

Variation Number 2 to the Enniscorthy Town and
Environs Development Plan 2008 – 2014 (as extended)

Rezoning of parcel of land at Killagoley
and consequent changes to Policy.

1.0 Introduction

On 3rd July 2017, Wexford County Council approved the proposal to vary the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) by changing the zoning of the subject lands (approximately 35.5 acres) located at Killagoley, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford to Business and Technology Park (BT).

1.1 Reading the Variation

This document shall be read in conjunction with the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended). In this document changes to the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) are set out in the same format and order in which they appear in the Plan. The relevant chapter title, section heading and page number in which changes to the Plan are located are identified. Text deletions are denoted using a ~~striketrough-red~~ font and text additions are shown in **blue font**. Changes to maps are as indicated on the relevant maps which are contained in the appendices.

Note that this document 'Variation No. 2' shows only the relevant sections of the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) which have been varied, not the entire Plan. Therefore it is advised that it is read in conjunction with the current Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended).

The following sections of the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) have been amended:

- Chapter 3 – Section 3.4 Roads (Pages 20 - 23)
- Chapter 3 – Section 3.7 Wastewater (Pages 24-25)
- Chapter 3 – Section 3.8 Surface Water Quality, Drainage Systems and Flood Control (Pages 25-26)
- Chapter 4 – Section 4.2 Future Employment, Enterprise & Economic Strategy (Pages 30 - 31)
- Chapter 9 – Section 9.3 Part C Natural Heritage (Pages 53-54)
- Chapter 10 – Section 10.2 Specific Land Use Zonings (Page 61)
- Chapter 10 – Section 10.3 Zoning Matrix Table (Page 63)
- Chapter 10 – Zone 2: Drumgold, Salville (Page 69 - 70)
- Chapter 11 – Section 11.8 Environment (Pages 112 – 113)
- Chapter 11 – Section 11.11 Buffer Zone for Non-Compatible Uses (Pages 114)

The maps accompanying the Plan show the Plan as varied.

2.0 Variation

2.1 Variation to Zoning

Variation No. 2 to the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) changed the zoning of the subject lands (approximately 14.5 hectares) located at Killagoley, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford:

from

- Open Space and Amenity (5.3 ha), New Residential / Low Medium Density (R1) (4.5 ha), Public Utilities (1.03 ha) and Community and Education (3.65 ha)

to

- Business and Technology Park (14.5 ha)

See Map No. 1 – Master Planning Zones and Map No. 5 Zone 2: Drumgold/Salville.

2.2 Variation to Text

Chapter 3, Section 3.4 Roads (Pages 20 - 23) was varied as follows:

Chapter 3, Section 3.4 Roads

Access onto National Roads

The Spatial Planning and National Roads guidelines state that the policy is to avoid the creation of any additional access point from new development or the generation of increased traffic from existing accesses to national roads to which speed limits greater than 60 kmh apply. However, the guidelines also state that a less restrictive approach can be applied in exceptional circumstances when reviewing or varying a plan for an area. The Council has therefore identified a stretch of road, south of Enniscorthy town centre from the current speed limit to St. Senan's hospital, as such an exceptional circumstance.

In considering whether such exceptional circumstances were justified the Council had regard to the criteria in Section 2.6 of the Guidelines and used an evidence based approach to identify the location. In particular the Council has had regard to the facts that:

- The M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy (Enniscorthy bypass) is currently under construction and is expected to be open mid 2019.
- The existing national roadway will be reclassified removing its national roadway status on completion of the bypass.

- Enniscorthy is designated as a Larger Town by the NSS and the SERPGs and therefore plays an important economic role in the regional context.
- Subject to project planning, the land use zonings are compatible with the established pattern of development in the area and are for employment generating industrial and commercial development.
- Inadequate commercial zoned land is available in existing areas and the uses would be less suitable for other areas of the town. This means that this is the most desirable and appropriate location.
- The proposed junction at this location would not have an unacceptable impact on national flows and any impact will be temporary (i.e. will cease when the bypass is completed).

A primary concern in relation to new development requiring access to the National network is the effect on interurban speeds and the premature obsolescence of the network. In this case, those considerations can be set aside as the M11 bypass will be complete in mid 2019. It is anticipated that the first premises will open in Q4 2018.

The criteria required for assessment

The Council will only permit a single new entrance or intensified use of the existing access point onto this national roadway, where such proposals meet the criteria set out in Policy R7 and in consultation with the TII. When the N11 roadway is downgraded it will be reclassified as a Regional Class 1 and entrances shall be in accordance with Policy R6.

Chapter 3, Section 3.4 Roads, Policy Statements

Roads

It is the policy of the ~~Joint~~ Councils:

- R6** In the interests of safety; the free flow of traffic and the need to avoid the reduction in capacity, level of service and the dissipation of public capital, the Local Authority shall control the number of junctions and access points onto the ~~National and~~ Regional Roads in the ~~County~~ area.
- R7** To avoid the creation of any new direct access points from development or the generation of increased traffic from existing direct access/egress points to the national road network to which speed limits greater than 60kmh apply. A less restrictive approach may be applied in the vicinity of the land at Killagoley and St. Senan's, which is the subject of Variation No. 2, (where a single new entrance or intensified use of the existing access may be permitted at the location identified on Map No. 2 Roads Objectives). However, the applicant must adhere to the following:

- It must be demonstrated by the applicant that the development is compliant with proper planning and sustainable development and that the envisaged usage of the access/egress point will not compromise the safety, capacity and efficient operation of national roads.
- The applicant will be responsible for preparing a Road Safety Audit, prepared in accordance with the TII Publication Road Safety Audit (GE-STY-01024) and a Transport and Traffic Assessment in accordance with TII Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines (2014).
- The applicant will be required to provide satisfactory details of proposed demand management measures.
- The applicant will be required to provide the appropriate funding to provide any capacity enhancements or traffic management measures identified as required.

The Council will also review the speed limits in areas where existing employers or zoned land exists with the intention of reducing, where appropriate, the speed limits and subject to the appropriate statutory process.

Chapter 3, Section 3.4 Roads

Specific Local Objectives

It is the objectives of the ~~Joint~~ Councils

T11 To provide and improve public lighting and footpaths at the following locations (See Map 2):

- 1) Clonhaston River Road;
- 2) Clonhaston and R744;
- 3) Vinegar Hill & Drumgold;
- 4) Salville Road;
- 5) Esmonde Road;
- 6) Ross Road;
- 7) Cherryorchard Road;
- 8) Milehouse Road;
- 9) Greenville Lane;
- 10) The Moyne;
- 11) The Industrial Estate, Kilcannon;
- 12) Munster Hill & St. Johns to Treatment Plant;

- 13) N11 from the town centre south of Seamus Rafter Bridge up to the entrance to St. Senan's Hospital.

Chapter 3, Section 3.7 Wastewater (Pages 24-25) has been varied as follows:

WW 4 To promote and facilitate the provision by Irish Water of adequate water and waste water treatment infrastructure to serve the needs of the existing and future population of the plan area and ensure that such infrastructure is provided prior to, or in tandem with, new development.

WW5 To require that an exclusion zone be applied to the Killagoley Wastewater Treatment Plant until such time that it is decommissioned. A revised buffer may be required for any pumping station at this location. Any such buffer shall be agreed with the Planning Authority.

Chapter 3, Section 3.8 Surface Water Quality, Drainage Systems and Flood Control (Pages 25-26) has been varied as follows:

SW 12 To require the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) to minimise the extent of hard surfacing and paving and require the use of sustainable drainage for new development or extensions to existing developments.

SW 13 Require the use of SuDS in the design of new developments. The use of SuDS will control the release of water run-off in a carefully managed way, will improve the quality of surface water run-off and will seek to ensure that the risk to the receiving water from pollution is minimised and ecology protected. All new developments should be designed to ensure:

- The on-site collection of surface water separate from foul water;
- Surface water is appropriately collected on site to prevent flow onto the public roadway, adjoining properties or into the public foul sewer/sewage treatment plant;
- The appropriate on-site disposal of surface water where the scale and amount of water generated makes this feasible for example through soak pits. For larger scale developments, it may be necessary to demonstrate through soil and subsoil tests that the site is capable of absorbing the surface water generated;
- Where on-site disposal is not feasible and discharge to surface waters is necessary, that the system has been designed in accordance with Sustainable Urban Drainage measures (SuDS) and in particular, that run-off has been attenuated to green field conditions;
- Discharges to water courses shall be channelled through adequately sized filters /interceptors for suspended solids and petrol / oils prior to discharge.

Chapter 4, Section 4.2 Future Employment, Enterprise & Economic Strategy (Pages 30 - 31) has been varied as follows:

It is the Policy Statement of the Local Authority to –

EE 13 Implement through the Development Management process, a buffer zone between industrial / commercial / business land use zonings and adjoining residential zones (See Section 11.11).

It is the objective of the ~~Joint Councils~~ Council to:-

EO 3 Facilitate the creation of a new Business and Technology Park at Killagoley which will incorporate a range of uses including office, manufacturing and incubator space.

Chapter 9, Section 9.3 Part C Natural Heritage (Pages 53-54) has been varied as follows:

Policy Statement

It is the Policy Statement of the ~~Joint Councils~~ Council to

NH 8 Ensure that external lighting and lighting schemes are designed so that light spillage is minimised, thereby protecting the amenities or nearby properties and wildlife including protected species.

Chapter 10, Section 10.2 Specific Land Use Zonings (Page 61) has been varied as follows:

Zoning Objective L – Business and Technology Park

 BT Map Colour

To provide for a new business and technology park.

The purpose of this zoning is to provide for the development of a new business and technology park which will include office, manufacturing and incubator space. While the zoning objective indicates the different uses permitted in this zone, it is important to include a buffer area and avoid abrupt transitions in scale and use in the boundary areas of adjoining land use zones. In particular, where the business and technology park zone abuts residential areas, particular attention must be paid to the use, scale and density of development proposals in order to protect the amenities of these residential properties.

An exclusion zone shall apply to the Killagoley Wastewater Treatment Plant until such time that it is decommissioned. . A revised buffer may be required for any pumping station at this location. Any such buffer shall be agreed with the Planning Authority.

Chapter 10, Section 10.3 Zoning Matrix Table (Page 63) has been varied as follows:

Uses	R	R1	R2	CE	IC	TC	N	C1	TU	PU	OS	TR	MR	BT
Advertisement	N	N	N	N	O	O	O	O	O	N	N	N	O	O
Agricultural building	N	N	N	N	O	N	N	N	O	O	O	N	O	N
Amusement / Arcades	N	N	N	N	N	O	O	N	N	N	N	N	O	N
Financial Institutions / Facilities	N	N	N	O	N	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	O	O***
Bed and Breakfast	O	O	O	O	N	P	P	N	O	N	N	N	P	N
Betting Office	N	N	N	N	N	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	O	N
Car Park	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	P	P	O	O	O	P	P
Car park multi storey	N	N	N	O	O	P	P	P	O	N	N	N	O	O
Childcare facilities (crèche/nursery)	O	O	O	P	O	O	P	O	N	N	N	N	P	O**
Civic and amenity recycling centre	O	O	O	P	P	P	P	P	P	O	N	N	P	P
Civic Buildings	O	O	O	P	O	P	P	O	O	O	O	O	P	O
Cultural/Recreational/Leisure	O	O	O	P	N	P	P	N	O	N	N	O	P	N
Education	O	O	O	P	O	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	P	O****
Enterprise centre	N	N	N	N	O	O	O	N	P	N	N	N	P	P
Funeral home	O	O	O	O	N	O	O	N	N	N	N	N	O	N
Garden centre	N	N	N	N	O	O	O	O	N	N	O	N	O	N
General industrial uses *	N	N	N	N	P	N	N	N	O	N	N	N	N	P
Home-based economic activity	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	N	O	N	N	N	P	N
Hotel	O	O	O	O	N	P	P	O	N	N	N	N	P	N
Hostel	O	O	O	O	N	P	P	O	N	N	N	N	O	N
Light Industry	O	O	O	O	P	O	O	N	O	N	N	N	O	P
Medical and related consultants	O	O	O	O	N	P	P	O	N	N	N	N	P	N
Motor sales showroom	N	N	N	N	O	O	O	O	N	N	N	N	N	N
Night-Club	N	N	N	N	N	O	O	N	N	N	N	N	O	N
Office	O	O	O	O	O	P	P	O	O	N	N	N	P	P
Park and ride facility	P	P	P	P	P	O	P	O	O	O	N	N	P	O
Petrol station	N	N	N	O	O	O	O	O	O	N	N	N	O	N
Public house	O	O	O	O	N	P	P	O	N	N	N	N	O	N
Refuse transfer station	N	N	N	N	O	N	N	N	N	O	N	N	N	N
Residential	P	P	P	N	N	P	P	N	N	N	N	N	P	N
Restaurant	N	N	N	P	O	P	P	N	O	N	N	N	O	N

Uses	R	R1	R2	CE	IC	TC	N	C1	TU	PU	OS	TR	MR	BT
Retirement home / Villages	O	O	O	O	N	O	O	N	N	N	N	N	O	N
Retail (comparison)	N	N	N	N	N	P	P	O	N	N	N	N	N	N
Retail (convenience)	O	O	O	O	N	P	P	O	O	N	N	N	O	N
Storage / Transport depot	N	N	N	N	P	N	N	O	P	N	N	N	N	O
Service garage	N	N	N	N	O	N	O	O	O	N	N	N	N	N
Take-away	N	N	N	O	N	O	O	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Place of Worship	O	O	O	O	N	O	O	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Graveyard	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	P	O	O	N

Note: The expansion of established and approved uses not conforming to land use zoning objectives will be considered on their merits.

Notes on Uses:

- * *General Industrial Uses include all industrial manufacturing, processing and storage outside the definition of light industry.*
- ** *The use is only open for consideration where it is ancillary to the main use.*
- *** *Only uses that are not open to the public.*
- **** *Primary and Post-primary schools not permitted.*

Chapter 10, Zone 2: Drumgold, Salville (Page 69 - 70) has been varied as follows:

The main goal within this Master Plan Zone 2 will be to facilitate the regeneration of the older more established residential areas with improved community and retail facilities, on a coordinated orderly basis and to ensure that development is sustainable and is properly integrated into the area. The Neighbourhood Centre zoning will go towards addressing the lack of retail facilities on this eastern side of the town. *The Business and Technology Park zoning is identified to facilitate the provision of a new business and technology park with the intention of creating new employment opportunities for the town and surrounding area.* The Planning *Authorities Authority* will seek an innovative approach to architectural design of new residential estates *and business estates*, will require a high quality of urban design and will encourage sustainable development that would complement the established adjoining uses and contribute to delivering a high quality built and natural environment in this area. The provision of integrated community facilities will also be of prime importance within this zone.

Planning Context: The zoning objectives for the area are mainly;

TC – To protect / provide for and improve town centre facilities,

R – to protect/improve residential amenity and R1 – to provide for new residential communities.

BT – To provide for a new business and technology park.

The area is characterised by low rise (mainly two-storey) residential estates on the outskirts of the town. There are a number of large Greenfield sites around the fringes which are zoned

for new residential development, [business and technology](#). This area is predominantly characterised by social housing and is considered to lack community and retail services.

Urban Design

There will be significant opportunities in the greenfield areas/sites to develop a hierarchy of streets and, consequently, buildings at appropriate locations within the overall area.

The main goal within Zone 2 will be to facilitate the regeneration of the older more established residential areas with improved community and retail facilities, on a coordinated orderly basis and to ensure that development is sustainable and is properly integrated into the area. The Neighbourhood Centre zoning will go towards addressing the lack of retail facilities on this eastern side of the town. The Planning Authorities will seek an innovative approach to architectural design of new residential estates and [business estates](#), will require a high quality of urban design and will encourage sustainable development that would complement the established adjoining uses and contribute to delivering a high quality built and natural environment in this area. The provision of integrated community facilities will also be of prime importance within this zone. Low density housing will be encouraged within new residential developments around the urban fringes and residential developments in these areas should be designed so as to facilitate the integration of large areas of open space within housing developments where feasible.

The text on **Map 5** has been varied as follows:

Overview of the Area:

The main goal within this Master Plan Zone 2 will be to facilitate the regeneration of the older more established residential areas with improved community and retail facilities, on a coordinated orderly basis and to ensure that development is sustainable and properly integrated into the area. The Neighbourhood Centre zoning will go towards addressing the lack of retail facilities on this eastern side of the town. The provision of integrated community facilities will also be of prime importance within this zone. [A new business and technology park incorporating a mix of office, manufacturing and incubator space will be developed on the Business and Technology Park zoning in accordance with overall objectives to increase employment opportunities in the town.](#)

Access and Linkages

The emphasis will be on improvement of road infrastructure within this zone and access to the proposed M11 bypass, which will also improve accessibility in this zone. There is also potential to link the downgraded N11 to the R744 via a relief road to the rear of Salville and the Drumgold areas.

