2 Planting of Trees and Woodlands	Encourage and promote in co-operation with Coillte and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and other organisations, the planting of trees and woodlands, as an important means of contributing to its objective of sustaining, protecting and enhancing the County’s biodiversity, natural resources, amenity, landscape and developing tourism product. Encourage community woodlands in urban/urban fringe areas utilising funding available through schemes such as the NeighbourWood and Native Woodland Schemes.
TWHS 3 Protection of Forestry	Protect all substantial areas of deciduous forest, other than areas of commercial forestry. Proposals for development in these areas should seek to interact with the landscape character of the forested areas and its limits while also enhancing the forested areas so as to increase biodiversity value
PG 1 Geological and Geo-Morphological Systems	Protect and conserve geological and geo-morphological systems, county geological heritage sites and features from inappropriate development that would detract from their heritage value and interpretation and ensure that any plan or project affecting karst formations, eskers or other important geological and geo-morphological systems are adequately assessed with regard to their potential geophysical, hydrological or ecological impacts on the environment.
IW 1 Inland Waterways	(a) Protect and conserve the quality, character and features of inland waterways by controlling developments close to navigable and non-navigable waterways in accordance with best practice guidelines. (b) Preserve, protect and enhance Galway’s inland lakes and waterways for their amenity and recreational resource amenity.

County Development Plan Reference	County Development Plan Mitigation Policy/Objective
	<p>(c) Protect the riparian zones of watercourse systems throughout the County, recognising the benefits they provide in relation to flood risk management and their protection of the ecological integrity of watercourse systems and ensure they are considered in the land use zoning in Local Area Plans.</p> <p>(d) The Planning Authority will support in principle the development and upgrading of the Inland Waterways and their associated facilities in accordance with legislation, best practice and relevant management strategies, key stakeholders and bodies including Waterways Ireland.</p> <p>(e) Ensure all abstractions of water will be subject to assessment for compliance with the requirements of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>(f) Seek to provide additional accesses to lake shores and rivers for public rights of way, parking and layby facilities, where appropriate.</p> <p>(g) Developments shall ensure that adequate soil protection measures are undertaken, where appropriate, including investigations into the nature and extent of any soil/groundwater contamination</p>
GBI 1 New Developments	Require all proposals for large scale development to contribute to the protection, management and enhancement of the existing green/blue infrastructure of the County and the delivery of new green/blue infrastructure, where appropriate by including a green/ blue infrastructure plan as an integral part of any planning application. This plan should identify environmental and ecological assets, constraints and opportunities and shall include proposals which protect, manage, and enhance the development of green infrastructure resources in a sustainable manner
GBI 2 Green/Blue Infrastructure Network	Facilitate the ongoing development and improvement of a green/blue infrastructure network for urban and rural areas,

County Development Plan Reference	County Development Plan Mitigation Policy/Objective
	connecting both natural and semi-natural corridors such as including green spaces, open spaces, green amenities, residual land, rivers and canals. Enhancements along natural features may include the provision of riparian buffers, community food programmes (allotments) and wild areas for pollination thus ensuring the provision of natural areas for the benefit of biodiversity, wildlife and climate adaptation.
BGP 1 Strategic Greenways/Blueways	Support the delivery of sustainable strategic Greenway/Blueway projects in the County in accordance with the Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways, enabling legislation, best practice in a manner that is compatible with nature conservation and other environmental policies
BGP 3 Greenways, Blueways, Peatways and Trails	<p>a) It is a policy objective to support the extension of greenways, blueways, peatways and trails within the county and the integration and linkage of them with other existing / proposed greenways, blueways, peatways and trails both within and outside the county.</p> <p>b) It is a policy objective to support where relevant the concept of Greenways to consider local travel infrastructure, and connectivity to local towns and villages in the design of any Greenway route</p>

7.2 SEA & APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT MITIGATION MEASURES INCORPORATED IN THE DRAFT CAP

Table 7.2 set out the additional wording for listed actions that aims to clarify and focus environment protection as well as providing for the opportunity for positive environmental effects across the actions listed in the table. It is noted that not all actions listed in Table 7.2 have been identified as having the potential to result in adverse effects to European Sites but have been amended in light of the above mentioned aims of clarity, environment focus and enhancement. The additional wording provided for the actions listed in Table 7.2 below is shown as bold blue text.

Table 7.2: Mitigation Measures to Galway Climate Action Plan

Action No.	Action Description
new action	In implementing this County Galway Climate Action Plan, ensure compliance with Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028 and local area plan objectives and policies relating to environmental management, the protection of statutory Conservation Areas and ensure compliance with specific environmental management measures relating to this plan. Landuse plans and projects arising from this Climate Action Plan will be underpinned by Strategic Environmental Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment, Appropriate Assessment, and Ecological Impact Assessments as relevant.
new action	Galway County Council will take account of any relevant recommendations in the EPA State of Our Environment Report 2024, once published, in implementing the Plan over its lifetime.
new action	Galway County Council will consider any relevant updated actions, measures or recommendations that may arise in updates to the National Climate Action Plan over the lifetime of the Plan.
	Action GL 2.6 Continue the programme of upgrading of public lighting within County Galway to energy efficient lighting systems while having due regard to the impact of the spectrum of light used on biodiversity
	Action GL 3.1 Encourage and facilitate internal Climate Action initiatives and campaigns including water conservation, energy management habitat creation and waste management.
	Action LN 1.3 Carry out inspections of domestic wastewater treatment systems, discharge licences, farms and fuel suppliers as per national requirements and as required. Support remediation and mitigation measures required to maintain or achieve good or high quality water status in the county including nature based solutions where possible
	Action LN 2.1 Identify priority areas appropriate to receiving environment for habitat restoration, enhancement for wildlife and protection for carbon and biodiversity benefits. Work with stakeholders including landowners to identify opportunities to deliver restoration of habitats and landscapes appropriate to the receiving environment.