Urban Design

The main goal within Zone 2 will be to facilitate the regeneration of the older more established residential areas with improved community and retail facilities, on a coordinated orderly basis and to ensure that development is sustainable and is properly integrated into the area. Development on the Business and Technology Park zoning shall be designed to integrate with the existing landscape. Having regard to the exposed and elevated nature of the land, any new development on this zoning shall be of a high quality design and layout incorporating innovative high quality architecture sensitive to the existing landscape and surrounding structures, including high quality hard and soft landscaping. The development of the site shall be subject to design statement which is informed by a visual impact assessment which demonstrates that the development respects its landscape setting and will not have an adverse impact on the visual amenities of the area.

Services

Parts of the area are serviced by public water, public foul sewers and public storm sewers. However, there are a number of constraints namely within the Salville area regarding the sewage pipe network. ~~Presently there is a treatment plant located on Esmonde Road which will be decommissioned in the near future once additional capacity and network is available. In particular, these~~ These constraints relate to both the existing level of capacity within the Enniscorthy Town wastewater treatment system and the actual pipe infrastructure at a number of locations within the area.

The Killagoley Wastewater Treatment Plant is due to be decommissioned as part of the contract for the upgrading of the Enniscorthy Wastewater Treatment Plant at Lucas Park. The works are expected to be complete by the end of 2019. The network is also being upgraded and the Local Authority with Irish Water will ensure that this site will be served as part of that upgrade.

Chapter 11, Section 11.8 Environment (Pages 112 – 113) has been varied as follows:

Light Pollution

There has been an increased tendency to illuminate buildings to an excessive degree and incorporate lighting that gives rise to glare on public roads. It shall, therefore, be a policy of the Planning ~~Authorities~~ Authority to minimise light pollution. Details of any external lighting scheme intended as part of any new development shall be submitted as part of the planning application. Applicants will be required to demonstrate that the lighting scheme proposed is the minimum needed for security and working purposes and that the lighting is designed to so that light spillage is minimised, thereby protecting the amenities of nearby properties and wildlife including protected species.

Chapter 11 has been varied as follows:

Section 11.11 Buffer Zone for Non-Compatible Uses (Pages 114)

While the zoning objectives indicate the different uses permitted in each zone, it is important to avoid abrupt transitions in scale and use in the boundary areas of adjoining land use zones. In dealing with development proposals in these contiguous zonal areas, it is necessary to avoid developments which would be detrimental to the amenities of the more environmentally sensitive zone. For instance, in zones abutting 'residential areas' or abutting residential development within mixed-use zones, particular attention must be paid to the use, scale and density of development proposals in order to protect the amenities of these residential properties.

3.0 Environmental Assessment

A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report was prepared following consultation with the Environmental Authorities. The SEA screening determined that implementation of the Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects. The report is included in Appendix 1.

An Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report was also prepared. The Appropriate Assessment determined that Variation No. 2 would not give rise to any significant adverse effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects and was therefore Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment – preparation of a Natura Impact Assessment was not required. The report is included in Appendix 2.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report

Appendix 2: Appropriate Assessment Screening Report

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

FOR

VARIATION No. 2

TO THE

**ENNISCORTHY TOWN AND ENVIRONS DEVELOPMENT PLAN
2008-2014
(AS EXTENDED)**

for: Wexford County Council

County Hall,
Carricklawn,
Wexford



by: CAAS Ltd.

1st Floor
24-26 Ormond Quay Upper
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JULY 2017

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Section 1 Introduction and Terms of Reference

1.1 Introduction

Wexford County Council has prepared and adopted Variation No. 2 to the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) under Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

As the Council did not determine that the Proposed Variation would be likely to have significant environmental effects, the Proposed Variation to the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) was required to be screened for the need to undertake Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). Screening is the process for deciding whether a particular plan - or variation to a plan -, other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant SEA. This report provides the findings of the evaluation of the requirement for SEA to be undertaken on the Variation to the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended).

1.2 Strategic Environmental Assessment Legislative Requirements

SEA is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme, or variation to a plan or programme, before a decision is made to adopt it. The SEA Directive¹ requires, inter alia, that SEA is undertaken for certain plans, programmes or variations to these.

Under Article 7 (13K) of the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004 (SI No. 436 of 2004) as amended by the Planning and Development (SEA) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (SI No. 201 of 2011)², Wexford County Council is required to determine whether any Proposed Variation needs to be subject to SEA. Screening is the process for determining whether a particular plan - or variation to a plan -, other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant SEA³.

Such a determination is required to take account of relevant criteria set out in Schedule 2A '*Criteria for determining whether a plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment*' of the SEA Regulations, as amended, and submissions or observations from relevant environmental authorities.

1.3 Reason for the Variation

The Variation changes the zoning of the subject lands (approximately 35.5 acres) located at Killagoley, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford to Business and Technology Park (BT).

The lands were previously zoned for uses under four different land use zoning objectives: Open Space and Amenity, New Residential/Low Medium Density, Community and Education and Public Utility.

The business park will allow for a range of uses including office, manufacturing and incubator space.

¹ Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of Ministers, of 27th June 2001, on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment

² Both sets of Regulations are collectively referred to as 'the Regulations' in this report.

³ It is noted that the SEA Directive requires that SEA is undertaken where Stage 2 AA is being undertaken however the conclusion of the AA screening process is that Stage 2 AA is not necessary (see Section 2.2).

1.4 SEA Screening Consultations

As part of the screening process, environmental authorities⁴ were notified in advance of public display of the Proposed Variation that a submission or observation in relation to whether or not implementation of the Proposed Variation would be likely to have significant effects on the environment could be made to the Council (a period of three weeks was allowed for the reply). In order to help facilitate the environmental authorities' response to this notice, an earlier, Draft version of this SEA Screening Report was forwarded to the environmental authorities during the three week consultation period.

Two submissions were received from the environmental authorities – one from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), responded to in Table 1.1, and one from the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (DAHRRGA), responded to in Table 1.2.

Table 1.1 Response to EPA Submission

Submission Text	Response
<p>SEA Determination</p> <p>Wexford County Council should determine whether or not the implementation of the proposed Variation would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.</p> <p>The criteria set out in Annex II of Directive 2001/ 42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (The SEA Directive) and in Schedule 2A of the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004) should be taken into account. Wexford County Council is obliged to take the relevant criteria set out in Schedule 2A into account in making its determination as to whether or not the Plan would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.</p>	<p>Noted. Wexford County Council is making the determination taking into account the relevant criteria set out in Annex II of the SEA Directive and Schedule 2A of the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004) as amended.</p>
<p>Specific Comments on the Variation</p> <p>It should be ensured that the Variation takes into account any identified flood risk within the area, and is developed in accordance with the Flood Risk Management Guidelines (DEHLG / OPW, 2009). The relevant recommendations from the South East CFRAMS (UoM 12 Flood Risk Management Plan) and associated SEA Environmental Report should also be taken into consideration.</p>	<p>As detailed in Section 2 of this screening report, areas to the west of the site, either side of the Slaney River are identified by various Council and OPW documentation as being at elevated levels of fluvial flood risk.</p> <p>The existing County and Town and Environs Development Plans already includes various provisions relating to flood risk management including those relating to the Planning System and Flood Risk Management-Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DEHLG and OPW, 2009) and flood risk management plans prepared as part of the South-East Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study.</p> <p>Furthermore, provisions have been integrated into the Variation that will contribute towards flood risk management (SW 12 and SW 13 relating to Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems).</p>
<p>There is also merit in considering a traffic impact assessment, or reviewing any existing traffic management plan for the Enniscorthy area, to ensure that they take into account any potential increase in traffic arising out of implementing the Variation.</p> <p>Where possible, development of the proposed business and technology park should be serviced by appropriate public transport, walking and cycle related infrastructure.</p> <p>Increased traffic may impact on air quality and transport related noise aspects in particular.</p>	<p>The existing County and Town and Environs Development Plans already includes various provisions relating to both traffic impact assessment and sustainable mobility, including those relating to public transport, walking and cycle related infrastructure. These Plans also include provisions relating to air quality and noise management.</p> <p>Furthermore, additional provisions have been integrated into the Variation that will contribute towards traffic management (Policy R7 relates to traffic management, including requiring the preparation of a Road Safety Audit and a Transport and Traffic Assessment).</p>

⁴ The following authorities were notified: Environmental Protection Agency; Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment; Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government; Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine; Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs; and adjoining planning authorities whose areas are contiguous to the administrative area of Wexford County Council.

Submission Text	Response
<p>The Variation should also provide for the protection of designated habitats and protected species within the area covered by the Variation. A plan-lead approach to establishing and maintaining important areas of green infrastructure within and adjacent to the area should also be considered.</p>	<p>The existing County and Town and Environs Development Plans already include various provisions relating to the protection of designated habitats and protected species within the area covered by the Variation. Furthermore, a policy statement has been integrated into the Variation that will further contribute towards the protection of wildlife (Policy NH8 that relates to external lighting and lighting schemes). With respect to green infrastructure, the existing Plan contains a variety of policies that will contribute towards the maintenance of green infrastructure both within and adjacent to the Variation lands including those relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provision of open space and amenity • The sustainable management of water; • The protection and management of biodiversity; • The protection of cultural heritage; and • The protection of protected landscape sensitivities.
<p>There are a number significant national / regional level plans currently on-going that should be taken into account, as relevant and appropriate, in implementing the Variation. These include the Draft National Planning Framework (DHPCLG), Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (Regional Authorities – to commence), Draft River Basin Management Plan (DHPCLG) and the Draft National Mitigation Plan (DCCAE).</p>	<p>All relevant national and regional plans are taken into account in implementing Council plans and programmes. The cited documents have also been referenced in the list of legislation and other plans and programmes included at Appendix I.</p>
<p>EPA State of the Environment Report 2016</p> <p>The EPA has recently published our latest „State of the Environment Report” - Ireland’s Environment 2016 – An Assessment (EPA, 2016). The recommendations, key issues and challenges described within this report should be taken into account, as relevant and appropriate to the Plan area. This report can be consulted at: http://www.epa.ie/irelandsenvironment/stateoftheenvironmentreport/</p>	<p>Noted. This report has been considered in the preparation of the screening report.</p>
<p>Available Guidance</p> <p>Guidance on the SEA Process, Integration Guidance, SEA Checklist, List of SEA Spatial Information Sources and guidance on Integrating Climate Change into SEA, is available on the EPA website and should be considered in the preparation of the SEA. This can be consulted at the following address: http://www.epa.ie/pubs/advice/ea/</p>	<p>Noted. This guidance has been considered in the preparation of the screening report.</p>
<p>SEA WebGIS Search and Reporting Tool</p> <p>The EPA WebGIS Search and Reporting application is an online GIS based web application that will allow users to explore, interrogate and produce an indicative report on key aspects of the environment in specific geographic areas. These reports are indicative and will provide an overview of key aspects of the environment within a specific plan area. This may be used to inform the SEA screening and scoping stages for Plans and Programmes with particular reference in the first instance to the land use sector, though it is also applicable to other sector plans. It may be accessed via www.edenireland.ie</p>	<p>Noted. This EPA map viewer has been used in the preparation of this screening report.</p>
<p>Future Amendments to the Plan</p> <p>Wexford County Council should determine whether or not any future proposed Variation would be likely to have significant effects on the environment. This assessment should take account of the SEA Regulations Schedule 2A Criteria (S.I. No. 436 of 2004). Infrastructure Planning</p> <p>In proposing the Variation, and any related amendments, variations etc. of the Plan and in implementing the Variation, adequate and appropriate infrastructure should be in place, or required to be put in place, to service any development proposed and authorised during the lifetime of the particular Variation.</p>	<p>Noted. It is the practice of the Council to comply with the SEA Regulations as amended.</p>

Submission Text	Response
<p>Appropriate Assessment</p> <p>The requirements of Article 6 of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, the Habitats Directive should be taken into account. Appropriate Assessment, in accordance with the Directive is required for:</p> <p>"Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (Natura 2000 sites) but likely to have significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment of its implications for the site in view of the sites conservation Objectives..."</p> <p>The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) should be consulted with regard to screening of the Variation for Appropriate Assessment. Where Appropriate Assessment is required, any findings or recommendations should be incorporated into the SEA and Plan, as appropriate.</p>	<p>AA Screening is being undertaken throughout the Variation preparation and adoption process and the current conclusion is that the Variation will not affect any European Site.</p> <p>The AA Screening Statement is being placed on public display with the Variation and this SEA Screening Report and any submissions made on these documents will be taken into account during the Variation preparation and adoption process.</p>
<p>Environmental Authorities</p> <p>Under the SEA Regulations (S.I. No. 436 of 2004), as amended by S.I. No. 201 of 2011, notice should also be given to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government (now the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government) • Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, and the Minister for Communications Energy and Natural Resources (now the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment), where it appears to the planning authority that the plan or programme, or modification of the plan or programme, might have significant effects on fisheries or the marine environment • where it appears to the competent authority that the plan or programme, or amendment to a plan or programme, might have significant effects in relation to the architectural heritage or to nature conservation, the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (now the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs), and • any adjoining planning authority whose area is continuous to the area of a planning authority which prepared a draft plan, proposed variation or local area plan. 	<p>Noted - notice has already been provided to these authorities.</p>
<p>A copy of your decision regarding the determination should be made available for public inspection at your offices, local authority website and should also be notified to any Environmental Authorities already consulted.</p> <p>Should you have any queries or require further information in relation to the above please contact the undersigned.</p>	<p>Noted - The SEA Screening Report and associated Determination will be placed on public display with the Variation. Environmental authorities already consulted will be notified.</p>

Table 1.2 Response to DAHRRGA Submission

Submission Text	Response
I refer to your notification in relation to SEA screening for the proposed Variation to the Enniscorthy and Environs Development Plan. Outlined below are the archaeological recommendations of the National Monuments Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.	Noted.
It is noted that the relevant Assessments including the SEA, have been submitted for the proposed variation to the Development Plan for Enniscorthy and its Environs in Wexford.	An SEA has not been undertaken, prepared or submitted. In order to help facilitate the environmental authorities' response to an SEA Screening Notice, an earlier, Draft version of this SEA Screening Report was forwarded to the environmental authorities during the Statutory three week consultation period.
It is also noted that within the SEA there is reference to the undertaking of the Flood Risk Assessment and EIS for areas that require these. Such assessments shall take account of the following observations and recommendations of the National Monuments Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs; similar recommendations issued from NMS for the primary DP for Enniscorthy and its Environs.	Flood Risk Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) are separate processes and are subject to their own consultation processes as relevant. This part of the submission is not directly relevant to the SEA Screening process. Furthermore, it is noted that the Development Plan has already been adopted and is in force and that the Council Variation relates to this Plan. This variation process is being subject to SEA Screening.
It is recommended that all such relevant and appropriate assessment contain a detailed Cultural Heritage Section that looks to assess all aspects of the area covered by the proposed Variation (both for terrestrial and underwater cultural heritage) and thus provide a more cognizant archaeological assessment that will then form part of a strategic assessment process to inform the DP generally and cover potential developments or works that may not be subject to the normal planning process. The potential for previously unrecorded archaeology, including from an underwater environment, is high for the multitude of zones relating to the proposed area, which itself contains a multiple of recorded monuments that are subject to statutory protection under the National Monuments Amendment Act 1994. Similarly the watercourses within the area, not least that of the River Slaney are areas of high potential to retain underwater cultural heritage. Appropriate Assessments would be particularly relevant where any Flood Risk Management Scheme is proposed or is to be extended. It is therefore recommended that the Variations to the DP include assessment of the known and potential cultural heritage in all areas and should include the known and potential terrestrial and underwater archaeological heritage that may be the subject of proposed zoning, works, etc. in the future, including riverine and lacustrine locations, etc. An AA can be desk based in the first instance, with the more detailed fieldwork or underwater assessments being carried out as part of the statutory planning process, a general assessment, undertaken by a suitably qualified archaeologist (with underwater/maritime experience regarding the UCH), that shall ensure that future proposed works that fall under both statutory and non-statutory regulations with regard to the planning process, will be addressed. This will inform on the protection of all aspects of the cultural heritage when the Council's remit and that considers works or zoning under the DP or variations thereto.	SEA has not being undertaken on the Variation as potential effects arising from the Variation are either present already (beneficial) and will be further contributed towards or will be mitigated by provisions already in force so as not to be significant (residual adverse). The existing County and Town and Environs Development Plans already include various provisions relating to the protection of cultural heritage including archaeological heritage, both terrestrial and underwater.
Terrestrial & Underwater Archaeology In The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) recorded archaeological sites are to be found within the areas and have been generically addressed within the submitted SEA. These Recorded Monuments are protected under the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994. The RMP is not an exhaustive list of all archaeology in existence, and in this regard the DAHRRGA would like to draw the applicant's attention to the Department's published policy in relation to the archaeological	SEA has not being undertaken on the Amendment as potential effects arising from the Variation are either present already (beneficial) and will be further contributed towards or will be mitigated by provisions already in force so as not to be significant (residual adverse). In order to help facilitate the environmental authorities' response to an SEA Screening Notice, an earlier, Draft version of this SEA Screening Report was forwarded to the environmental authorities during the Statutory three week consultation period.

Submission Text	Response
<p>assessment of large-scale developments on sites where there are no previously recorded monuments (Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage – Published by Dúchas The Heritage Service).</p> <p>Similarly, contained within the areas that are to be the focus of Variations to the DP are riverine environments. These may contain known and previously unknown underwater archaeological heritage that should be considered in any appropriate assessment to inform the DP. Sites can include fortifications with associated slipways, quays, etc., wrecks, fishtraps, lakeside dwellings, fording points, clapper bridges, more substantial bridges, causeways, logboats, singular sites such as rock cut platforms and steps, and of course artefactual material associated with sites or as individual depositions in underwater environments.</p> <p>It is the policy of The Heritage & Planning Division and the Underwater Archaeology Unit that proposed developments, due to their location, size, or nature, that may have implications for the archaeological heritage should be subject to archaeological assessment. This should be included in the DP, either as an update to the SEA or as part of any EIS and Flood Risk Management Assessment. Developments can include those that are located at or close to an archaeological monument or site, those that are extensive in terms of area (1/2 hectare or more) or length (1 kilometre or more), those that may impact the underwater environment (marine, intertidal/foreshore, riverine or lacustrine) and developments that require an Environmental Impact Statement. Archaeological heritage includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Monuments in the ownership or care of the State or Local Authority; it shall be noted that these will have Consent requirements and will need to be addressed directly with the National Monuments Service in this regard. • Archaeological and Architectural monuments/sites in the Record of Monuments and Places. • Monuments in the Register of Historic Monuments • Zones of Archaeological Potential in Historic Towns • Underwater Archaeological Heritage, including Historic Wrecks • Previously unknown and unrecorded archaeological sites (including subsurface elements with no visible surface remains and potential sites underwater in rivers, lakes or the sea, that can include wharves, jetties, quays, piers, fish traps, anchorages, bridges, fording points, rockcut steps or sea caves) • Potential sites located in the vicinity of large complexes of site or monuments • Present or former wetlands, unenclosed land, rivers or lakes, reclaimed areas, or the inter-tidal zone. 	<p>The existing County and Town and Environs Development Plans already include various provisions relating to the protection of cultural heritage including archaeological heritage, both terrestrial and underwater.</p>

1.5 Consultations through Public Display of Proposed Variation and associated documents

Following SEA Screening consultations, the Proposed Variation and associated documents (including an earlier version of this SEA Screening document and a draft AA Screening document) were placed on public display and submissions were invited.

Submissions received were responded to in a Chief Executive's Report that contained recommendations as to what changes should be made to the Proposed Variation before adoption. SEA and AA Screening Reports were prepared to consider the environmental implications of the Chief Executive's Recommendations – these reports concluded that the recommendations would not result in significant environmental effects or affect the integrity of European Sites.

Having considered the following documents, the Elected Members adopted the Proposed Variation with changes as recommended by the Chief Executive:

- Proposed Variation;
- SEA and AA Screening Reports for Proposed Variation;
- Chief Executive's Report on Submissions Received; and
- SEA and AA Screening Reports on Chief Executive's Recommendations.

Following adoption of the Variation, the original draft SEA and AA Screening Reports that were placed on public display alongside the Proposed Variation were updated to take account of the changes that were made to the Proposed Variation on foot of the Chief Executive's Recommendations.

Section 2 SEA Screening

2.1 Introduction

The section provides details of the examination of the Variation as to whether it would be likely to have significant environmental effects (and thus would have warranted the undertaking of Strategic Environmental Assessment).

This examination took account of relevant criteria set out in Schedule 2A '*Criteria for determining whether a plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment*' of the SEA Regulations, as amended, (see Section 2.4).

2.2 Appropriate Assessment

AA is an impact assessment process concerning *Natura 2000*, or *European*, sites - these sites have been designated or proposed for designation by virtue of their ecological importance.

The Habitats Directive⁵ requires, inter alia, that variations to plans undergo an AA process to establish the likely or potential effects arising from implementation of the Variation. If the effects are deemed to be *significant, potentially significant or uncertain* then the Variation must undergo Stage 2 AA.

AA Screening was undertaken throughout the Variation preparation and adoption process and concluded that the Variation will not affect any European Site.

2.3 SEA Screening Analysis

Table 2.1 provides details of the examination of the Variation as to whether it would be likely to have significant environmental effects (and thus would have warranted the undertaking of Strategic Environmental Assessment) and is supplemented by Table 2.2 which provides details on:

- The likely significant effects, if unmitigated, of implementing the Variation in Combination with the Plan; and
- Key mitigation measure(s) that are already contained within the Plan.

The examination took account of relevant criteria set out in Schedule 2A '*Criteria for determining whether a plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment*' of the SEA Regulations, as amended, (see Section 2.4).

The full range of environmental effects⁶, including cumulative effects⁷, were considered by the assessment.

⁵ Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora

⁶ These include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects.

⁷ The Plan that was varied sits within a hierarchy of strategic actions such as plans and programmes and is subject to a number of high level environmental protection policies and objectives with which it must comply (including those detailed in Appendix I). The Plan as varied will be implemented within areas that have existing plans and programmes for a range of sectors at a range of levels (e.g. National, River Basin District, Regional, County and Local) that are already subject to more specific higher and lower tier SEA and AA. The Plan and associated Variation are consistent with such plans, programmes and legislation and may, in turn, guide lower level strategic actions. In this regard, Appendix I includes statutory provisions, plans, policies and strategies that set the context within which the Plan and associated Variation are framed.

Table 2.1 SEA Screening of Variation

Variation	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening										
<p>Variation to Zoning</p> <p>The Variation changes the zoning of subject lands (approximately 14.5 hectares) located at Killagoley, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford under the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended):</p> <p>from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Space and Amenity (5.3 ha), New Residential / Low Medium Density (R1) (4.5 ha), Public Utilities (1.03 ha) and Community and Education (3.65 ha) <p>to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business and Technology Park (14.5 ha) 	<p>The Variation provides for the rezoning of lands (approximately 14.5 hectares) located at Killagoley to accommodate Business and Technology Park uses. The lands were previously zoned for Open Space and Amenity (5.3 ha), New Residential / Low Medium Density (R1) (4.5 ha), Public Utilities (1.03 ha) and Community and Education (3.65 ha).</p> <p>Environmental considerations at the subject site, adjacent to the subject site and within the wider area were examined and are identified on the table below.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Environmental Considerations</th><th>Description</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Biodiversity and Flora and Fauna</td><td> <p>The lands, which are not subject to any ecological designations, comprise grassed, hilly open space, some of which is used for agriculture. The northern end of the lands contains part a strip of woodland located between the N11 National Primary Road and Esmonde Road. The lands also contain a number of other tree lines that form field boundaries and have the potential to facilitate ecological connectivity including movement of bats.</p> <p>The closest European Sites are the River Slaney Special Area of Conservation (SAC), which is also designated as a proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA), and the Wexford Harbour and Slobs Special Protection Area (SPA). The River Slaney SAC and pNHA is located on the far, western side of the N11 National Primary Road (which forms a western boundary to the subject lands) while the SPA is located further to the west, c. 300m from the boundary of the subject lands.</p> </td></tr> <tr> <td>Population and Human Health</td><td> <p>There are three residential buildings located along the site's southern boundary which are adjacent to a commercial building. The Killagoley wastewater treatment plant is located in the north of the subject lands, along their eastern boundary.</p> <p>The lands are surrounded by a range of developments including roads, commercial and residential developments and St. Senans Hospital.</p> </td></tr> <tr> <td>Soil</td><td>Soil type identified at the lands includes Acid Brown Earths and Surface Water Gleys.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Water</td><td> <p>The River Slaney flows on the far, western side of the N11 National Primary Road which forms a western boundary to the subject lands. The river, both to the north and south of Enniscorthy Bridge (the river is identified as having estuarine influences to the south of the bridge), is identified as being of <i>Good</i> status according to the EPA's WFD status data 2010-2015.</p> <p>The River Slaney is a salmonid river designated under SI 293 of 1988. To the north of Enniscorthy Bridge it is listed on the South Eastern River Basin Management Plan's Register of Protected Area (RPA) as a river used for drinking water and to the south of the Enniscorthy Bridge it is identified as being nutrient sensitive.</p> <p>Groundwater Status within the area is identified by the EPA's WFD status data 2010-2015 as being <i>Good</i>. The Groundwater Vulnerability beneath most of the town, including the subject lands, is generally identified as being <i>Moderate</i>.</p> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Environmental Considerations	Description	Biodiversity and Flora and Fauna	<p>The lands, which are not subject to any ecological designations, comprise grassed, hilly open space, some of which is used for agriculture. The northern end of the lands contains part a strip of woodland located between the N11 National Primary Road and Esmonde Road. 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Variation	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening	
		Areas to the west of the site, either side of the Slaney River are identified by various Council and OPW documentation as being at elevated levels of fluvial flood risk.
	Air and Climatic Factors	Improving levels of sustainable mobility through land use planning will facilitate reductions in and limit increases of emissions to air including noise. By locating new development within existing settlements and closer to the centre of these settlements, walking, cycling and public transport use (where available) as alternatives to private car usage will be facilitated.
	Cultural Heritage	<p>Part of the northern boundary of the Variation lands is shared with the southern boundary of the Templeshannon Architectural Conservation Area. The coinciding of the boundaries occurs within a wooded area between the N11 National Primary Road and Esmonde Road.</p> <p>There are no entries to the Sites and Monuments Records within or adjacent to the subject lands. The closest entry to this record, without crossing the Slaney, is a Ringfort located c. 0.5km to the south east of the Variation lands.</p> <p>There are no entries to the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) or Record of Protected Structures (RPS) within the subject lands. St. Senan's Hospital to the south of the Variation lands is listed for protection under both of these designations.</p>
	Material Assets	<p>The most recent published information from the EPA Urban Waste Water Treatment in 2015' (2016) identifies that Enniscorthy is served by 2 treatment plants. The larger plant which provides treatment of 17,023 p.e. at a design capacity of 16,000 p.e. met the effluent quality standards.</p> <p>The smaller plant, which is located within the Variation lands at Killagoley, provides treatment of 980 p.e. is identified as having persistently failed BOD, COD and nutrient quality standards. The Killagoley plant is due to be decommissioned as part of the contract for the upgrading of the larger Enniscorthy Wastewater Treatment Plant. These works are expected to be complete by the end of 2019. The network is also being upgraded and the Local Authority with Irish Water will ensure that this site will be served as part of that upgrade.</p> <p>The drinking water supply for the town is not identified on the EPA's most recent (Q4 of 2016) Remedial Action List for water supplies for not complying with drinking water standards.</p>
	Landscape	There are no protected views identified in the Town Development Plan adjacent or within the subject lands.
		<p>The Variation lands comprise grassed, hilly open space, some of which is used for agriculture. The lands are surrounded by a range of developments including roads, commercial and residential developments and St. Senan's Hospital. The site is already zoned for built development uses (Open Space and Amenity, New Residential / Low Medium Density, Public Utilities and Community and Education) and is surrounded by lands zoned for a variety of uses including those providing for built development. The site can be served by existing and planned public infrastructure and facilities. Development of the lands will contribute towards sustainable mobility, minimising increases in energy usage and emissions to air, including greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions. Such development would also avoid the need to develop more sensitive greenfield lands elsewhere in the Town and beyond, thereby avoiding potential adverse effects on various environmental components.</p>

Variation	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening
	<p>The existing 2008 Plan (as extended) provides for development within Enniscorthy including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various zonings for built development within the subject site; and • Various uses (including Commercial and Mixed Uses and Industrial and Commercial and Related Uses) at numerous locations that are located greater distances away from the town centre than the subject site. <p>The effects of the existing 2014 Plan have already been assessed and mitigated by the SEA for this Plan (see Table 2.2).</p> <p>The change provided by the Variation further facilitates development at Enniscorthy, providing for Business and Technology Park developments at the subject lands. There are no additional significant adverse effects arising from this change (significant, potential or uncertain) that were not envisaged and mitigated by the SEA of the Plan. The SEA process has successfully facilitated the integration of mitigation into the Plan in order to contribute towards the protection of the environment - see Table 2.2. Positive effects arising from the development of this site (including those relating to the facilitation of sustainable mobility, the development of sites that can be served by existing public infrastructure and the avoidance of the need to develop more sensitive sites by providing for development within existing settlements) have already been considered and will be further contributed toward.</p> <p>As the change would not result in significant environmental effects, SEA was not required.</p>
Variation to Text (text deletions are denoted using a strikethrough-red font and text additions are shown in blue font .)	
<p>Vary Chapter 3, Section 3.4 Roads (Pages 20 - 23) to include the following:</p> <p>Chapter 3, Section 3.4 Roads Access onto National Roads</p> <p>The Spatial Planning and National Roads guidelines state that the policy is to avoid the creation of any additional access point from new development or the generation of increased traffic from existing accesses to national roads to which speed limits greater than 60 kmh apply. However, the guidelines also state that a less restrictive approach can be applied in exceptional circumstances when reviewing or varying a plan for an area. The Council has therefore identified a stretch of road, south of Enniscorthy town centre from the current speed limit to St. Senan's hospital, as such an exceptional circumstance.</p> <p>In considering whether such exceptional circumstances were justified the Council had regard to the criteria in Section 2.6 of the Guidelines and used an evidence based approach to identify the location. In particular the Council has had regard to the facts that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy (Enniscorthy bypass) is currently under construction and is expected to be open mid 2019. • The existing national roadway will be reclassified removing its national roadway status on completion of the bypass. • Enniscorthy is designated as a Larger Town by the NSS and the SERPGs and therefore plays an important economic role in the regional context. • Subject to project planning, the land use zonings are compatible with the established pattern of development in the area and are for employment generating industrial and commercial development. • Inadequate commercial zoned land is available in existing areas and the uses would be less suitable for other areas of the town. This means that this is the most desirable and appropriate location. • The proposed junction at this location would not have an unacceptable impact on national flows and any 	<p>These text changes facilitated the making of the Variation to the Land Use Zoning – please refer to commentary above in relation to this issue.</p> <p>These changes further facilitate development at Enniscorthy, providing for Business and Technology Park developments at the subject lands. There are no additional significant adverse effects arising from this change (significant, potential or uncertain) that were not envisaged and mitigated by the SEA of the Plan. The SEA process has successfully facilitated the integration of mitigation into the Plan in order to contribute towards the protection of the environment - see Table 2.2. Positive effects arising from the development of this site (including those relating to the protection of human health, the facilitation of sustainable mobility, the development of sites that can be served by existing public infrastructure and the avoidance of the need to develop more sensitive sites by providing for development within existing settlements) have already been considered and will be further contributed toward.</p> <p>As the Variation would not result in significant environmental effects, SEA was not required.</p>

Variation	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening
<p>impact will be temporary (i.e. will cease when the bypass is completed).</p> <p>A primary concern in relation to new development requiring access to the National network is the effect on interurban speeds and the premature obsolescence of the network. In this case, those considerations can be set aside as the M11 bypass will be complete in mid 2019. It is anticipated that the first premises will open in Q4 2018.</p> <p>The criteria required for assessment</p> <p>The Council will only permit a single new entrance or intensified use of the existing access point onto this national roadway, where such proposals meet the criteria set out in Policy R7 and in consultation with the TII. When the N11 roadway is downgraded it will be reclassified as a Regional Class 1 and entrances shall be in accordance with Policy R6.</p> <p>Chapter 3, Section 3.4 Roads, Policy Statements</p> <p>Roads</p> <p>It is the policy of the Joint Councils:</p> <p>R6 In the interests of safety; the free flow of traffic and the need to avoid the reduction in capacity, level of service and the dissipation of public capital, the Local Authority shall control the number of junctions and access points onto the National and Regional Roads in the County area.</p> <p>R7 To avoid the creation of any new direct access points from development or the generation of increased traffic from existing direct access/egress points to the national road network to which speed limits greater than 60kmh apply. A less restrictive approach may be applied in the vicinity of the land at Killagoley and St. Senan's, which is the subject of Variation No. 2, (where a single new entrance or intensified use of the existing access may be permitted at the location identified on Map No. 2 Roads Objectives). However, the applicant must adhere to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It must be demonstrated by the applicant that the development is compliant with proper planning and sustainable development and that the envisaged usage of the access/egress point will not compromise the safety, capacity and efficient operation of national roads. • The applicant will be responsible for preparing a Road Safety Audit, prepared in accordance with the TII Publication Road Safety Audit (GE-STY-01024) and a Transport and Traffic Assessment prepared in accordance with TII Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines (2014). • The applicant will be required to provide satisfactory details of proposed demand management measures. • The applicant will be required to provide the appropriate funding to provide any capacity enhancements or traffic management measures identified as required. <p>The Council will also review the speed limits in areas where existing employers or zoned land exists with the intention of reducing, where appropriate, the speed limits and subject to the appropriate statutory process.</p> <p>Chapter 3, Section 3.4 Roads</p> <p>Specific Local Objectives</p> <p>It is the objectives of the Joint Councils</p> <p>T11 To provide and improve public lighting and footpaths at the following Locations (See Map 2):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Clonhaston River Road; 2) Clonhaston and R744; 3) Vinegar Hill & Drumgold; 4) Salville Road; 5) Esmonde Road; 6) Ross Road; 7) Cherryorchard Road; 8) Milehouse Road; 9) Greenville Lane; 10) The Moyne; 11) The Industrial Estate, Kilcannon; 	