Action No.	Action Description
	Action LN 2.3 Conduct a tree cover survey and devise and adopt a tree management policy that recognises the ecosystem services provided by existing woodland habitat and seeks to retain and support such habitats
	Action LN 2.4 Implement a pesticide and herbicide reduction plan for Galway County Council.
	Action LN 2.6 Develop and implement an updated Heritage and Biodiversity Action Plan to protect and enhance local biodiversity ensuring climate change is factored into the plan’s development and provides appropriate co benefits for biodiversity and climate adaptation and resilience.
	Action LN 3.1 Ensure all LA-led projects consider nature-based solutions including building for biodiversity as appropriate.
	Action EB 1.1 Support renewable energy research and development at the commercial and community scale whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection requirements criteria .
	Action TR 1. 9 Expand the greenway network in the County establishing linkages with towns and villages in line with the strategic national cycle network and best practice requirements in the accompanying SEA ER and NIS
	Action DZ 1.11 Support the identification and development of appropriate opportunities related to Microgrid Options with Battery Storage.
	Action AD 1.3 Ensure the continued incorporation of Flood Risk Management and Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plans into the spatial planning of the County, having due regard to the need to promote nature based solutions and Sustainable urban Drainage Systems (SuDS), and environmental sensitivities at these locations.
	Action AD 1.8 Work with the OPW and other stakeholders to identify and support Minor and Major Flood Protection and Flood Proofing Schemes throughout the county that supports Nature Based Solutions to increase co benefits.
New action	With respect to DZ actions, ensure that they are aligned with the conservation objectives for the Inishmore Island SAC, Inishmann Island SAC, Inisheer Island SAC and Inishmore SPA

7.3 RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTING MITIGATION MEASURES

The responsibility for implementing land use actions proposed by the draft CAP lies with the relevant departments of Galway County Council. Departments seeking to carry out land use activities, under the aegis of the support provided by the draft CAP action are obliged to ensure that the implementation of these objectives are consistent with the environmental safeguards as listed in Section 7.1 and Section 7.2 above. It is a statutory requirement for a competent authority (e.g. Galway County Council) to carry out screening for appropriate assessment for all land use projects and all land use activities implemented under/facilitated by the draft CAP will be assessed for their potential to result in likely significant effects to European Sites.

8.0 CONCLUSION

This NIS has reviewed the potential impacts arising from the draft CAP and found that, without the implementation of mitigation measures, the Plan will have the potential to impact upon the Conservation Objectives of European Sites and their relevant qualifying features that occur within the zone of influence of the Plan. Given the undefine spatial nature of the Actions and conceivable land use activities arising from the draft CAP actions it has not been possible to identify the specific European Site and associated features of interest that may be at risk of adverse impacts from the Plan. For such actions with potential to generate land use activities a precautionary approach has been taken and it has been found in this NIS that in the absence of appropriate safeguards adverse impacts to European Site could arise. These adverse impacts are detailed in Table 6.1 and Table 6.2 of this NIS.

The mitigation measures outlined in Section 7 of this NIS will protect European Sites from potential adverse impacts. These measures have been implemented for previously adopted plans in County Galway and are known to provide effective safeguards at the Plan level for the protection of European Site from potentially adverse land use activities.

With the proper implementation of all mitigation measures detailed in this NIS the draft CAP is not considered to have the potential to result in adverse impacts to European Sites occurring within County Galway or the surrounding area.

REFERENCES

DEHLG (2010) Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities. Rev Feb 2010. Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin.

European Commission (2021) Assessment of Plans and Projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (European Commission Environment Directorate-General)

European Commission (2019) Managing Natura 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the ‘Habitats’ Directive 2/43/EEC. Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg.

APPENDIX 1: EUROPEAN SITES SCREENED IN

Table A1.1 below provides a list of the European Sites occurring within the zone of influence of the draft CAP and screened in for further examination as part of an Natura Impact Statement of the draft Plan. The list of European Sites screened in follows that identified for the Galway County Development Plan.

Table A1.1: SACs & SPA Identified as occurring within the zone of influence of the draft CAP