Variation	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening
<p>12) Munster Hill & St. Johns to Treatment Plant; 13) N11 from the town centre south of Seamus Rafter Bridge up to the entrance to St. Senan's Hospital.</p> <p>Vary Chapter 3, Section 3.7 Wastewater (Pages 24-25) to include the following:</p> <p>WW 4 To promote and facilitate the provision by Irish Water of adequate water and waste water treatment infrastructure to serve the needs of the existing and future population of the plan area and ensure that such infrastructure is provided prior to, or in tandem with, new development.</p> <p>WW5 To require that an exclusion zone be applied to the Killagoley Wastewater Treatment Plant until such time that it is decommissioned. A revised buffer may be required for any pumping station at this location. Any such buffer shall be agreed with the Planning Authority.</p>	<p>These text changes facilitated the making of the Variation to the Land Use Zoning – please refer to commentary above in relation to this issue.</p> <p>These changes further facilitate development at Enniscorthy, providing for Business and Technology Park developments at the subject lands. There are no additional significant adverse effects arising from this change (significant, potential or uncertain) that were not envisaged and mitigated by the SEA of the Plan. The SEA process has successfully facilitated the integration of mitigation into the Plan in order to contribute towards the protection of the environment - see Table 2.2. Positive effects arising from the development of this site (including those relating to the protection of human health, the provision of appropriate levels of water services, the facilitation of sustainable mobility, the development of sites that can be served by existing public infrastructure and the avoidance of the need to develop more sensitive sites by providing for development within existing settlements) have already been considered and will be further contributed toward.</p> <p>As the change would not result in significant environmental effects, SEA was not required.</p>
<p>Vary Chapter 3, Section 3.8 Surface Water Quality, Drainage Systems and Flood Control (Pages 25-26) to include the following:</p> <p>SW 12 To require the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) to minimise the extent of hard surfacing and paving and require the use of sustainable drainage for new development or extensions to existing developments.</p> <p>SW 13 Require the use of SuDS in the design of new developments. The use of SuDS will control the release of water run-off in a carefully managed way, will improve the quality of surface water run-off and will seek to ensure that the risk to the receiving water from pollution is minimised and ecology protected. All new developments should be designed to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The on-site collection of surface water separate from foul water; • Surface water is appropriately collected on site to prevent flow onto the public roadway, adjoining properties or into the public foul sewer/sewage treatment plant; • The appropriate on-site disposal of surface water where the scale and amount of water generated makes this feasible for example through soak pits. For larger scale developments, it may be necessary to demonstrate through soil and subsoil tests that the site is capable of absorbing the surface water generated; • Where on-site disposal is not feasible and discharge to surface waters is necessary, that the system has been designed in accordance with Sustainable Urban Drainage measures (SuDS) and in particular, that run-off has been attenuated to green field conditions; • Discharges to water courses shall be channelled through adequately sized filters /interceptors for suspended solids and petrol / oils prior to discharge. 	<p>These text changes would facilitate the making of the Variation to the Land Use Zoning – please refer to commentary above in relation to this issue.</p> <p>These changes further facilitate development at Enniscorthy, providing for Business and Technology Park developments at the subject lands. There are no additional significant adverse effects arising from this change (significant, potential or uncertain) that were not envisaged and mitigated by the SEA of the Plan. The SEA process has successfully facilitated the integration of mitigation into the Plan in order to contribute towards the protection of the environment - see Table 2.2. Positive effects arising from the development of this site (including those relating to the protection of human health and water quality, the facilitation of flood risk management, the facilitation of sustainable mobility, the development of sites that can be served by existing public infrastructure and the avoidance of the need to develop more sensitive sites by providing for development within existing settlements) have already been considered and will be further contributed toward.</p> <p>As the change would not result in significant environmental effects, SEA is not required.</p>

Variation	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening
<p>Vary Chapter 4, Section 4.2 Future Employment, Enterprise & Economic Strategy (Pages 30 - 31) to include the following:</p> <p>It is the Policy Statement of the Local Authority to – EE 13 Implement through the Development Management process, a buffer zone between industrial / commercial / business land use zonings and adjoining residential zones (See Section 11.11).</p> <p>It is the objective of the Joint-Councils Council to:- EO 3 Facilitate the creation of a new Business and Technology Park at Killagoley which will incorporate a range of uses including office, manufacturing and incubator space.</p>	<p>These text changes facilitated the making of the Variation to the Land Use Zoning – please refer to commentary above in relation to this issue.</p> <p>The change further facilitates development at Enniscorthy, providing for Business and Technology Park developments at the subject lands. There are no additional significant adverse effects arising from this change (significant, potential or uncertain) that were not envisaged and mitigated by the SEA of the Plan. The SEA process has successfully facilitated the integration of mitigation into the Plan in order to contribute towards the protection of the environment - see Table 2.2. Positive effects arising from the development of this site (including those relating to the facilitation of sustainable mobility, the development of sites that can be served by existing public infrastructure and the avoidance of the need to develop more sensitive sites by providing for development within existing settlements) have already been considered and will be further contributed toward.</p> <p>As the change would not result in significant environmental effects, SEA was not required.</p>
<p>Vary Chapter 9, Section 9.3 Part C Natural Heritage (Pages 53-54) to include the following:</p> <p>Policy Statement It is the Policy Statement of the Joint-Councils Council to NH 8 Ensure that external lighting and lighting schemes are designed so that light spillage is minimised, thereby protecting the amenities or nearby properties and wildlife including protected species.</p>	<p>These text changes facilitated the making of the Variation to the Land Use Zoning – please refer to commentary above in relation to this issue.</p> <p>The change further facilitates development at Enniscorthy, providing for Business and Technology Park developments at the subject lands. There are no additional significant adverse effects arising from this change (significant, potential or uncertain) that were not envisaged and mitigated by the SEA of the Plan. The SEA process has successfully facilitated the integration of mitigation into the Plan in order to contribute towards the protection of the environment - see Table 2.2. Positive effects arising from the development of this site (including those relating to the protection of amenities and wildlife, the facilitation of sustainable mobility, the development of sites that can be served by existing public infrastructure and the avoidance of the need to develop more sensitive sites by providing for development within existing settlements) have already been considered and will be further contributed toward.</p> <p>As the change would not result in significant environmental effects, SEA was not required.</p>
<p>Vary Chapter 10, Section 10.2 Specific Land Use Zonings (Page 61) to include the following:</p> <p>Zoning Objective L – Business and Technology Park BT Map Colour To provide for a new business and technology park. The purpose of this zoning is to provide for the development of a new business and technology park which will include office, manufacturing and incubator space. While the zoning objective indicates the different uses permitted in this zone, it is important to include a buffer area and avoid abrupt transitions in scale and use in the boundary areas of adjoining land use zones. In particular, where the business and technology park zone abuts residential areas, particular attention must be paid to the use, scale and density of development proposals in order to protect the amenities of these residential properties.</p> <p>An exclusion zone shall apply to the Killagoley Wastewater Treatment Plant until such time that it is decommissioned. . A revised buffer may be required for any pumping station at this location. Any such buffer shall be agreed with the Planning Authority.</p>	<p>These text changes facilitated the making of the Variation to the Land Use Zoning – please refer to commentary above in relation to this issue.</p> <p>The change further facilitates development at Enniscorthy, providing for Business and Technology Park developments at the subject lands. There are no additional significant adverse effects arising from this change (significant, potential or uncertain) that were not envisaged and mitigated by the SEA of the Plan. The SEA process has successfully facilitated the integration of mitigation into the Plan in order to contribute towards the protection of the environment - see Table 2.2. Positive effects arising from the development of this site (including those relating to the protection of human health, the provision of appropriate levels of water services, the protection of visual amenity, the facilitation of sustainable mobility, the development of sites that can be served by existing public infrastructure and the avoidance of the need to develop more sensitive sites by providing for development within existing settlements) have already been considered and will be further contributed toward.</p>

Variation	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening
<p>Vary Chapter 10, Section 10.3 Zoning Matrix Table (Page 63) – see Variation for detailed changes to table.</p> <p>Vary Chapter 10, Zone 2: Drumgold, Salville (Page 69 - 70) to include the following:</p> <p>The main goal within this Master Plan Zone 2 will be to facilitate the regeneration of the older more established residential areas with improved community and retail facilities, on a coordinated orderly basis and to ensure that development is sustainable and is properly integrated into the area. The Neighbourhood Centre zoning will go towards addressing the lack of retail facilities on this eastern side of the town. The Business and Technology Park zoning is identified to facilitate the provision of a new business and technology park with the intention of creating new employment opportunities for the town and surrounding area. The Planning Authorities Authority will seek an innovative approach to architectural design of new residential estates and business estates, will require a high quality of urban design and will encourage sustainable development that would complement the established adjoining uses and contribute to delivering a high quality built and natural environment in this area. The provision of integrated community facilities will also be of prime importance within this zone.</p> <p>Planning Context: The zoning objectives for the area are mainly; TC – To protect / provide for and improve town centre facilities, R – to protect/improve residential amenity and R1 – to provide for new residential communities. BT – To provide for a new business and technology park.</p> <p>The area is characterised by low rise (mainly two-storey) residential estates on the outskirts of the town. There are a number of large Greenfield sites around the fringes which are zoned for new residential development, business and technology. This area is predominantly characterised by social housing and is considered to lack community and retail services.</p> <p>Urban Design</p> <p>There will be significant opportunities in the greenfield areas/sites to develop a hierarchy of streets and, consequently, buildings at appropriate locations within the overall area.</p> <p>The main goal within Zone 2 will be to facilitate the regeneration of the older more established residential areas with improved community and retail facilities, on a coordinated orderly basis and to ensure that development is sustainable and is properly integrated into the area. The Neighbourhood Centre zoning will go towards addressing the lack of retail facilities on this eastern side of the town. The Planning Authorities will seek an innovative approach to architectural design of new residential estates and business estates, will require a high quality of urban design and will encourage sustainable development that would complement the established adjoining uses and contribute to delivering a high quality built and natural environment in this area. The provision of integrated community facilities will also be of prime importance within this zone. Low density housing will be encouraged within new residential developments around the urban fringes and residential developments in these areas should be designed so as to facilitate the integration of large areas of open space within housing developments where feasible.</p> <p>Vary the text on Map 5 as follows:</p> <p>Overview of the Area:</p> <p>The main goal within this Master Plan Zone 2 will be to facilitate the regeneration of the older more established residential areas with improved community and retail facilities, on a coordinated orderly basis and to ensure that development is sustainable and properly integrated into the area. The Neighbourhood Centre zoning will go towards addressing the lack of retail facilities on this eastern side of the town. The provision of integrated community facilities will also be of prime importance within this zone. A new business and technology park incorporating a mix of office, manufacturing and incubator space will be developed on the Business and Technology Park zoning in accordance with overall objectives to increase employment opportunities in the town.</p>	<p>As the change would not result in significant environmental effects, SEA was not required.</p>

Variation	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening
<p>Access and Linkages The emphasis will be on improvement of road infrastructure within this zone and access to the proposed M11 bypass, which will also improve accessibility in this zone. There is also potential to link the downgraded N11 to the R744 via a relief road to the rear of Salville and the Drungold areas.</p> <p>Urban Design The main goal within Zone 2 will be to facilitate the regeneration of the older more established residential areas with improved community and retail facilities, on a coordinated orderly basis and to ensure that development is sustainable and is properly integrated into the area. <i>Development on the Business and Technology Park zoning shall be designed to integrate with the existing landscape. Having regard to the exposed and elevated nature of the land, any new development on this zoning shall be of a high quality design and layout incorporating innovative high quality architecture sensitive to the existing landscape and surrounding structures, including high quality hard and soft landscaping. The development of the site shall be subject to design statement which is informed by a visual impact assessment which demonstrates that the development respects its landscape setting and will not have an adverse impact on the visual amenities of the area.</i></p> <p>Services Parts of the area are serviced by public water, public foul sewers and public storm sewers. However, there are a number of constraints namely within the Salville area regarding the sewage pipe network. Presently there is a treatment plant located on Esmonde Road which will be decommissioned in the near future once additional capacity and network is available. In particular, these These constraints relate to both the existing level of capacity within the Enniscorthy Town wastewater treatment system and the actual pipe infrastructure at a number of locations within the area. <i>The Killagoley Wastewater Treatment Plant is due to be decommissioned as part of the contract for the upgrading of the Enniscorthy Wastewater Treatment Plant at Lucas Park. The works are expected to be complete by the end of 2019. The network is also being upgraded and the Local Authority with Irish Water will ensure that this site will be served as part of that upgrade.</i></p> <p>Vary Chapter 11, Section 11.8 Environment (Pages 112 – 113) to include the following:</p> <p>Light Pollution There has been an increased tendency to illuminate buildings to an excessive degree and incorporate lighting that gives rise to glare on public roads. It shall, therefore, be a policy of the Planning Authorities Authority to minimise light pollution. Details of any external lighting scheme intended as part of any new development shall be submitted as part of the planning application. Applicants will be required to demonstrate that the lighting scheme proposed is the minimum needed for security and working purposes <i>and that the lighting is designed to so that light spillage is minimised, thereby protecting the amenities of nearby properties and wildlife including protected species.</i></p> <p>Vary Chapter 11, to include the following:</p> <p>Section 11.11 Buffer Zone for Non-Compatible Uses (Pages 114) <i>While the zoning objectives indicate the different uses permitted in each zone, it is important to avoid abrupt transitions in scale and use in the boundary areas of adjoining land use zones. In dealing with development proposals in these contiguous zonal areas, it is necessary to avoid developments which would be detrimental to the amenities of the more environmentally sensitive zone. For instance, in zones abutting 'residential areas' or abutting residential development within mixed-use zones, particular attention must be paid to the use, scale and density of development proposals in order to protect the amenities of these residential properties.</i></p>	

Table 2.2 Summary of current Plan Likely Significant effects (if unmitigated), Mitigation Measure Reference(s) from the Existing Plan

Environmental Components	Likely Significant Effect, if Unmitigated	Mitigation Measure Reference(s) from the Existing Plan, including
Biodiversity and Flora and Fauna	Likely significant effects (if unmitigated) on biodiversity arising as a result of implementing land use plans typically to include those relating to Flora and Fauna of local and international importance.	County Development Plan Objective NH0 1- NH0 8 Objective NH10- NH11 Objective T36 Objective L02 Town Development Plan Policy NH 1- NH 3
Population and Human Health	Loss of population of the county involved in land management. Spatially concentrated deterioration in human health	County Development Plan Objective NH01- NH05 Objective CF09 Objective- ED15 Objective ED19 Objective WS06 Objective COMAH02 Town Development Plan Policy- TR 1 Policy- TR 2 Policy- TR 3 Policy- TR 4 Policy- TR 5 Policy- TR 6 Policy- TR 7
Soil	Damage to the hydrological and ecological function of the soil resource	County Development Plan Objective HL01-HL02 Town Development Plan Policy- WM 1 Policy- WM 2 Policy- WM 3 Policy- WM 4 Policy- WM 6
Water	Adverse impacts upon the status and quality of water bodies	County Development Plan Objective WQ01- WQ05 Objective ED21 Objective TM14 Objective RS13 Objective CF12 Town Development Plan Policy- WS 4 Policy- SW 1 Policy- SW 2
Material Assets	Failure to provide adequate and appropriate waste water treatment and Failure to comply with drinking water regulations and serve new development with adequate drinking water that is both wholesome and clean	County Development Plan Objective SS07 Objective WW01- WW08 Objective SWM01- SWM04 Objective WS01- WS06 Objective WS08 Objective WC01-WC03 Objective T20 Town Development Plan Policy- WW 1 Policy- WW 2 Policy- WW 3 Policy- WS 1 Policy- WS 2 Policy- WS 3 Policy W1- W2 Policy WM 1- WM 4 Policy WM 6 Policy- SW 3- SW 11

Environmental Components	Likely Significant Effect, if Unmitigated	Mitigation Measure Reference(s) from the Plan, including
Cultural Heritage	<p>Effects on entries to the Record of Monuments and Places and other archaeological heritage</p> <p>Effects on entries to the Records of Protected Structures, Architectural Conservation Areas and other architectural heritage</p>	<p>County Development Plan Objective AH01- AH 11 Objective PS 01- PS 11 Objective ACA01- ACA02</p> <p>Town Development Plan Policy- BH 1- BH 14 Policy- AH 1- AH 9</p>
Air and Climatic Factors	<p>Failure to contribute towards sustainable transport and associated impacts</p> <p>Increase in the risk of flooding</p>	<p>County Development Plan Objective CC04 Objective AQ05 Objective AQ02 Objective AQ03 Objective AQ04 Objective EN07 Objective EN22 Objective CZM04 Objective WM01- WM12 Objective HL01 Objective FRM01- FRM12 Objective SWM01 Objective GI04 Objective N01-N05</p> <p>Town Development Plan Policy- CW 3 Policy- TM 6 Policy- EN 1 Policy- EN 2 Policy- EN 3 Policy- EN 4 Policy- EN 5</p>
Landscape	Occurrence of adverse visual impacts	<p>County Development Plan Objective L01- L10 Objective RH 07</p> <p>Town Development Plan Policy- BH 4</p>

2.4 Schedule 2A

PART 1

1. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources*

The changes provided by the Variation relate to the provisions of the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan which provides a framework for land use planning in Enniscorthy.

Taking the above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the degree to which the Variation and associated Town and Environs Development Plan set a framework for projects and other activities, the Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

2. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the degree to which the plan influences other plans, including those in a hierarchy*

The Variation has been made to the Town and Environs Development Plan. This Plan is influenced by higher level legislation, plans and programmes and has the potential to influence plans prepared at lower tiers including Local Area Plans and Master Plans.

Taking the above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the degree to which the Variation and associated Town Development Plan influence other plans, the Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

3. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development*

The Town and Environs Development Plan - to which the Variation relates - has undergone SEA. This process integrated environmental considerations into the Plan and found that the Plan contributes to environmental protection and management and sustainable development.

Taking the above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the relevance of the Variation and associated Town and Environs Development Plan for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development, the Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

4. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: environmental problems relevant to the plan*

Environmental problems arise where there is a conflict between current environmental conditions and legislative targets.

Through its provisions relating to environmental protection and management, the Variation and associated Town and Environs Development Plan contributes towards ensuring that environmental conditions do not get worse and, where possible, it contributes towards its amelioration.

Taking the above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from environmental problems relevant to the Variation and associated Town and Environs Development Plan, the Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

5. The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the relevance of the plan for the implementation of European Union legislation on the environment (e.g. plans linked to waste-management or water protection)

The Town and Environs Development Plan relates to the land use sector and has undergone SEA. This process integrated considerations with regard to EU and national legislation on the environment into the Plan, including those relating to the waste management and the Water Framework Directive.

Taking the above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the relevance of the Variation for the implementation of European Union legislation on the environment, the Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

PART 2

1. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects

The Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3).

2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the cumulative nature of the effects

The Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3).

3. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the transboundary nature of the effects

The Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3).

4. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)

The Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3).

5. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)

The Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3).

6. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:

a) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;

The Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3).

b) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values, and;

The Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3).

c) intensive land-use.

The Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3).

7. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, European Union or international protection status

The Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2A Part 1 above and the examination of the various parts of the Variation provided under Section 2.3).

Section 3 Conclusion

Screening is the process for deciding whether a particular plan - or variation to a plan -, other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant SEA. The report consolidates the findings of the SEA Screening process that was undertaken throughout the preparation and adoption of the Variation for the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended).

The conclusion of the SEA Screening process is that potential effects arising from the Variation are either present already (beneficial) and will be further contributed towards or will be mitigated by provisions already in force so as not to be significant (residual adverse). Therefore, it has been determined that SEA was not required to be undertaken on the Variation.

Submissions made by environmental authorities during the SEA screening consultation process and changes made by the Elected Members to the original Proposed Variation that was placed on public display have been taken into account when finalising this conclusion.

The SEA determination that was made by the Council in advance of public display of the Proposed Variation, as required by Article 7 (13K) of the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004 (SI No. 436 of 2004) (as amended), accompanies this SEA Screening Report.

Appendix I Plan/Variation Relationship with Legislation and Other Plans and Programmes

This appendix is not intended to be a full and comprehensive review of EU Directives, the transposing regulations or the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. The information is not exhaustive and it is recommended to consult the Directive, Regulation, Plan or Programme to become familiar with the full details of each.

European				
Directive/ Protocol/ Strategy/Programme	High Level Aim/ Purpose/ Objective	Lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevant legislation in Ireland	Relevance to the Plan being varied
UN Kyoto Protocol and the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II)	The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) EU member states implement measures to improve on or complement the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP 	National Policy Position and final Heads of the Climate Action and Low-Carbon Development Bill	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
EU 2020 climate and energy package	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Binding legislation which aims to ensure the European Union meets its climate and energy targets for 2020 Aims to achieve a 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels Aims to raise the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20% Achieve a 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency 	<p>Four pieces of complimentary legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reform of the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) to include a cap on emission allowances in addition to existing system of national caps Member states have agreed national targets for non-EU ETS emissions from countries outside the EU Meet the national renewable energy targets of 16% for Ireland by 2020 Prepare a legal framework for technologies in carbon capture and storage 	The Framework for Climate Change Bill European Communities (Renewable Energy) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 147/2011)	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of Community interest Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species Establish a network of Natura 2000 sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, to enable the natural habitat types and the species' habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV 	<p>European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477/2011)</p> <p>The Wildlife Act 1976 and the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000</p>	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of the Directive and transposing regulations

Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats • Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation • The species included in Annex I shall be the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1. • Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas); ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones, re-establish destroyed biotopes and creation of biotopes • Measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I is required as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. The protection of wetlands and particularly wetlands of international importance. 	European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477/2011)	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of the Directive and transposing regulations
European Union Biodiversity Strategy to 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aims to halt or reverse biodiversity loss and speed up the EUs transition towards a resource efficient and green economy • Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them insofar as feasible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlines six targets and twenty actions to aid European in halting the loss to biodiversity and eco-system services • The six targets cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity ○ Maintaining, enhancing and protecting for ecosystems, and green infrastructure ○ Ensuring sustainable agriculture, and forestry ○ Sustainable Management of fish stocks ○ Reducing invasive alien species ○ Addressing the global need to contribute towards averting global biodiversity loss 		

<p>The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC)</p> <p>Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive) • Sets new air quality objectives for PM2.5 (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives • Accounts for the possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values • Allows the possibility for time extensions of three years (PM10) or up to five years (NO2, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission. • The Fourth Daughter Directive lists pollutants, target values and monitoring requirements for the following: arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets objectives for ambient air quality • designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole • Aims to assess the ambient air quality in Member States on the basis of common methods and criteria; • Obtains information on ambient air quality in order to help combat air pollution and nuisance and to monitor long-term • trends and improvements resulting from national and Community • measures; • Ensures that such information on ambient air quality is made available to the public; • Aims to maintain air quality where it is good and improving it in other cases; • Aims to promote increased cooperation between the Member States in reducing air pollution. 	<p>Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 180 of 2011)</p> <p>Arsenic, Cadmium, Mercury, Nickel and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Ambient Air Regulations 2009 (S.I. No. 58 of 2009)</p>	<p>The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of the Directive and transposing regulations</p>
Noise Directive 2002/49/EC	<p>Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source.</p>	<p>Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw up strategic noise maps for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators and use these maps to assess the number of people which may be impacted upon as a result of excessive noise levels; • Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and • Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise. <p>Directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities.</p>	<p>Environmental Noise Regulations 2006 (S.I. No. 140 of 2006)</p>	<p>The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of the Directive and transposing regulations</p>

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Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess all water courses and coast lines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps outlining the extent or potential of flooding and assets and humans at risk in these areas at River Basin District level (Article 3(2) (b)) and areas covered by Article 5(1) and Article 13(1) (b) in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process 	<p>European Communities (Assessment and Management of Flood Risks) Regulations (S.I. 122/2010)</p> <p>European Union (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Flood Risk) Regulations 2012 (S.I. No. 470/2012)</p>	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of the Directive and transposing regulations
Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies to include inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater and their dependent wildlife and habitats Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain "good status" of water bodies Promote sustainable water usage The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive Sampling Drinking Water Directive Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive Shellfish Directive Freshwater Fish Directive Groundwater (Dangerous Substances) Directive Dangerous Substances Directive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive Achieve "good status" for all waters by December 2015 Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts Involve the public and streamline legislation Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, ground water status and protected areas Recover costs for water services 	European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations 2003 (S.I. No. 722 of 2003) (as amended)	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of the Directive and transposing regulations
Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, control and conserve groundwater Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II 	European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9/2010) (as amended)	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of the Directive and transposing regulations

Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve and maintain the quality of water intended for human consumption • Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set values applicable to water intended for human consumption for the parameters set out in Annex I • Set values for additional parameters not included in Annex I, where the protection of human health within national territory or part of it so requires. The values set should, as a minimum, satisfy the requirements of Article 4(1) (a) • Implement all measures necessary to ensure that regular monitoring of the quality of water intended for human consumption is carried out, in order to check that the water available to consumers meets the requirements of this Directive and in particular the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5 • Ensure that any failure to meet the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5 is immediately investigated in order to identify the cause • Ensure that the necessary remedial action is taken as soon as possible to restore its quality and shall give priority to their enforcement action • Undertake remedial action to restore the quality of the water where necessary to protect human health • Notify consumers when remedial action is being undertaken except where the competent authorities consider the non-compliance with the parametric value to be trivial 	<p>European Union (Drinking Water) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 106 of 2007) (as amended)</p> <p>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations 2003 (S.I. No. 722 of 2003)</p>	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of the Directive and transposing regulations
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors • The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban waste water entering collecting systems shall before discharge, be subject to secondary treatment • Annex II requires the designation of areas sensitive to eutrophication which receive water discharges • Establishes minimum requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems in specified agglomerations to include special requirements for sensitive areas and certain industrial sectors 	European Communities (Urban Waste Water Treatment) Regulations 2001 (S.I. No. 254/2001)	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of the Directive and transposing regulations

Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7. The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met 	European Communities (Environmental Liability) Regulations, 2008	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of the Directive and transposing regulations
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SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development • Provide for a high level of protection of the environment by carrying out an environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out an environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive • Prepare an environmental report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives that consider the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme • Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission • Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects • Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme • Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive • Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment 	<p>European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 435/ 2004) (as amended)</p> <p>Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436/2004) (as amended)</p>	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of the Directive and transposing regulations
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<p>EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment Aims to assess and implement avoidance or mitigation measures to eliminate environmental effects, before consent is given of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to a requirement for development consent and an assessment with regard to their effects. Those projects are defined in Article 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA For projects listed in Annex II, a "screening procedure" is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account Annex III. The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made The information to be provided by the developer in accordance with paragraph 1 shall include at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a description of the project comprising information on the site, design and size of the project; a description of the measures envisaged in order to avoid, reduce and, if possible, remedy significant adverse effects; the data required to identify and assess the main effects which the project is likely to have on the environment; an outline of the main alternatives studied by the developer and an indication of the main reasons for his choice, taking into account the environmental effects; a non-technical summary of the information referred to each of the above 	<p>European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 1989 (S.I. No. 349/1989) (as amended)</p> <p>European Union (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Flood Risk) Regulations 2012 (S.I. No. 470/2012)</p>	<p>The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of the Directive and transposing regulations</p>
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National				
Policy/ Framework / Initiative / Strategy	High Level Aim/ Purpose/ Objective	Lower level relevant objectives, actions etc.	Relevant legislation	Relevance to the Plan being varied
Infrastructure and Capital Investment 2012-16: Medium Term Exchequer Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviews infrastructure and capital spending over a medium timeframe to ensure investment is made in the best areas Identifies gaps in existing infrastructure that require addressing to aid economic recovery, social cohesion and environmental sustainability 	<p>The approach identifies four main components of the investment strategy as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic infrastructure- encompassing transport networks, energy provisions and telecommunications capacity Investment in the productive sector and human capital- such as direct supports for enterprise development; science, technology and innovation advancement; supports for tourism, agriculture, fisheries and forestry; and capital investment in education infrastructure Environmental Infrastructure- including our waste and water systems and investment for environmental sustainability Critical social investment- such as health service and social housing problems 	Not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards - in combination with other users and bodies- the achievement of objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental and management
Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015	The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 provides for: the approval of plans by the Government in relation to climate change for the purpose of pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy; the establishment of a body to be known in the Irish language as An Chomhairle Chomhairleach um Athrú Aeráide or, in the English language, as the Climate Change Advisory Council; and matters connected therewith.	<p>Ireland's first-ever dedicated climate change law, the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015, provides for the making of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> five-yearly National Mitigation Plans to specify the policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions a National Adaptation Framework to specify the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change. <p>The Act also establishes the Climate Change Advisory Council to advise ministers and the government on climate change matters.</p>	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management

Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future – A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2020 (2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlines a policy for how a sustainable travel and transport system can be achieved • Sets out five key goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To reduce overall travel demand. ○ To maximise the efficiency of the transport network. ○ To reduce reliance on fossil fuels. ○ To reduce transport emissions. ○ To improve accessibility to transport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Others lower level aims include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ reduce distance travelled by private car and encourage smarter travel, including focusing population growth in areas of employment and to encourage people to live in close proximity to places of employment ○ ensuring that alternatives to the car are more widely available, mainly through a radically improved public transport service and through investment in cycling and walking ○ improving the fuel efficiency of motorised transport through improved fleet structure, energy efficient driving and alternative technologies ○ strengthening institutional arrangements to deliver the targets 	not applicable	In combination with this Policy the Plan as varied will contribute towards smarter travel and associated positive environmental effects.
Ireland's First National Cycle Policy Framework (2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlines objectives and actions aimed at developing a strong cycle network in Ireland • Sets out 19 specific objectives, and details the 109 actions, aimed at ensuring that a cycling culture is developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets a target where 10% of all journeys will be made by bike by 2020 • Proposes the planning, infrastructure, communication, education and stakeholder participations measures required to implement the initiative 	not applicable	In combination with this Framework the Plan as varied will contribute towards smarter travel and associated positive environmental effects.
Scoping Study for a National Cycle Network (NCN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigated the feasibility of developing a National Cycle Network for recreational routes in rural areas, urban areas and connecting larger urban areas • The scoping study and subsequent workshops resulted in a recommended National Cycle Network 	not applicable	not applicable	In combination with this Study the Plan as varied will contribute towards smarter travel and associated positive environmental effects.
Strategic Framework for Integrated Land use and Transport (SFILT) – Department of Transport, Tourism And Sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presents the findings and conclusions of a steering group which was convened and tasked with overseeing the preparation of an integrated, evidence-based framework that would guide key land transport investment decisions. 	<p>Key features of the framework policy include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on economic growth • Principles to frame future investment 	not applicable	In combination with this Study the Plan as varied will contribute towards smarter travel and associated positive environmental effects.
National Climate Change Strategy 2007 – 2012 (2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlines measures to be undertaken to meet greenhouse gas emission commitments 	not applicable	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management

Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland – The Energy Policy Framework 2007 – 2020 (2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> White paper setting out a framework for delivering a sustainable energy future in Ireland Outlines strategic Goals for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Security of Supply Sustainability of Energy Competitiveness of Energy Supply 	<p>The underpinning Strategic Goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that electricity supply consistently meets demand Ensuring the physical security and reliability of gas supplies to Ireland Enhancing the diversity of fuels used for power generation Delivering electricity and gas to homes and businesses over efficient, reliable and secure networks Creating a stable attractive environment for hydrocarbon exploration and production Being prepared for energy supply disruptions 	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
National Climate Change Adaptation Framework (DECLG, 2012)	National Climate Change Adaptation Framework provides a strategic policy focus to ensure adaptation measures are taken across different sectors and levels of government to reduce Ireland's vulnerability to the negative impacts of climate change.	<p>Actions include those relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and Knowledge Base Governance Local Plans Stakeholder Consultation 	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
National Renewable Energy Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A strategic approach for Ireland including measures to meet European targets for 2020 including Ireland's 16% target of gross final consumption to come from renewables by 2020 	not applicable	Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28/EC	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland 2007 – 2020 (2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the second National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Plan reviews the original 90 actions outlined in the first Plan and updates/renews/removes them as appropriate 	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
Sustainable Development – A Strategy for Ireland (1997)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an analysis and a strategic framework for sustainable development in Ireland Identifies the approaches required to support sustainable development 	not applicable	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
Wildlife Act of 1976 Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems Give statutory protection to NHAs Enhances wildlife species and their habitats Includes more species for protection 	not applicable	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of this legislation