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
212	Inishmaan Island SAC	Within	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes") [2120], Reefs [1170], European dry heaths [4030], Limestone pavements [8240], Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>) [6510], Machair (Machairs (* in Ireland)) [21A0], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230], Shifting dunes (Embryonic shifting dunes) [2110], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (*important orchid sites) [6210], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]
213	Inishmore Island SAC	Within	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330], Narrow-mouthed whorl snail (<i>Vertigo angustior</i>) [1014], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes") [2120], European dry heaths [4030], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Machair (Machairs (* in Ireland)) [21A0], Reefs [1170], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes") [2130], Shifting dunes (Embryonic shifting dunes) [2110], Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>) [2170], Coastal lagoons [1150], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Limestone pavements [8240], Humid dune slacks [2190], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230], Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>) [6510], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210]
216	River Shannon Callows SAC	Within	Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>) [6510], Limestone pavements [8240], <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>) [6410], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]
218	Coolcam Turlough SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180]
231	Barroughter Bog SAC	Within	Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]
238	Caherglassaun Turlough SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180], Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303]
242	Castletaylor Complex SAC	Within	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210], <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Limestone pavements [8240], Turloughs [3180]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
248	Cloonmoylan Bog SAC	Within	Active raised bogs [7110], Bog woodland (Bog woodland) [91D0], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]
252	Coole-Garryland Complex SAC	Within	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Turloughs [3180], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Yew-dominated woodland (Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles) [91J0], Limestone pavements [8240]
255	Croaghill Turlough SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180]
261	Derrycrag Wood Nature Reserve SAC	Within	Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles) [91A0]
278	Inishbofin and Inishshark SAC	Within	Grey seal (Halichoerus grypus) [1364], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030], Coastal lagoons [1150]
285	Kilsallagh Bog SAC	Within	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110]
286	Kiltartan Cave (Coole) SAC	Within	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]
295	Levally Lough SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180]
296	Lisnageeragh Bog and Ballinastack Turlough SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
297	Lough Corrib SAC	Within	Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], Alkaline fens [7230], Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles) [91A0], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], Slender naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>) [1833], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco- Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220], Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) [1096], Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) [1095], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp [3140], White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) [1092], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto- Nanojuncetea</i> [3130], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) [3110], Bog woodland (Bog woodland) [91D0], Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106], <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>) [6410], Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) [1029], Slender green feather-moss (<i>Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus</i>) [1393], Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150], Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i> [7210], Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303], Limestone pavements [8240]
299	Lough Cutra SAC	Within	Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303]
301	Lough Lurgeen Bog/Glenamaddy Turlough SAC	Within	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150], Turloughs [3180]
304	Lough Rea SAC	Within	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp [3140]
308	Loughatorick South Bog SAC	Within	Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]
318	Peterswell Turlough SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180]
319	Pollnacknockaun Wood Nature Reserve SAC	Within	Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles) [91A0]
322	Rahasane Turlough SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
324	Rosroe Bog SAC	Within	Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]
326	Shankill West Bog SAC	Within	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]
328	Slyne Head Islands SAC	Within	Reefs [1170], Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>) [1364]
330	Tully Mountain SAC	Within	Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], European dry heaths [4030]
474	Ballymaglancy Cave, Cong SAC	Within	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303]
606	Lough Fingall Complex SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Limestone pavements [8240], Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303], Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i>
1228	Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC	Within	and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i> [7210] Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) [3110]
1242	Carrownagappul Bog SAC	Within	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]
1251	Cregduff Lough SAC	Within	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140], Slender naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>) [1833]
1257	Dog's Bay SAC	Within	European dry heaths [4030], Shifting dunes (Embryonic shifting dunes) [2110], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes") [2120], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes") [2130]
1271	Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement SAC	Within	Limestone pavements [8240]
1275	Inisheer Island SAC	Within	Limestone pavements [8240], Reefs [1170], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210], Coastal lagoons [1150], European dry heaths [4030], Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>) [6510]
1285	Kiltiernan Turlough SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
1309	Omey Island Machair SAC	Within	Machair (Machairs (* in Ireland)) [21A0], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp [3140], Petalwort (Petalophyllum ralfsii) [1395]
1311	Rusheenduff Lough SAC	Within	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea [3130], Slender naiad (Najas flexilis) [1833]
1312	Ross Lake and Woods SAC	Within	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp [3140]
1313	Rosturra Wood SAC	Within	Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles) [91A0]
1321	Termon Lough SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180]
1774	Lough Carra/Mask Complex SAC	Within	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea [3130], Limestone pavements [8240], European dry heaths [4030], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp [3140], Slender green feather-moss (Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus) [1393], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Alkaline fens [7230], Semi-natural dry grasslands and
1774	Lough Carra/Mask Complex SAC	Within	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea [3130], Limestone pavements [8240], European dry heaths [4030], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp [3140], Slender green feather-moss (Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus) [1393], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Alkaline fens [7230], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210]
1913	Sonnagh Bog SAC	Within	scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210] Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]
1913	Sonnagh Bog SAC	Within	Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
1926	East Burren Complex SAC	Within	Marsh fritillary butterfly (<i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i> , <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i>) [1065], Limestone pavements [8240], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Calaminarian grasslands of the <i>Violetalia calaminariae</i> [6130], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220], Alkaline fens [7230], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], Caves not open to the public [8310], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303], <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp [3140], Turloughs [3180], Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> ,
1926	East Burren Complex SAC	Within	Marsh fritillary butterfly (<i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i> , <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i>) [1065], Limestone pavements [8240], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Calaminarian grasslands of the <i>Violetalia calaminariae</i> [6130], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220], Alkaline fens [7230], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], Caves not open to the public [8310], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303], <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp [3140], Turloughs [3180], Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>) [6510], Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i> [7210]
2008	Maumturk Mountains SAC	Within	Slender naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>) [1833], Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150], Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010], Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) [3110], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
2031	The Twelve Bens/Garraun Complex SAC	Within	(Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106], Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) [3110], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Slender naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>) [1833], Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles) [91A0], Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150], Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) [1029], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (<i>Androsacetalia alpinae</i> and <i>Galeopsietalia ladani</i>) [8110], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing
2031	The Twelve Bens/Garraun Complex SAC	Within	Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106], Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) [3110], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Slender naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>) [1833], Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles) [91A0], Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150], Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) [1029], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (<i>Androsacetalia alpinae</i> and <i>Galeopsietalia ladani</i>) [8110], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standingwaters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i> [3130]
2034	Connemara Bog Complex SAC	Within	waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i> [3130]Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140], European dry heaths [4030], Reefs [1170], Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) [3110], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i> [3130], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Alkaline fens [7230], Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles) [91A0], Coastal lagoons [1150], <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>) [6410], Slender naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>) [1833], Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150], Marsh fritillary butterfly (<i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i> , <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i>) [1065], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i>

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
2074	Slyne Head Peninsula SAC	Within	Atlantic salt meadows (Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)) [1330], European dry heaths [4030], Slender naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>) [1833], Reefs [1170], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) [3110], Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>) [6510], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp [3140], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i> [3130], Alkaline fens [7230], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210], <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>) [6410], Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>) [1395], Coastal lagoons [1150], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes") [2120], Machair (Machairs (* in Ireland)) [21A0], Shifting dunes (Embryonic shifting dunes) [2110], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]
2110	Corliskea/Trien/ Cloonfelliv Bog SAC	Within	<i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes") [2120], Machair (Machairs (* in Ireland)) [21A0], Shifting dunes (Embryonic shifting dunes) [2110], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160] Active raised bogs [7110], Bog woodland (Bog woodland) [91D0], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150]
2111	Kilkieran Bay and Islands SAC	Within	Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>) [6510], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Machair (Machairs (* in Ireland)) [21A0], Coastal lagoons [1150], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Slender naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>) [1833], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i> [3130], Atlantic salt meadows (Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)) [1330], Reefs [1170], Common seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>) [1365], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]
2117	Lough Coy SAC	Within	<i>Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330], Reefs [1170], Common seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>) [1365], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355] Turloughs [3180]
2118	Barnahallia Lough SAC	Within	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i> [3130], Slender naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>) [1833]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
2119	Lough Nageeron SAC	Within	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea [3130], Slender naiad (Najas flexilis) [1833]
2126	Pollagoona Bog SAC	Within	Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]
2129	Murvey Machair SAC	Within	Machair (Machairs (* in Ireland)) [21A0], Petalwort (Petalophyllum ralfsii) [1395]
2130	Tully Lough SAC	Within	Slender naiad (Najas flexilis) [1833], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea [3130]
2180	Gortacarnaun Wood SAC	Within	Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles) [91A0]
2181	Drummin Wood SAC	Within	Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles) [91A0]
2213	Glenloughaun Esker SAC	Within	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210]
2241	Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC	Within	Limestone pavements [8240], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Yew-dominated woodland (Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles) [91J0], Alkaline fens [7230]
2244	Ardrahan Grassland SAC	Within	Limestone pavements [8240], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]
2265	Kingstown Bay SAC	Within	Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]
2293	Carrowbaun, Newhall and Ballylee Turloughs SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180]
2294	Cahermore Turlough SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180]
2295	Ballinduff Turlough SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180]
2296	Williamstown Turloughs SAC	Within	Turloughs [3180]
2317	Cregg House Stables, Crusheen SAC	Within	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]
2347	Camderry Bog SAC	Within	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
2350	Curraghlahanagh Bog SAC	Within	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]
2352	Monivea Bog SAC	Within	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110]
2356	Ardgraique Bog SAC	Within	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]
2998	West Connacht Coast SAC	Within	Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1349]
4031	Inner Galway Bay SPA	Within	Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169], Great northern diver (<i>Gavia immer</i>) [A003], Long-tailed duck (<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>) [A064], Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193], Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Sandwich tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>) [A191], Black-throated diver (<i>Gavia arctica</i>) [A002], Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141], Common shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137], Common greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>) [A164], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Red-throated diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>) [A001], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Greater scaup (<i>Aythya marila</i>) [A062], Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069], Black (common) scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>) [A065], Eurasian oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>)
4042	Lough Corrib SPA	Within	[A160], Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Black (common) scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>) [A065], Lesser black-backed gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183], Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193], Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>) [A051], Common coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017],