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Actions for Biodiversity 2011-2016 Ireland's National Biodiversity Plan, 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out strategic objectives, targets and actions to conserve and restore Ireland's biodiversity and to prevent and reduce the loss of biodiversity in Ireland and globally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To mainstream biodiversity in the decision-making process across all sectors To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity To increase awareness and appreciation of biodiversity and ecosystems services To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider countryside To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the marine environment To expand and improve on the management of protected areas and legally protected species To substantially strengthen the effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services 	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
The Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out comprehensive mechanisms for the incorporation of flood risk identification, assessment and management into the planning process Ensures flood risk is a key consideration in preparing development plans and local area plans and in the assessment of planning applications Implementation of the Guidelines is through actions at national, regional, local authority and site-specific levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding Avoid new developments increasing flood risk elsewhere, including that which may arise from surface water run-off Ensure effective management of residual risks for development permitted in floodplains Avoid unnecessary restriction of national, regional or local economic and social growth Improve the understanding of flood risk among relevant stakeholders Ensure that the requirements of EU and national law in relation to the natural environment and nature conservation are complied with at all stages of flood risk management. 	<p>Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)</p> <p>S.I. No. 122/2010 EC (Assessment and Management of Flood Risks) Regulations 2010</p> <p>S.I. No. 470/2012 European Union (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Flood Risk) Regulations 2012.</p>	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of these Guidelines
<p>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of 2003)</p> <p>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water Identifies the competent authorities in charge of water policy (amended to Irish Water in 2013) and gives EPA and the CER the authority to regulate and supervise their actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implements River basin districts and characterisation of RBDs and River Basin Management Plans Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on RBDs Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater 	Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of this legislation

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European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transpose the requirements of the Water Framework Directive into Irish Legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies Outlines surface water quality standards Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality 	Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of this legislation
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations of 2010 (SI 9 of 2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transpose the requirements of the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC into Irish Legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for groundwater bodies of groundwater against pollution and deterioration in quality Sets groundwater quality standards Outlines threshold values for the classification and protection of groundwater 	Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9/2010) (as amended)	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of this legislation
Water Pollution Acts 1977 to 1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division 	The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> prosecute for water pollution offences; attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters; issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution; issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remedying of any effects of the pollution in the manner and within the period specified in such notices; seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects; prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas 	Water Services Act 2013	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of this legislation
European Communities (Urban Waste Water Treatment) Regulations 2001 (S.I. No. 254/2001)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transpose the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive into Irish Legislation Aims to protect receiving waters from environmental damage arising from Urban Wastewater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets out the legislative requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems Provides for monitoring programmes of discharges Specifies threshold values and minimum standards for water quality 	Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of this legislation

<p>Water Services Act 2007</p> <p>Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012</p> <p>Water Services Act (No. 2) 2013</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides the water services infrastructure Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and waste water supply Irish Water was given the responsibility of the provision of water and wastewater services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland 	<p>Key strategic objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring Irish Water delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector. Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services in the gateways and hubs listed in the National Spatial Strategy, and in other locations where services need to be enhanced. Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary wastewater treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive. Promoting water conservation through Irish Water's Capital Investment Plan, the Rural Water Programme and other measures. Monitoring the on-going implementation of septic tanks inspection regime and the National Inspection Plan for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems. Ensuring a fair funding model to deliver water services. Overseeing the establishment of an economic regulation function under the CER. 	not applicable	The Council is obliged to comply with, as relevant and appropriate, the requirements of this legislation
Irish Water's Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and associated Proposed Capital Investment Plan 2014-2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Water Services Strategic Plan sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040. It details current and future challenges which affect the provision of water services and identifies the priorities to be tackled in the short and medium term. 	<p>Six strategic objectives as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet Customer Expectations. Ensure a Safe and Reliable Water Supply. Provide Effective Management of Wastewater. Protect and Enhance the Environment. Support Social and Economic Growth. Invest in Our Future. 	The Water Services (No. 2) Act (2013)	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020 (2002) (to be replaced by National Planning Framework – in preparation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning framework for Ireland Aims to achieve a better balance of social, economic and physical development across Ireland, supported by effective planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposes that areas of sufficient scale and critical mass will be built up through a network of gateways, hubs and key town 	Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management

Grid25 Implementation Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Framework for the development of the electricity transmission grid in the short, medium and long terms, to support a long-term sustainable and reliable electricity supply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeks to implement the provisions of the 2007 Government White Paper on Energy - "Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland" in terms of development of electricity transmission infrastructure 	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
Food Harvest 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Harvest 2020 is a roadmap for the Irish food industry, as it seeks to innovate and expand in response to increased global demand for quality foods. It sets out a vision for the potential growth in agricultural output after the removal of milk quotas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development. 	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
National Landscape Strategy 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aims to implement the European Landscape Convention in Ireland by providing for specific measures to promote the protection, management and planning of the landscape. 	<p>The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise landscapes in law Develop a National Landscape Character Assessment; Develop Landscape Policies; Increase Landscape Awareness; Identity Education, Research and Training Needs; and Strengthen Public Participation. 	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
National Rural Development Programme (draft/in preparation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas 	<p>At a more detailed level, the programme also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation; Aims to improve the environment, biodiversity and the amenity value of the countryside by support for land management through funds such as Natura 2000 payments etc.; and Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as non-agricultural activities 	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management

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National Forestry Programme 2014-2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represents Ireland's proposals for 100% State aid funding for a new Forestry Programme for the period 2014 – 2020. 	<p>Measures include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Afforestation and Creation of Woodland NeighbourWood Scheme Forest Roads Reconstitution Scheme Woodland Improvement Scheme Native Woodland Conservation Scheme Knowledge Transfer and Information Actions Producer Groups Innovative Forest Technology Forest Genetic Reproductive Material Forest Management Plans 	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
National Peatlands Strategy (draft/in preparation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Draft Strategy, prepared by the National Parks and Wildlife Service, will, when finalised, establish principles in relation to Irish peatlands in order to guide Government policy. The Draft Strategy aims to provide a framework for which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and economic contribution. 	not applicable	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
National Biodiversity Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Action Plan sets out an integrated strategy for collective delivery of the potential benefits of bioenergy resources across the agriculture, enterprise, transport, environment and energy sectors. 	Includes detailed actions for the electricity sector, transport fuel sector, heat sector, research and development sector.	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme (draft/in preparation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive. 	<p>CFRAM Studies are being undertaken for all River Basin Districts.</p> <p>The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. In 2014, draft Flood Maps will be published. The final output from the studies will be CFRAM Plans, to be published in December 2016. The Plans will define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed.</p>	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management

Regional and Inter-County				
Plan / Programme / Guidelines	High Level Aim/ Purpose/ Objective	Lower level relevant objectives, actions etc.	Relevant legislation in Ireland	Relevance to the Plan being varied
Regional Planning Guidelines for the South-East Region 2010-2022 (to be replaced by a Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy – preparation to commence)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a long-term strategic planning framework for the South-East Region with the objective of implementing the NSS at regional level and achieving balanced development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combine the strengths of the cities and towns in the Region to achieve sufficient critical mass to compete with larger urban centres in other regions Progress towards an accessible Region with efficient and fully integrated transport systems Broaden and strengthen the economic base of the Region and seek to achieve innovation and enterprise in indigenous and emerging industry sectors, such as green/renewable energy, and greater economic competitiveness and growth Provide for world class higher education, research and development and links to the knowledge economy Tackle inequality, education disadvantage and social deprivation by providing improved public services and social and community infrastructure Maintain the character and vitality of rural areas and conserve the Regions characteristic landscape and heritage assets Promote and support the creation of a more sustainable self-sufficient Region with greater use of renewable resources and development of regional food supplies. 	Requirement of the Planning and Development Act (2000), as amended	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
South Eastern River Basin Management Plans and associated Programmes of Measures (a new River Basin Management Plan is currently in preparation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies at River Basin District (RBD) level Preserve, prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain “good status” of water bodies in that RBD before 2015 Promote sustainable water usage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aim to protect and enhance all water bodies in the RBD and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Water Framework Directive Identify and manages water bodies in the RBD Establish a programme of measures for monitoring and improving water quality in the RBD Involve the public through consultations 	<p>Requirement of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)</p> <p>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations, 2003 (SI No. 722) (as amended)</p> <p>Guidelines for the Establishment of River Basin District Advisory Councils (RBDAC)</p>	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
Water Quality Management Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the quality of waters covered by the plan is maintained Maintain and improve the quantity and quality of water included in the Plan scope 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring of water bodies against quality standards Outlines management programmes for water catchments Purpose is to maintain and improve the quantity and quality of groundwater 	Water Pollution Acts 1977 to 1990	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management

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Management Plans for Natura 2000 sites (note that no Management Plans which have been prepared for Natura 2000 sites relevant to the Plan)	Article 6(1) of the Habitats Directive requires that Member States establish the necessary conservation measures for Special Area of Conservation involving, if need be, appropriate management plans specifically designed for the sites or integrated into other development plans.	Integrated Management Plans can be practical, achievable and sustainable and have regard to all relevant ecological, cultural, social and economic considerations and with special regard to local communities.	Habitats Directive	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
Outputs from the South Eastern and Shannon Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive. The Programme is being implemented through CFRAM Studies which are being undertaken for each of the six river basin districts in Ireland. 	CFRAM Studies are being undertaken for all River Basin Districts. The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. Flood Risk Maps have been published and the final output from the studies will be CFRAM Plans that are being finalised in 2017. These Plans define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed.	not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
South Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021	The regional plan provides the framework for waste management for a period of six years and sets out a range of policies and actions in order to meet specified mandatory and performance targets. The strategic vision of the regional waste plan is to rethink our approach to managing waste, by viewing our waste streams as valuable material resources, leading to a healthier environment and sustainable commercial opportunities for our economy.	<p>Strategic objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy & Legislation Prevention Resource Efficiency Coordination Infrastructure Planning Enforcement & Regulations Protection Other Wastes 	European Directive (2008/98/EC) on Waste (Waste Framework Directive); Council Decision (200/532/EC) establishing a list of wastes; and Regulation (1013/2006) on the shipments of waste	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
Freshwater Pearl Mussel Basin Management Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies the current status of the species and the reason for loss or decline Identifies measure required to improve or restore current status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies pressures on Freshwater Pearl Mussels for each of the designated populations in Ireland Outlines restoration measures required to ensure favourable conservation status 	Requirement of Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) and Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations 2003 (S.I. No. 722 of 2003) European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477/2011) The Wildlife Act 1976 and the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management

County and Local				
Plan / Programme / Guidelines	High Level Aim/ Purpose/ Objective	Lower level relevant objectives, actions etc.	Relevant legislation in Ireland	Relevance to the Plan being varied
County Wexford Biodiversity Action Plan 2012-2017	The aim of the County Wexford Heritage Plan is to create and promote and increased knowledge, awareness and appreciation of the natural, built and cultural heritage of County Wexford and to conserve it for future generations, in other words: notice-care-enjoy.	Objective 1: Collect and disseminate heritage information- 'Notice' To facilitate the development of a comprehensive heritage database for the county, to make this information available to all. Objective 2: Promote best practice in heritage conservation and management- 'Care' To promote and advise on best practice in heritage conservation and management within the County. Objective 3: Raise awareness of our heritage-'Enjoy' To increase knowledge, awareness understanding and enjoyment of Wexford's heritage.	Not applicable	To cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
County Development Plans, Local Area Plans and associated documents in the following authorities: Carlow, Kilkenny, Wicklow, Waterford and Wexford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statutory documents which provide detailed planning policies to ensure proper planning and sustainable development of area Set out objectives for future planning and development County Development Plans provide the key parameters for lower tier plans such as the future population and housing targets and sets out the broad strategy for future economic and social development of these towns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify issues of relevance to the area and outlines principles for future development of area Is consistent with relevant County /Town Development Plans, National Spatial Strategy and Reginal Planning Guidelines 	Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)	To cumulatively contribute towards - in combination with other users and bodies- the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
Groundwater Protection Scheme for County Wexford	Undertaken jointly between the GSI and Wexford County Council, the purpose of the scheme is to preserve the quality of groundwater, particularly for drinking water purposes, for the benefit of present and future generations	The scheme identifies the vulnerability of areas within the County and Groundwater protection responses for existing and new potentially polluting activities	Groundwater Protection Schemes Guidelines document (DELG/EPS/GSI, 1999)	To cumulatively contribute towards - in combination with other users and bodies- the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
Local Economic and Community Plan for County Wexford	The LECP is set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development of the local authority area, both by itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders.	The LECP and County Development Plan are closely linked. The LECP must be consistent with the Core Strategy of the development plan and the development plan will need to underpin the aims of the LECP where there are 'land use' or 'development' related objectives contained in the LECP. The development plan gives effect to the objectives of the LECP.	Local Government Reform Act 2014	To cumulatively contribute towards - in combination with other users and bodies- the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019	Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 sets out Wexford County Council's intentions for the future development of land, including measures for the improvement of the natural and physical environment and the provision of infrastructure.	To provide an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the County.	Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)	To cumulatively contribute towards - in combination with other users and bodies- the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management

Various Projects within and beyond Enniscorthy	<p>Projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Enniscorthy Flood Relief Scheme; • The M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy Scheme; and • The Enniscorthy Main Drainage Scheme. 	<p>The Enniscorthy Flood Relief Scheme combines a number of measures to prevent flooding in the town. These include river channel widening, river deepening, bridge relocation, and the construction of extensive glass panelled flood walls through the town. The details of this project are not available yet as it is still in preparation. In-combination effects will be undertaken at project level.</p> <p>The M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy Scheme includes road works, and bypass development to the M11/N11 road around Enniscorthy. The scheme was subject to a full EIA and NIS and contain robust policies and objectives to ensure to protect water quality.</p> <p>The Enniscorthy Main Drainage Scheme aims to extend the existing WWTP in Enniscorthy and decommission the Killagoley WWTP when the capacity is sufficient. The scheme was subject to a full EIA and NIS and contain robust policies and objectives to ensure to protect water quality.</p>	Various	To cumulatively contribute towards - in combination with other users and bodies- the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
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SCREENING STATEMENT

**IN SUPPORT OF THE
APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT**

**OF THE
VARIATION No. 2**

**FOR THE
ENNISCORTHY TOWN AND ENVIRONS
DEVELOPMENT PLAN
2008-2014
(AS EXTENDED)**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF
ARTICLE 6(3) OF THE EU HABITATS DIRECTIVE**

for: Wexford County Council

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Carricklawn,
Co. Wexford



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JULY 2017

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

CAAS has been appointed by Wexford County Council to prepare this Screening Statement in support of the Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Variation No. 2 to the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive¹.

An Appropriate Assessment is a requirement of Article 6 of the Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) (hereafter referred to as the "Habitats Directive"). The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the "Favourable Conservation Status" of habitats and species of European Community Interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives (Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds) with Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as European Sites.

European and national legislation places a collective obligation on Ireland and its citizens to maintain habitats and species in the European Sites at favourable conservation condition. The Government and its agencies are responsible for the implementation and enforcement of regulations (in particular Part XAB of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010 and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 (S.I. 477) (often referred to as the Habitats Regulations) to ensure the ecological integrity of these sites. Appropriate Assessment (AA) is an assessment of whether a plan or project, alone and in combination with other plans or projects, could have significant effects on a European Site in view of the site's conservation objectives.

Similarly, a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening has been undertaken to assess the impacts of the Variation No. 2 on a number of environmental considerations including biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between these considerations, whenever applicable.

1.2 Legislative Context

The Appropriate Assessment process (AA) is an assessment of the potential for adverse or negative effects of a plan or project, in combination with other plans or projects, on the conservation objectives of a European Site. These sites consist of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and provide for the protection and long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats.

The Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, better known as "The Habitats Directive", provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. Articles 3 to 9 provide the legislative means to protect habitats and species of Community interest through the establishment and conservation of an EU-wide network of sites known as Natura 2000. In Ireland, these are candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSACs) designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (79/409/ECC), hereafter referred to as European Sites.

Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans and projects likely to affect European Sites. Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for AA:

¹ Directive 92/43/EEC

"Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the [Natura 2000] site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subjected to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.

If, in spite of a negative assessment of the implications for the [Natura 2000] site and in the absence of alternative solutions, a plan or project must nevertheless be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature, Member States shall take all compensatory measures necessary to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. It shall inform the Commission of the compensatory measures adopted.

Where the site concerned hosts a priority natural habitat type and/or a priority species the only considerations which may be raised are those relating to human health or public safety, to beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment or, further to an opinion from the Commission, to other imperative reasons of overriding public interest."

These requirements are implemented in the Republic of Ireland by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011. These regulations consolidate the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 to 2005 and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Control of Recreational Activities) Regulations 2010, as well as addressing transposition failures identified in judgements of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU).

If, in spite of a negative assessment of the implications for the site and in the absence of alternative solutions, a plan or project may nevertheless be carried out for "Imperative Reasons Of Overriding Public Interest", including those of a social or economic nature, the Member State shall take all compensatory measures necessary to ensure that the overall coherence of European suite is protected. It shall inform the Commission of the compensatory measures adopted. Where the site concerned hosts a priority natural habitat type and/or a priority species, the only considerations which may be raised are those relating to human health or public safety, to beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment or, further to an opinion from the Commission, to other imperative reasons of overriding public interest.

Appropriate Assessment should be based on best scientific knowledge and Planning Authorities should ensure that scientific data (ecological and hydrological expertise) is utilised. This report details a Screening Statement to inform the AA process which is finalised by the statutory authority.