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
4056	Lough Cutra SPA	Within	Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056] Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061]
4058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	Within	Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Common coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125], Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059]
4062	Lough Mask SPA	Within	[A005], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059] Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Lesser black-backed gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183], Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], Common coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Red-breasted
4062	Lough Mask SPA	Within	Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Lesser black-backed gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183], Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], Common coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
4089	Rahasane Turlough SPA	Within	merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050]Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Greenland white- fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Common
4089	Rahasane Turlough SPA	Within	Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Greenland white- fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Commonredshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038]
4096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	Within	redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038]Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>) [A082], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Common snipe (<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>) [A153], Corn crake (<i>Crex crex</i>) [A122],
4096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	Within	Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>) [A082], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Common snipe (<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>) [A153], Corn crake (<i>Crex crex</i>) [A122],Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Common quail (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>) [A113]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
4097	River Suck Callows SPA	Within	Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Common quail (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>) [A113]Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038]
4097	River Suck Callows SPA	Within	Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038]
4107	Coole-Garryland SPA	Within	Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059], Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038],
4107	Coole-Garryland SPA	Within	Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059], Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038],Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054]
4134	Lough Rea SPA	Within	Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054]Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Common coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053]
4134	Lough Rea SPA	Within	Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Common coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053]
4142	Cregganna Marsh SPA	Within	Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
4144	High Island, Inishshark and Davillaun SPA	Within	Herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184], European shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>) [A018], Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i> [Eastern Greenland/Scotland/Ireland]) [A045], Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194], Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i> [Svalbard/Denmark/UK]) [A045], Northern fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>) [A009], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Manx shearwater (<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>) [A013], Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i>) [A045], Black-legged kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>)
4152	Inishmore SPA	Within	Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) [A103], European shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>) [A018], Common guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) [A199], Little tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) [A195], Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194], Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>) [A200], Red-billed chough (<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>) [A346], Northern fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>) [A009], Black-legged kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188], Herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184]
4159	Slyne Head To Ardmore Point Islands SPA	Within	[A188], Herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184] Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i> [Eastern Greenland/Scotland/Ireland]) [A045], Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i>) [A045], Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i> [Svalbard/Denmark/UK]) [A045], Little tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) [A195], Sandwich tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>) [A191], Arctic tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194]
4168	Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA	Within	Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>) [A082], Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) [A098]
4170	Cruagh Island SPA	Within	Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i>) [A045], Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i> [Svalbard/Denmark/UK]) [A045], Barnacle goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i> [Eastern Greenland/Scotland/Ireland]) [A045], Manx shearwater (<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>) [A013]
4221	Illaunnaon SPA	Within	Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Sandwich tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>) [A191]
4231	Inishbofin, Omev Island and Turbot Island SPA	Within	Corn crake (<i>Crex crex</i>) [A122]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
268	Galway Bay Complex SAC	Directly Adjacent	Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Reefs [1170], Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i> [7210], Atlantic salt meadows (Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco- Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)) [1330], Coastal lagoons [1150], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Semi- natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210], Limestone pavements [8240], Alkaline fens [7230], Vegetated sea
1932	Mweelrea/ Sheeffry/Erriff Complex SAC	Directly Adjacent	cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Common seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>) [1365], Turloughs [3180] Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (<i>Androsacetalia alpinae</i> and <i>Galeopsietalia ladani</i>) [8110], Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>) [2170], Atlantic salt meadows (Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)) [1330], Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (<i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i>) [2150], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220], Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106], Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130], Shifting dunes (Embryonic shifting dunes) [2110], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) [3110], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i> [3130], Coastal lagoons [1150], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>) [1395], Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantia</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Alkaline fens [7230], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes") [2120], Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) [1029], Slender naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>) [1833], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Machair (Machairs (* in Ireland)) [21A0], Otter
2353	Redwood Bog SAC	Adjacent	Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
4086	River Little Brosna Callows SPA	Adjacent	Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Common snipe (<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>) [A153], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160]
57	Moyree River System SAC	0.71	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303], Alkaline fens [7230], Limestone pavements [8240], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]
479	Cloughmoynes SAC	0.78	Limestone pavements [8240]
19	Ballyogan Lough SAC	1.52	Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i> [7210]
1637	Four Roads Turlough SAC	1.53	Turloughs [3180]
4140	Four Roads Turlough SPA	1.56	Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052]
525	Shrulle Turlough SAC	1.71	Turloughs [3180]
2214	Killeglan Grassland SAC	2.19	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210]
609	Lisduff Turlough SAC	2.25	Turloughs [3180]
588	Ballinturly Turlough SAC	2.41	Turloughs [3180]
54	Moneen Mountain SAC	3.19	Marsh fritillary butterfly (<i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i> , <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i>) [1065], Limestone pavements [8240], <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Turloughs [3180], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
2320	Kildun Souterrain SAC	3.27	Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303]
503	Greaghans Turlough SAC	3.47	Turloughs [3180]
1912	Glendree Bog SAC	3.58	Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130]
4103	All Saints Bog SPA	3.6	Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) [A098], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395]
566	All Saints Bog and Esker SAC	3.64	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210], Bog woodland (Bog woodland) [91D0], Active raised bogs [7110]
461	Ardkill Turlough SAC	4.46	Turloughs [3180]
504	Kilglassan/ Caheravoostia Turlough Complex SAC	4.48	Turloughs [3180]
600	Cloonchambers Bog SAC	4.79	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110]
610	Lough Croan Turlough SAC	4.84	Turloughs [3180]
4139	Lough Croan Turlough SPA	4.84	Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>) [A051], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395]
1536	Mocorha Lough SAC	4.92	Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the Caricion <i>davallianae</i> [7210]
647	Kilcarren-Firville Bog SAC	5.21	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]
32	Dromore Woods and Loughs SAC	5.38	Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303], Limestone pavements [8240], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
475	Carrowkeel Turlough SAC	5.48	Turloughs [3180]
480	Clyard Kettle- holes SAC	5.79	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Turloughs [3180]
581	Moyclare Bog SAC	6.15	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]
1625	Castlesampson Esker SAC	6.69	Turloughs [3180], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210]
541	Skealaghan Turlough SAC	6.87	Turloughs [3180]
20	Black Head- Poulsallagh Complex SAC	6.88	Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210], Petalwort (Petalophyllum ralfsii) [1395], Limestone pavements [8240], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes") [2130], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510], Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330], Reefs [1170], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the
919	Ridge Road, SW of Rapemills SAC	6.92	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210]
576	Fin Lough (Offaly) SAC	7.22	Geyer`s whorl snail (Vertigo geyeri) [1013], Alkaline fens [7230]
2338	Drumalough Bog SAC	7.42	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110]
4220	Corofin Wetlands SPA	7.61	Whooper swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Eurasian teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Eurasian wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Gadwall (Anas strepera) [A051]
580	Mongan Bog SAC	7.78	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]
4017	Mongan Bog SPA	7.97	Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Greenland white-fronted goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], Common snipe (Gallinago gallinago) [A153]
484	Cross Lough (Killadoon) SAC	7.98	Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
2314	Old Domestic Buildings, Rylane SAC	8.01	Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303]
1776	Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC	8.08	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210]
2339	Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough SAC	8.15	Bog woodland (Bog woodland) [91D0], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Turloughs [3180]
597	Carrowbehy/Cache r Bog SAC	8.18	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]
4137	Dovegrove Callows SPA	8.47	Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395]
4005	Cliffs of Moher SPA	8.63	Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>) [A200], Red-billed chough (<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>) [A346], Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) [A103], Common guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) [A199], Atlantic puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>) [A204], Northern fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>) [A009], Black-legged kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) [A188]
4212	Cross Lough (Killadoon) SPA	8.65	Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Sandwich tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>) [A191]
996	Ballyvaughan Turlough SAC	8.98	Turloughs [3180]
641	Ballyduff/Clonfina ne Bog SAC	9.49	Bog woodland (Bog woodland) [91D0], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]
592	Bellanagare Bog SAC	9.56	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110]
575	Ferbane Bog SAC	9.75	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]
611	Lough Funshinagh SAC	9.76	Turloughs [3180]
1529	Lough Cahasy, Lough Baun and Roonah Lough SAC	9.82	Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Coastal lagoons [1150], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes") [2120]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
2245	Old Farm Buildings, Ballymacrogan SAC	9.88	Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303]
2157	Newgrove House SAC	10.4	Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303]
1683	Liskeenan Fen SAC	10.53	Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i> [7210]
612	Mullygollan Turlough SAC	10.86	Turloughs [3180]
4051	Lough Carra SPA	11.01	Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>) [A051], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050]
440	Lough Ree SAC	11.48	Bog woodland (Bog woodland) [91D0], Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles) [91A0], Limestone pavements [8240], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], Alkaline fens [7230], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210]
16	Ballycullinan Lake SAC	11.84	Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i> [7210]
607	Errit Lough SAC	11.93	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp [3140]
2312	Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC	12.06	Blanket bogs (* if active bog) [7130], European dry heaths [4030], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010]
2298	River Moy SAC	12.29	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110], Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) [1096], White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) [1092], Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150], Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles) [91A0], Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>)

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
2298	River Moy SAC	12.29	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110], Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) [1096], White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) [1092], Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150], Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], Western acidic oak woodland (Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles) [91A0], Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>)[1095], Alkaline fens [7230] [1095], Alkaline fens [7230]
14	Ballyallia Lake SAC	12.3	Natural eutrophic lakes with <i>Magnopotamion</i> or <i>Hydrocharition</i> - type vegetation [3150]
4041	Ballyallia Lough SPA	12.3	Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>) [A051], Common coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125], Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>)
2246	Ballycullinan, Old Domestic Building SAC	12.42	Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303]
2165	Lower River Shannon SAC	13.32	Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Reefs [1170], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) [1095], Subtidal sandbanks (Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time) [1110], Coastal lagoons [1150], Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) [1096], Atlantic salt meadows (Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)) [1330], Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Estuaries [1130], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230], Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355], River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) [1099], Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1349], <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>) [6410], Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) [1029], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310]

Site Code	Site Name	Distance	Qualifying Feature
4064	Lough Ree SPA	13.6	Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Common coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125], Northern lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142], Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067], Common pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059], Black (common) scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>) [A065], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053], Tufted duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061], Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395]
2247	Toonagh Estate SAC	13.92	Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) [1303]
4077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	18.57	Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Eurasian curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160], Northern shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056], Red-breasted merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069], Red knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143], Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141], Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052], European golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140], Eurasian oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130], Black-headed gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) [A179], Eurasian wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050], Great cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017], Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137], Mew gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182], Common shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048], Northern pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054], Common redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162], Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005], Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043], Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038], Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169], Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157]



Galway County Council

Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029

Screening for Appropriate Assessment on the Chief Executives Recommendations

19th January 2024

Galway County Council

Climate Change Action Plan 2024 - 2029

Screening for Appropriate Assessment on the Chief Executive Report Modifications

Document Stage	Document Version	Prepared by
Final	1	Pat Doherty MSc, MCIEEM

This report has been prepared by DEC Ltd with all reasonable skill, care and diligence. Information report herein is based on the interpretation of data collected and has been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

This report is prepared for Galway County Council and we accept no responsibility to third parties to whom this report, or any part thereof, is made known. Any such party relies on the report at their own risk.

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1 INTRODUCTION

Galway County Council has prepared a Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029. The Draft Plan sets out mitigation, adaptation and other climate action measures, to help deliver on the national climate obligations and the Government's overall National Climate Objective, which seeks to pursue and achieve, by no later than the end of 2050, the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy.

The Draft Plan includes a range of actions across the three theme areas of *Future Proof our Council*, *Future Proof our Place* and *Future Proof our Community*.

Pursuant to Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, notice of the preparation of the Galway County Council Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029, was given on the 2nd November 2023. Submissions or observations with regard to the Draft Plan were invited for a period of 6 weeks from the 10th November to the 22nd December 2023.

A total of 22 valid submissions were received during the period of statutory and public consultation.

Following a review of the submissions received during the statutory and public consultation, Galway County Council have amended the draft CAP. These amendments are set out in the Chief Executives Report which summarises and details the outcome of the Public Consultation process on the Draft Climate Action Plan, as follows:

- lists the persons, organisations or bodies who made submissions or observations on the Draft Climate Action Plan;
- summarises the issues raised by the persons, organisations or bodies in the submissions or observations;
- gives the response and recommendation of the Chief Executive to the issues raised; and
- outlines any proposed modifications to the Draft Plan, on foot of the Public Consultation process.

1.1PURPOSE OF THIS APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

The purpose of this AA Screening report is to evaluate the requirement for AA to be undertaken on the proposed modifications to the draft CAP as set out in the Chief Executive’s Report.

The conclusions of this Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment of the proposed modifications to the draft CAP should be read in conjunction with the Chief Executive report and all other associated documents including the:

- SEA Environmental Report for the draft Galway County Council CAP;
- Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report and Natura Impact Statement for the draft Galway County Council draft CAP.
- SEA Screening Report for the Chief Executive’s Recommendations.

2SCREENING OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE DRAFT GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL CAP

Table 2.1 below lists all proposed modifications to the draft CAP as set out in the Chief Executive’s Report. Each of these changes are screened for their potential to result in likely significant effects to European Sites. A conclusion is provided following the examination of the proposed modifications outlined in Table 2.1.