1.3 Guidance

This Screening Statement has been prepared in accordance with the following guidance:

- *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities. Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2010.*
- *Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, European Commission Environment DG, 2002.*
- *Managing Natura 2000 sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC: European Commission, 2000.*

- *Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg (EC 2001);*
- *Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC – Clarification of the concepts of: alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding public interest, compensatory measures, overall coherence, opinion of the commission. Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg (EC 2007).*
- *Flora (Protection) Order, 1999 (As amended 2015)*

In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and 'grey' literature was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife Website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives. The EPA Envision Map-viewer (www.epa.ie) and available reports were also reviewed.

Definitions of conservation status, integrity and significance used in this assessment are defined in accordance with 'Managing Natura 2000 sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC' (EC, 2000).

- The conservation status of a natural habitat is defined as the sum of the influences acting on a natural habitat and its typical species that may affect its long-term natural distribution, structure and functions as well as the long-term survival of its typical species;
- The conservation status of a species is defined as the sum of the influences acting on the species concerned that may affect the long-term distribution and abundance of its population;
- The integrity of a European Site is defined as the coherence of the site's ecological structure and function, across its whole area, or the habitats, complex of habitats and/or populations of species for which the site is or will be classified;
Significant effect should be determined in relation to the specific features and environmental conditions of the protected site concerned by the plan or project, taking particular account of the site's conservation objectives.

1.4 Approach

There are four main stages in the AA process; the requirements for each depending on likely impacts to European Sites (SAC/ SPA).

Stage One: Screening

The process which identifies the likely impacts upon a European Site of a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant.

Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment

The consideration of the impact on the integrity of the European Site of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's structure and function and its conservation objectives. Additionally, where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts. If adequate mitigation is to ensure no significant adverse impacts on European Sites, then the process may end at this stage. However, if the likelihood of significant impacts remains, then the process must proceed to Stage 3.

Stage Three: Assessment of Alternative Solutions

The process which examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoids adverse impacts on the integrity of the European Site.

Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain

An assessment of compensatory measures where, in the light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), it is deemed that the project or plan should proceed.

The Habitats Directive promotes a hierarchy of avoidance, mitigation and compensatory measures. First, the plan should aim to avoid any impacts on European Sites by identifying possible impacts early in the plan-making process and writing the plan in order to avoid such impacts. Second, mitigation measures should be applied, if necessary, during the AA process to the point where no adverse impacts on the site(s) remain. If the plan is still likely to result in impacts on European Sites, and no further practicable mitigation is possible, then it must be rejected. If no alternative solutions are identified and the plan is required for imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI test) under Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, then compensation measures are required for any remaining adverse effect.

1.4.1 Source-Pathway-Receptor Model

Ecological impact assessment of potential effects on European Sites is conducted following a standard source-pathway-receptor model, where, in order for an effect to be established all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence or removal of one of the elements of the mechanism is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

- Source(s) – e.g. pollutant run-off from works.
- Pathway(s) – e.g. groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats.
- Receptor(s) – qualifying aquatic habitats and species of European Sites.

In the interest of this report, receptors are the ecological features which are known to be utilised by the qualifying interests or special conservation interests of a European Site. A source is any identifiable element of the Variation which is known to have interactions with ecological processes. The pathways are any connections or links between the source and the receptor. This report determines if direct, indirect and cumulative adverse effects (however minor) will arise from the development.

1.4.2 Zone of Influence

Following the source-pathway-receptor process a Zone of Influence (ZOI) will be determined based on the characteristics of the development (detailed in section 3.2) and the foreseen distribution of likely effects through any pathways identified. Once the ZOI is established, all European Sites within it will be assessed with specific reference to the sensitive receptors of each site and pathways for effect that relate to the ecological integrity of the site.

2 Description and background of the Variation No. 2 to Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended)

2.1 Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended)

The purpose of this Enniscorthy Town Development Plan is to set out a framework for the sustainable development of Enniscorthy so that growth may take place in a coordinated and orderly manner, whilst protecting and preserving the towns intrinsic character, heritage and amenity and making a positive contribution to an improvement in the quality of life. The plan addresses a range of development pressures and needs within the Town. There is a need to consolidate town progression in a sustainable and orderly manner in order to adequately provide for the physical and social infrastructural requirements for the Town.

2.1.1 Existing Policies and Objectives relating to the protection of European Sites

Given the uncertainties that exist with regard to the scale and location of developments facilitated by Enniscorthy TDP, it is recognised that the identification of effects is limited and effects to the integrity of European Sites will be further assessed through project-level AA. In addition to this condition there are a number of policies and objectives related to the protection of ecological process incorporated into the Enniscorthy TDP and Wexford CDP.

Enniscorthy Town Development Plan provisions including:	Wexford County Development Plan provisions including:
<p>Objective</p> <p>It is an objective of the Joint Councils to conserve, protect and enhance in general the character of Enniscorthy as defined by its natural heritage and biodiversity, built environment, landscape and culture. The following principles will guide the Joint Councils heritage objectives and policies as set out in the Enniscorthy Town Development Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To avoid unnecessary harm to heritage; • To ensure that any plan or project and any associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any Natura 2000 site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where the plan/project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan/project will proceed only after it has been ascertained that it will 	<p>Objective NH0 1 To Conserve and protect the integrity of sites designated for their habitat/wildlife or geological/geomorphological importance and prohibit development which would damage or threaten the integrity of these sites, including SACs, CSAC, SPAs, NHAs, pNHAs, Nature Reserves and Refuges for Fauna.</p> <p>Objective NH02</p> <p>To recognise the importance of recommended NHAs and County Geological sites identified by the Geological Survey of Ireland and protect the character and integrity of these sites where appropriate.</p> <p>Objective NH 03 To ensure that any plan or project and any associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any Natura 200 site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where the plan/project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan/project will proceed only after it has been ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective NH 04 To ensure the protection and conservation of areas, sites and species and ecological networks/corridors of local biodiversity value outside the designated sites throughout the County.</p> <p>Objective NH 05 To ensure that traditional field boundaries, ponds or small woods which provide important ecological networks are protected. Where such features exist on land which is to be developed the applicant should demonstrate that the design of the development has resulted in the retention of these features insofar as is possible and that the existing biodiversity value of the site has been protected</p>

<p>not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote appropriate enhancement as an integral part of any development; • To promote a reasonable balance between conservation measures and development measures in the interests of promoting the orderly and sustainable development of Enniscorthy <p>Policy- NH 1 To ensure that appropriate measures for conservation and enhancement of the natural and built environment are incorporated into all relevant plans and programmes of Enniscorthy Town Council and Wexford County Council</p> <p>Policy- NH 2 To require potential developers to consult with relevant agencies as early as possible (i.e. prior to lodging a planning application) to ensure that heritage concerns are considered early in the planning process and so that the final planning application can be appropriately informed.</p> <p>Policy- NH 3 To work with the relevant agencies in promoting awareness of and pride in the natural, built and archaeological heritage of Enniscorthy. This will be achieved by producing leaflets, publications, town walks and heritage trails that seek to promote all aspects of the town's heritage.</p> <p>Light Pollution There has been an increased tendency to illuminate buildings to an excessive degree and incorporate lighting that gives rise to glare on public roads. It shall, therefore, be a policy of the Planning Authorities to minimise light pollution. Details of any external lighting scheme intended as part of any new development shall be submitted as part of the planning application. Applicants will be required to demonstrate that the lighting scheme is the minimum needed for security and working purposes.</p> <p>Policy- WS 4 Promote public awareness on the maintenance of water quality and economic and sustainable use.</p>	<p>and enhanced.</p> <p>Objective NH 06 To protect individual or groups of trees and woodlands of particular amenity and nature conservation value and make Tree Preservation Orders where appropriate.</p> <p>Objective NH 07 To protect woodlands and hedgerows from damage and/or degradation and work to prevent the disruption of the connectivity of the woodlands and hedgerows of the County.</p> <p>Objective NH 08 To ensure, where appropriate, applications for development include proposals for native planting and leave a suitable ecological buffer zone between the development works and areas or features of ecological importance. Where hedgerows are required to be removed require the applicant/developer to reinstate the hedgerows with a suitable replacement of native species to the satisfaction of the council.</p> <p>Objective NH10 To implement the actions identified in the Draft County Wexford Biodiversity Action Plan 2012-2017, or any subsequent plan, in partnership with all relevant parties and stakeholders.</p> <p>Objective NH11 To complete the mapping of ecological networks/corridors of local biodiversity value outside of designated sites and afford appropriate protection to areas of ecological importance as required.</p> <p>Lighting related provisions</p> <p>Objective T36 To restrict advertising or lighting proposals in the proximity of roads having due regard to safety and amenity issues and the development management standards in Chapter 18 of the Plan.</p> <p>Objective L02 To ensure that external lighting and lighting schemes are designed so that light spillage is minimised, thereby protecting the amenities of nearby properties and wildlife, including protected species.</p> <p>Objective WQ01 To protect existing and potential water resources for the county, in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC) the South-East River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015 and any updated version, the Pollution Reduction Programmes for designated shellfish waters, the provisions of Groundwater Protection Scheme for the county any other protection plans for water supply sources, with an aim to improving all water quality.</p> <p>Objective WQ02 To promote compliance with the requirements of the European Communities (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 and the European Communities (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 and any other relevant legislation.</p> <p>Objective WQ03 To continue to improve water quality by implementing the measures outlined in the Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC) and the national Nitrates Action Programme.</p> <p>Objective WQ04 To ensure that developments permitted comply with the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive, the relevant River Basin Management Plans and the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective WQ05 To ensure that development permitted would not have an unacceptable impact on water quality and quantity, including surface water, ground water, designated source protection areas, river corridors and associated wetlands, estuarine waters, coastal and transitional waters.</p> <p>Objective ED21 To support the development of the fisheries and aquaculture industry and support its diversification at appropriate locations, having regard to the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive, the relevant River Basin Management Plans and the Habitats Directive.</p>
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Policy SW 1 - Protect existing groundwater aquifers and surface waters from pollution.

Policy SW 2 - Protect the water quality of the River Slaney and continue to implement the Water Quality Management Plan for the River Slaney, and to ensure that the water quality of the river is maintained at a satisfactory level in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive and EU Directive Number 78/659 that lists the river as a salmonid river.

Policy SW 3 - Prevent the alteration of natural drainage systems and in the case of development works require the provisions of acceptable mitigation measures in order to minimise the risk of flooding and negative impacts on water quality.

Policy SW 4 - Promote storm water retention facilities for new developments and existing catchment areas.

Policy SW 5 - Ensure that development should not itself be subject to an inappropriate risk of flooding nor should it cause or exacerbate such a risk at other locations.

Policy SW 6 - Preserve and protect the water quality of the natural wetlands and flood plains of the River Slaney where these help to regulate stream flow, recharge ground water and screen pollutants.

Policy SW 7 - Control development in any flood plain. Development will only be permitted when the Councils are satisfied that new and existing developments are not exposed to increased risk of flooding and that any loss of flood storage is compensated for elsewhere in the river catchment.

Policy SW 8 - Require that a Flood Risk Assessment and proposals for the storage or attenuation of run/off discharges (including foul drains) must accompany applications for planning permission for all significant developments (greater than 1 ha) to ensure that the development does not increase the flood risk in the relevant catchment. For smaller developments (1 ha or less), a certificate from a suitably qualified competent person stating that the development will not contribute to flooding within the relevant catchment must accompany applications for planning

Objective ED21 To support the development of the fisheries and aquaculture industry and support its diversification at appropriate locations, having regard to the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive, the relevant River Basin Management Plans and the Habitats Directive.

Objective TM14 To ensure the full recreational potential of the River Barrow and its estuary is realised whilst taking cognisance of the aims and objectives of the South Eastern River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015 and the requirement to achieve good status by 2015 and that all development is undertaken in compliance with Articles 6 and Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.

Objective RS13 To facilitate the sustainable development of eco-tourism at appropriate locations in the county, whilst protecting areas of ecological value and ensuring that any development takes cognisance of the aims and objectives of the Water Framework Directive and ensuring that all development is undertaken in compliance with Articles 6 and Article 10 of the Habitats Directive

Objective RS24 To promote the development of riverside walking routes, whilst protecting areas of ecological value and ensuring that any development takes cognisance of the aims and objectives of the Water Framework Directive and ensuring that all development is undertaken in compliance with Articles 6 and Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.

Objective CF12 Facilitate the provision of new burial grounds and the extension of existing burial grounds as appropriate to cater for the needs of a multi-cultural county, ensuring that any development takes cognisance of the aims and objectives of the Water Framework Directive and achieving good status by 2015 and that all development is undertaken in compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

Objective FRM01 To carry out flood risk assessment for the purpose of regulating, restricting and controlling development in areas at risk of flooding and to minimise the level of flood risk to people, business, infrastructure and the environment through the identification and management of existing and potential future flood risk.

Objective FRM02 To ensure that flood risk management is incorporated into the preparation of all town development plans and local area plans through the preparation of Stage Two Strategic Flood Risk Assessments for the respective plan areas in accordance with the requirements of the Planning System and Flood Risk Management-Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DEHLG and OPW, 2009).

Objective FRM03 To apply the sequential approach which is based on the principles of avoidance, reduction and mitigation of flood risks when preparing town development plans and local area plans and when assessing planning applications for development proposals.

Objective FRM04 To ensure that all development proposals comply with the requirements of the Planning System and Flood Risk Management-Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (DEHLG and OPW 2009) and to ensure that the Justification Test for Development Management is applied to required development proposals and in accordance with methodology set out in the guidelines.

Objective FRM05 To have regard to any future flood hazard maps, flood risk maps and flood risk management plans prepared as part of the South-East Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study.

Objective FRM06 To require the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) to minimise the extent of hard surfacing and paving and require the use of sustainable drainage for new development or extensions to existing developments.

Objective FRM07 To protect and enhance the county's floodplains, wetlands and coastal areas as 'green infrastructure' which provides space for storage and conveyance of floodwater, enabling flood risk to be more effectively managed and reducing the need to provide flood defences in the future, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in

<p>permission. A Flood Impact Assessment shall identify potential loss of floodplain storage and how it would be offset in order to minimize impact on the river flood regime. It shall also take account of the possible effect on the natural resources of the river. For developments adjacent to watercourses of a significant conveyance capacity any structures must be set back from the edge of the watercourse to allow access for channel cleaning/maintenance.</p> <p>Policy SW 9 - Development must so far as is reasonably practicable incorporate the maximum provision to reduce the rate and quantity of runoff. e.g.:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard surface areas (car parks, etc.), should be constructed in permeable or semi-permeable materials ; • On site storm water ponds to store and/or attenuate additional runoff from the development should be provided; • Soak-aways or french drains should be provided to increase infiltration and minimise additional runoff; • Proposals for surface drainage and discharge to protect the development site and existing roadside drainage and carriageway. <p>Policy SW 10 - All new developments must be designed and constructed to meet the following minimum flood design standards, for urban areas so that floor levels are 300 mm above the 100 year flood level and that in areas under the influence of the tide the 200 year event flood should be considered.</p> <p>Policy SW 11 – All development proposals within Enniscorthy should have regard to the 'River Slaney (Enniscorthy) Drainage Scheme, Option Appraisal Report 2006' by the Office of Public Works.</p>	<p>Chapter 18.</p> <p>Objective FRM08 To facilitate the provision of necessary suitable flood risk management infrastructure by the Office of Public Works, the Local Authority or private developers, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.</p> <p>Objective FRM09 To ensure that where flood protection or alleviation works take place that the natural and cultural heritage and rivers, streams and watercourses are protected and enhanced.</p> <p>Objective FRM10 To preserve appropriately sized riparian strips alongside river channels free of development and of adequate width to permit access for river maintenance.</p> <p>Objective FRM11 To ensure that development proposals in areas at moderate (Flood Zone B) or high (Flood Zone A) risk of flooding which are considered acceptable in principle demonstrate that appropriate mitigation measures can be put in place and that residual risks can be managed to acceptable levels.</p> <p>Objective FRM12 To ensure new development does not increase flood risk elsewhere including that which may arise from surface water run-off.</p> <p>Objective SWM01 To promote storm water retention facilities for new developments and to incorporate design solutions that provide for collection and recycling of surface water in accordance with Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Objective GI04 To ensure the principles of Green Infrastructure and the County Green Infrastructure Strategy are used to inform the development management process in terms of design and layout of new residential schemes, business and industrial developments and other relevant projects, for example, through the integration of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) into the overall site concept and layout.</p> <p>18.7 Sustainable Drainage Scheme (SuDS) The Council will require the use of SuDS in the design of new developments in the County. The use of SuDS will control the release of water run-off in a carefully managed way, will improve the quality of surface water run-off and will seek to ensure that the risk to the receiving water from pollution is minimised. All new developments should be designed to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The on-site collection of surface water separate from foul water; • Surface water is appropriately collected on site to prevent flow onto the public roadway, adjoining properties or into the public foul sewer/sewage treatment plant; • The appropriate on-site disposal of surface water where the scale and amount of water generated makes this feasible for example through soak pits. For larger scale developments, it may be necessary to demonstrate through soil and subsoil tests that the site is capable of absorbing the surface water generated; • Where on-site disposal is not feasible and discharge to surface waters is necessary, that the system has been designed in accordance with Sustainable Urban Drainage measures (SuDS) and in particular, that run-off has been attenuated to green field conditions; • Discharges to water courses shall be channelled through adequately sized filters /interceptors for suspended solids and petrol/ oils prior to discharge.
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2.2 Variation No. 2 to Enniscorthy TDP 2008-2014 (as extended)

Variation No. 2 to the Enniscorthy TDP details the re-zoning of land from Residential/ Open Space & Amenity/ Community & Education/ Public Utilities to Business and Technology. The purpose of this zoning is to provide for the development of a new business and technology park which will include office, manufacturing and incubator space. While the zoning objective indicates the different uses permitted in this zone, it is important to include a buffer area and avoid abrupt transitions in scale and use in the boundary areas of adjoining land use zones. In particular, where the business and technology park zone abuts residential areas, particular attention must be paid to the use, scale and density of development proposals to protect the amenities of these residential properties.