Table 2.2: Screening of Proposed Modifications to the Draft CAP

No.	Draft CAP Section	Proposed Modification
1	Pg 43	Community and Energy Projects
<p>Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.</p>		
2	Chapter 4. Our Climate Actions Section 4.2 Energy and Built Environment Page 57	Action EB 3.1 The provision of public Waste Water Treatment Plants in towns and villages that are not currently served is vital to facilitate compact and sustainable growth. Support Irish Water Uisce Éireann and the national government to prioritise locations and seek funding for provision of these services.
<p>Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.</p>		
3	Chapter 4. Our Climate Actions Section 4.3 Transport Page 61	Action TR 1.8 Support the Safer Routes to Schools programme and School Streets Initiative, providing education and training on cycle buses and walking buses. Investigate the feasibility of infrastructure requests from Walkability Audits and Cyclability audits carried out by Green Schools and others. Collaborate with Green Schools Travel Team to support Active Travel Initiatives including ‘no-idling’ campaigns and Park ‘n’ Stride schemes.
<p>Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and the investigation of the feasibility of infrastructure will not result in land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.</p>		
4	Chapter 4. Our Climate Actions Section 4.4 Communities and Partnership Page 67	Action CP 1.1: Support Community Action in the areas of community energy projects, travel, shopping and recycling, environmental action and food and waste including community gardens. Administer Community Climate Action Fund and support communities in the implementation of the projects.
<p>Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: Whilst it is noted that the supports set out in the proposed modification text above could conceivably result in land use activities that could in turn trigger likely significant effects to European Sites it is noted that the mitigation measures set out in the NIS of</p>		

<p>the Draft CAP will provide sufficient safeguards to ensure that any land use activities arising from this modification will be designed and implemented in a manner that avoids the potential for negative impacts to European Sites. Given that no mitigation measures, over and above those set out in the NIS of the draft CAP are required to be implemented with respect to this proposed amendment, it is found that mitigation measures set out in the NIS for the draft CAP provide sufficient protection to ensure that this proposed amendment will not have the potential to trigger likely significant effects to European Sites.</p>		
5	<p>Chapter 4. Our Climate Actions Section 4.4 Communities and Partnership Page 67</p>	<p>Action CP 1.2: Establish a training, information and support programme for individuals, community groups and community event organisers on Climate Action and Biodiversity. Ensure that the programme takes into account the needs of vulnerable groups and those at risk from climate change. Carry out annual training programme.</p>
<p>Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.</p>		
6	<p>Chapter 4. Our Climate Actions Section 4.4 Communities and Partnership Page 67</p>	<p>Action CP 1. 3 Establish network of communities to disseminate information from the DZ areas across the country (CONNECTED Project). Work in partnership with the PPN to encourage and support climate action in the community. Consider the inclusion of additional categories related to Climate Action in the Cathaoirleach Awards.</p>
<p>Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.</p>		
7	<p>Chapter 4. Our Climate Actions Section 4.6 Land Use and Green Infrastructure Page 78</p>	<p>Action LN 2.2: Audit local authority land and buildings, carry out ecological/habitat surveys and highlight areas at risk (as well as areas which are thriving or providing sequestration services) and those suitable for restoration and enhanced carbon storage, community purposes or as also identifying potential wildlife corridors for protection through statutory plans.</p>
<p>Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.</p>		

8	Chapter 4. Our Climate Actions Section 4.6 Land Use and Green Infrastructure Page 78	Action LN 2.3: Conduct a tree cover survey and devise and adopt a tree management policy that recognises the ecosystem services provided by existing woodland habitat and hedgerows and seeks to retain and support such habitats.
Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.		
9	Chapter 4. Our Climate Actions, Section 4.7 Adaptation to Climate Risk, Page 80, final paragraph	Galway County Council will endeavour to ensure monitoring arrangements and networks remain fit for purpose, such that that the data generated from monitoring, can be used by decision makers such as Local Authority emergency planning teams or Met Éireann flood forecasting teams, EPA air pollution forecasting teams, etc. subject to data sharing agreements.
Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.		
10	Chapter 4. Our Climate Actions Section 4.7 Adaptation to Climate Risk Page 82	Action AD 1.1: Collaborate with OPW and other relevant stakeholders in assessing the likely impacts of climate change, including sea level rise, coastal erosion and flooding , on the built environment and heritage sites . Prioritise areas for further assessment and seek funding/support to mitigate the risk. Assist CARO in the development of a register of critical infrastructure, systems and assets at risk from existing and projected climate events. KPI - Assessment Complete. Register Developed. Areas prioritised. Funding sought. Projects implemented.
Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.		
11	Chapter 5. Aran Islands Decarbonising Zone Page 96	Action DZ 1. 4 Support Irish Water Uisce Éireann to identify baseline emissions related to water delivery and treatment, update baseline emissions assessment and identify opportunities to reduce associated emissions. Assess risks related to drought conditions.
Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.		

12	Chapter 5. Aran Islands Decarbonising Zone Pages 95 and 96	Change Objective D1 to Objective DZ1
<p>Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.</p>		
13	Chapter 5. Aran Islands Decarbonising Zone Page 97	Action DZ 1.5 Improve understanding of emissions related to agriculture and LULUCF and update baseline emissions assessment. (Note: Some of the emissions data related to agriculture and LULUCF in the Decarbonisation Zone is based on national averages. The actual emissions may lower due to the nature of farming practices in this region).
<p>Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.</p>		
14	Chapter 5. Aran Islands Decarbonising Zone Page 97	Action DZ 1. 9 Support the identification and development of appropriate community energy facilities. Investigate the potential for developing the unused landfill site on the islands into a community owned solar farm.
<p>Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and the setting out of a requirement under this action to investigate the potential for developing the unused landfill site on the islands into a community owned solar farm will not result in land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.</p>		
15	Chapter 5. Aran Islands Decarbonising Zone Page 98	Action DZ 1.12 Identify barriers to reducing emissions within Decarbonisation Zone and identify appropriate policy objectives related to renewable energy generation for consideration in the next iteration of the County Development Plan.
<p>Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.</p>		
16	Chapter 6. Implementation and Reporting, Section 6.3 Monitoring and Reporting,	To ensure that delivery is timely, the implementation of this Plan will be monitored via an in-house tracking system which will enable departments and sections to report progress made against the actions they are leading on. The reporting system will be managed by the Climate Action Team and all information reported will be collated by the team for the purposes of evaluation and reporting.

	Page 101	Progress will be reported to and reviewed by the Senior Management Team and SPC on a quarterly basis. On an annual basis progress will be communicated to the elected members of the Council. Additionally, where relevant, progress on key actions will be reported through the various methods available to the Council for example through the Monthly Management Report, SPCs, Galway County Council website and social media, to increase transparency and foster collaboration.
Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive’s report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.		

Discussed Prior to Plenary Meeting:

1. Action AD 1.3 as follows: Action AD 1.3 Ensure the continued incorporation of Flood Risk Management and Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plans into the spatial planning of the County, having due regard to the need to promote nature-based solutions and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS), and environmental sensitivities at these locations. Galway County Council will carry out long term multi decadal spatial planning on flooding and sea level rise to inform settlement strategy and will seek technical advice from the OPW.”

Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: Whilst it is noted that the modelling to inform settlement strategy as set out in the proposed modification text above could conceivably result in land use activities that could in turn trigger likely significant effects to European Sites it is noted that the mitigation measures set out in the NIS of the Draft CAP will provide sufficient safeguards to ensure that any land use activities arising from this modification will be designed and implemented in a manner that avoids the potential for negative impacts to European Sites. Given that no mitigation measures, over and above those set out in the NIS of the draft CAP are required to be implemented with respect to this proposed amendment, it is found that mitigation measures set out in the NIS for the draft CAP provide sufficient protection to ensure that this proposed amendment will not have the potential to trigger likely significant effects to European Sites.

2. Action CP 1.2: Establish a training, information and support programme for individuals, community groups and community event organisers on Climate Action and Biodiversity. Ensure that the programme takes into account **the needs of persons with disabilities**, vulnerable groups and those at risk from climate change. Carry out annual training programme.

Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: The above modification is minor in nature and does not relate to land use activities. This modification will not have the potential to trigger land use activities, that could in turn, conceivably trigger likely significant effects to European Sites. The above proposed modification outlined in this Chief Executive's report does not require Stage II Appropriate Assessment.

3. Amend LN 1.1 as follows: LN 1.1 Support farmers in the shift toward low-carbon and climate-resilient agricultural practices, **including innovative farming practices such as paludiculture**. Work with relevant agencies to develop and implement a joined-up awareness/knowledge transfer strategy for the agricultural and food sectors. Develop a tool kit and training programme for engagement during routine farm visits.

Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination:: Whilst it is noted that the reference to paludiculture set out in the proposed modification text above could conceivably result in land use activities that could in turn trigger likely significant effects to European Sites it is noted that the mitigation measures set out in the NIS of the Draft CAP will provide sufficient safeguards to ensure that any land use activities arising from this modification will be designed and implemented in a manner that avoids the potential for negative impacts to European Sites. Given that no mitigation measures, over and above those set out in the NIS of the draft CAP are required to be implemented with respect to this proposed amendment, it is found that mitigation measures set out in the NIS for the draft CAP provide sufficient protection to ensure that this proposed amendment will not have the potential to trigger likely significant effects to European Sites.

Proposed and Agreed at Plenary Meeting:

4. Objective EB1 Support the development of renewable energy sources such as offshore wind only, solar, tidal and biomass in suitable locations.

Appropriate Assessment Screening Examination: Whilst it is noted that the reference to off shore wind only, set out in the proposed modification text above could conceivably result in land use (and marine) activities that could in turn trigger likely significant effects to European Sites it is noted that the mitigation measures set out in the NIS of the Draft CAP will provide sufficient safeguards to ensure that any land use or marine activities arising from this modification will be designed and implemented in a manner that avoids the potential for negative impacts to European Sites. Given that no mitigation measures, over and above those set out in the NIS of the draft CAP are required to be implemented with respect to this proposed amendment, it is found that mitigation measures set out in the NIS for the draft CAP provide sufficient protection to ensure that this proposed amendment will not have the potential to trigger likely significant effects to European Sites.

3 SCREENING CONCLUSION & DETERMINATION

All modifications proposed by the Chief Executive Report and at the Galway CC plenary meeting have been subject to screening for Appropriate Assessment. All modifications have been found not to have the potential to result in likely significant effects to European Sites. The inclusion of these modifications in the CAP will not have the potential to result in negative effects to the Conservation Objectives of European Sites occurring within the zone of influence of the CAP and an Appropriate Assessment of these modifications is not required.

In light of the findings of this report it is the considered view of the authors of this Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment that it can be concluded by Galway County Council that the proposed modifications to the draft CAP as set out in the Chief Executives Report, and proposed at the plenary meeting of Galway County Council will not, alone or in-combination with other plans or projects, have a significant effect on any European Sites in view of their Conservation Objectives and on the basis of best scientific evidence and there is no reasonable scientific doubt as to that conclusion.