2.3 Relationship with other Relevant Plans and Programmes

2.3.1 The National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020

In the South-East region (Counties Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary South, Waterford and Wexford) critical mass will be enhanced through Waterford performing as a gateway, supported by Kilkenny and Wexford as hubs. These three together form a nationally strategic 'growth triangle'. Waterford, Kilkenny and Wexford will drive regional growth by providing a large and skilled population base, substantial capacity for additional residential and employment related functions and an improving transport network. County towns, other towns, villages and more rural areas should be positioned to support the full realisation of the potential for economic development throughout the region, with a particular emphasis on complementing the gateway and hub approach.

2.3.2 Regional Planning Guidelines South-East 2010-2022

The Regional Planning Guidelines provide a strategic planning framework for the South-East Region with the objective of implementing the National Spatial Strategy at regional level and achieving balanced regional development. Regional Planning Guidelines for the South-East Region were first adopted in 2004 and revised Regional Planning Guidelines covering the period 2010 to 2022 were made by the Regional Authority on 26th July 2010. The RPGs incorporate high level policies which inform and advise local authorities in the preparation and review of their respective Development Plans, thus providing clear integration of planning and development policy from national to local level.

2.3.3 Wexford County Development Plan

New development opportunities will not be restricted unless there are strong, persuasive justifications for doing so having regard to European, national and regional policies. The Council recognises that prudent, long term planning will help mitigate the unacceptable adverse impacts of development. The Plan seeks to reconcile the need to protect the environment with the demand for necessary development to meet the needs and aspirations of the people of County Wexford.

2.3.4 Environmental Protection Objectives

The Variation is subject to a number of high level environmental protection policies and objectives with which it must comply. Examples of Environmental Protection Objectives include the aims of the EU Habitats Directive which is to contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora in the European territory of Member States and the purpose of the Water Framework Directive which is to establish a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater which, among other things, prevents deterioration in the status of all water bodies and protects, enhances and restores all waters with the aim of achieving good status.

3 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

3.1 Introduction to Screening

3.1.1 Background to Screening

This stage of the process identifies any likely significant affects to European Sites from a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans. The screening phase was progressed in the following stages. A series of questions are asked during the Screening Stage of the AA process in order to determine:

- Whether a plan or project can be excluded from AA requirements because it is directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European Site.
- Whether the project will have a potentially significant effect on a European Site, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, in view of the site's conservation objectives or if residual uncertainty exists regarding potential impacts.

An important element of the AA process is the identification of the 'conservation objectives', 'Qualifying Interests' and/ or 'Special Conservation Interests' of European Sites requiring assessment. Qualifying Interests (QI's) are the habitat features and species listed in Annex I & II of the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) for which each European Site has been designated and afforded protection. The 'Special Conservation Interests' (SCI's) are wetland habitats and bird species listed within Annex I & II of the Birds Directive. It is also vital that the threats to the ecological / environmental conditions that are required to support QI's and SCI's are considered as part of the assessment.

Site specific conservation objectives have been designed to define favourable conservation status for a particular habitat or species at that site. According to the European Commission interpretation document 'Managing Natura 2000 sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC', paragraph 4.6(3) states:

"The integrity of a site involves its ecological functions. The decision as to whether it is adversely affected should focus on and be limited to the site's conservation objectives."

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.

The 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.

The screening stage of the Appropriate Assessment takes account of the elements detailed above with regard to the details and characteristics of the project or plan to determine if potential for effects to the integrity of the European Site are likely. The characteristics of the draft plan were constructed through an iterative process, as a result the European Sites which are screened below may differ from those of high level plans, due to refinements in the methods/project details available.

3.1.2 Desktop Studies

The ecological desktop study completed for this Appropriate Assessment of the Variation No. 2 comprised the following elements:

- Identification of European Sites within 15km with identification of potential pathways links for specific sites (if relevant) greater than 15km from the development study area.;
- Review of the NPWS site synopsis and conservation objectives for European Sites with identification of potential pathways from the development; and
- A series of ecological desk studies were undertaken between April – July 2017. This included but is not limited to the collation of information on protected species including Bats, Otters, Bird species (including Annex I species), Annex II habitat types, protected and Red Data Book Flora species, invertebrates and amphibians. The results of these studies are included as part of the Appropriate Assessment where they were deemed relevant to the European Sites and their QI's/SCI's.

3.2 Identification of Relevant European Sites

This section of the screening process describes the European Sites which exist within the Zone of Influence of the site. The DoEHLG (2009) Guidance on Appropriate Assessment recommend a 15km buffer zone be considered around the site. It is foreseen that in the absence of significant hydrological links the characteristics of the Variation No. 2 (detailed in section 2) will not impose effects beyond this Zone of Influence.

European Sites that occur within 15km of the Plan Area or that were identified to have hydrological linkages to the Variation No. 2 are listed in Table 3-1 and illustrated in Figure 1 below. Details on the site characteristics and existing threats/vulnerabilities of each European Site are also identified in Table 3-1.

In order to determine the potential for effects from the Variation No. 2 to the TDP, information on the qualifying features, known vulnerabilities and threats to site integrity pertaining to any potentially affected European Sites was reviewed. Background information on threats to individual sites and vulnerability of habitats and species that was used during this assessment included the following:

- *Ireland's Article 17 Report to the European Commission "Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland" (NPWS, 2013).*
- *Site Synopses.*
- *NATURA 2000 Standard Data Forms.*

Since the conservation objectives for the European Sites focus on maintaining the favorable conservation condition of the QI's/SCI's of each site, the screening process concentrated on assessing the potential effects of the Variation No. 2 against the QI's/SCI's of each site.

Table 3-1 European Sites which occur within 15 km of Enniscorthy or with hydrological links to the Variation No. 2 area

Site Code	Site Name	Distance Km	Site Synopsis and Existing Vulnerabilities
000781	Slaney River Valley SAC	Adjacent	<p>Floating river vegetation is found along much of the freshwater stretches within the site. Good examples of wet woodland are found associated with Macmine marshes, along the banks of the Slaney and its tributaries, and within reedswamps. Old oak woodlands are best represented at Tomnafinnoge, though patches are present throughout the site. The shrub layer is well-developed with Hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>) and Holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>) occurring. Below Enniscorthy there are several areas of woodland with a mixed canopy of oak, Beech, Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>), Ash and generally a good diverse ground flora. Near the mouth of the river at Ferrycarrig is a steep south facing slope covered with oak woodland. Mixed woodlands occur at Carrickduff and Coolaphuca in Bunclody. The salt marsh at Castlebridge is dominated by Mediterranean salt meadows. The marsh is perched on ground that is bisected by a number of channels which extend a considerable distance inland. A significant area of Atlantic salt meadows also occurs at Castlebridge.</p> <p>Agricultural run-off and amenity use of the river are identified as the main existing threats to the site.</p>
004076	Wexford Harbour and Slobbs SPA	250m	<p>The site is of international importance for several species of waterbirds but also because it regularly supports well in excess of 20,000 waterbirds. There are at least a further 26 species of wintering waterbirds which occur in numbers of national importance. Short-eared Owl and Hen Harrier are regular visitors to the Slobbs during winter.</p> <p>No sites specific vulnerabilities have been identified by the NPWS.</p>
000770	Backstairs Mountains SAC	14km	<p>The site is important for extensive areas of dry heath. Lower down the slopes the heath is dominated by Gorse (<i>Ulex europaeus</i>). Upland grassland is found on those slopes which have been heavily grazed. Wet heath occurs in mosaic with dry heath towards the base of some of the steeper slopes and is also found outside the western edge of the commonage. A series of lowland bogs north of Mount Leinster and around Black Rock Mountain have recently been identified which have considerable local importance.</p> <p>Grazing and burning are existing threats to the SAC.</p>
000708	Screens Hills SAC	14.5km	<p>The lakes in the site are of two broad types. The first type are low-lying and in contact with groundwater, and these are influenced by what is occurring over a wide area. The second type are suspended at a height above the regional water table, and are influenced by the area immediately surrounding them. Dry heath at the site is extensive and species-rich. The heath vegetation at the site differs from most heaths elsewhere in the virtual absence of Heather, and in the presence of a diverse range of annual species.</p> <p>The site is under threat of reclamation for intensive agriculture.</p>

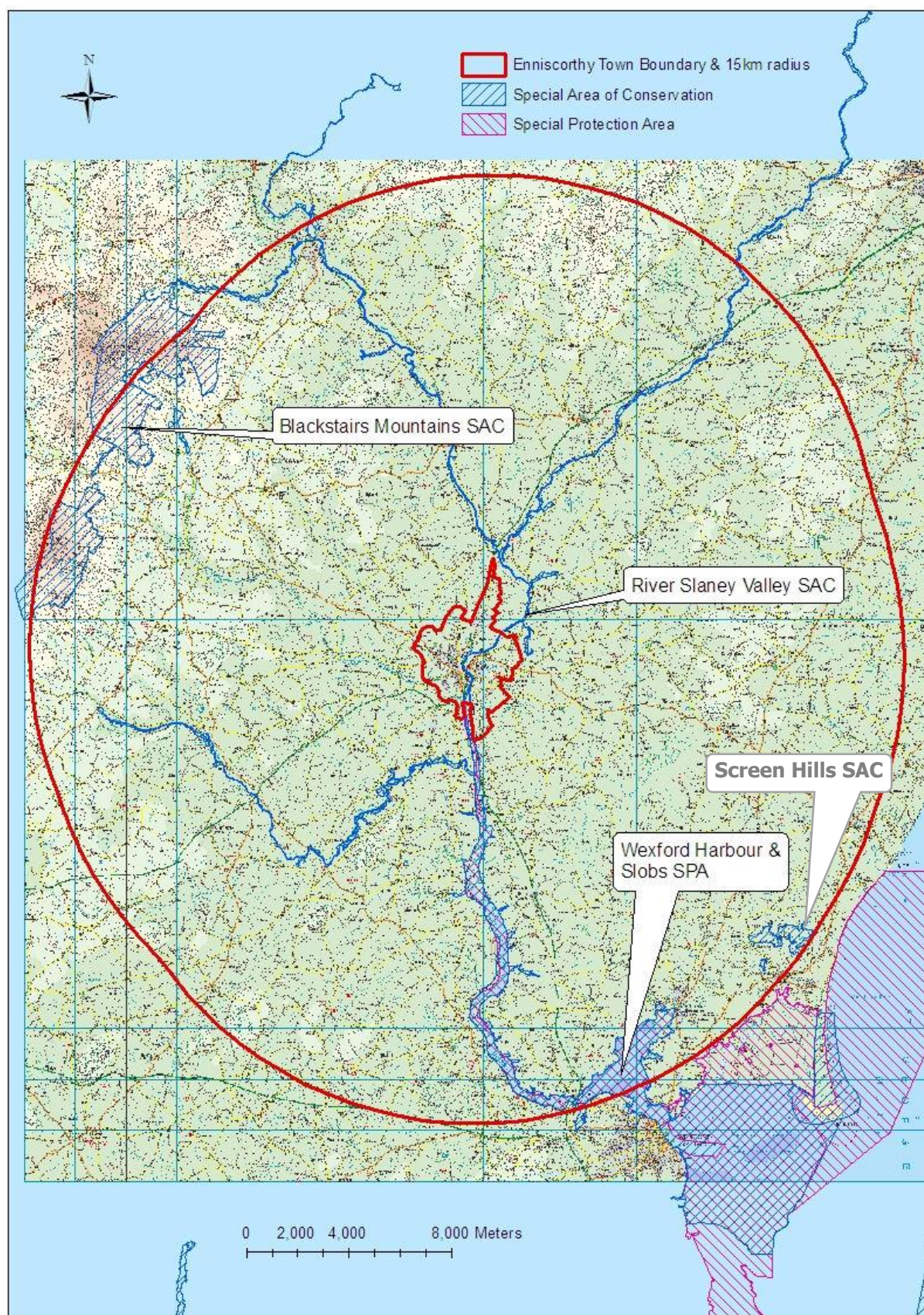


Figure 1 European sites within 15km Enniscorthy or with hydrological links to the Plan area

3.3 Assessment Criteria

3.3.1 Is the Plan Necessary to the Management of European Sites?

Under the Habitats Directive, Plans that are directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European Site do not require AA. For this exception to apply, management is required to be interpreted narrowly as nature conservation management in the sense of Article 6(1) of the Habitats Directive. This refers to specific measures to address the ecological requirements of annexed habitats and species (and their habitats) present on a site(s). The relationship should be shown to be direct and not a by-product of the plan, even if this might result in positive or beneficial effects for a site(s).

The primary purpose of the Variation No. 2 to the Enniscorthy TDP is not the nature conservation management of the sites, but to provide for development of a business and technology park. Therefore, the Variation No. 2 is not considered by the Habitats Directive to be directly connected with or necessary to the management of European designated sites.

3.3.2 Elements of the Variation No. 2 with Potential to Give Rise to Effects

The Variation No. 2 provides for the rezoning of land from Residential/ Open Space & Amenity/ Community & Education/ Public Utilities to Business and Technology, to provide for the development of a Business and Technology Park. The operational phase of this development is thought to have low levels of effects on ecological processes. The elements of the Variation No. 2 with potential to give rise to effects are thought to be during construction phase. The Variation provides objectives for minimising potential water quality issues, through the use of SUDS. The existing policies and objectives within higher level plans, account for development within the Enniscorthy Area.

3.3.3 Identification of Potential Likely Significant Effects

This section documents the final stage of the screening process. It has used the information collected on the sensitivity of each European Site and describes any likely significant effects resulting from the Variation No. 2. This assumes the absence of any controls, conditions, or mitigation measures. In determining the potential for significant effects, a number of factors have been taken into account. Firstly, the sensitivity and reported threats to the European Site. Secondly, the individual elements of the LAP and the potential effect they may cause to the site were considered. The elements of the Variation No. 2 with potential to cause effect to European Sites are presented in Table 3-2 below.

Sites are screened out based on one or a combination of the following criteria:

- where it can be shown that there are no hydrological links between activities of the Variation No. 2 to the TDP, and the site to be screened;
- where the site is located at such a distance from Variation No. 2 to the TDP that effects are not foreseen;
- where it is that known threats or vulnerabilities at a site cannot be linked to potential impacts that may arise from the Variation No. 2 to the TDP.

The following parameters are described when characterising impacts (following CIEEM (2016), EPA (2002) and NRA (2009)):

Direct and Indirect Impacts - An impact can be caused either as a direct or as an indirect consequence of a development.

Magnitude - Magnitude measures the size of an impact, which is described as high, medium, low, very low or negligible.

Extent - The area over which the impact occurs – this should be predicted in a quantified manner.

Duration - The time for which the effect is expected to last prior to recovery or replacement of the resource or feature.

- Temporary: Up to 1 Year;
- Short Term: The effects would take 1-7 years to be mitigated;
- Medium Term: The effects would take 7-15 years to be mitigated;
- Long Term: The effects would take 15-60 years to be mitigated;
- Permanent: The effects would take 60+ years to be mitigated.

Likelihood – The probability of the effect occurring taking into account all available information.

- Certain/Near Certain: >95% chance of occurring as predicted;
- Probable: 50-95% chance as occurring as predicted;
- Unlikely: 5-50% chance as occurring as predicted;
- Extremely Unlikely: <5% chance as occurring as predicted.

The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) guidelines for ecological impact assessment (CIEEM 2016) define an ecologically significant impact as an impact (negative or positive) on the integrity of a defined site or ecosystem and/or the conservation status of habitats or species within a given geographic area. The integrity of a site is the coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, which enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was classified (CIEEM, 2016).

The Habitats Directive requires the focus of the assessment at this stage to be on the integrity of the site as indicated by its Conservation Objectives. It is an aim of NPWS to draw up conservation management plans for all areas designated for nature conservation. These plans will, among other things, set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest within a site.

Site-specific conservation objectives (SSCOs) have been prepared for a number of European Sites. These detailed SSCO's aim to define favourable conservation condition for the qualifying habitats and species at that site by setting targets for appropriate attributes which define the character habitat. The maintenance of the favourable condition for these habitats and species at the site level will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

Favourable conservation status of a species can be described as being achieved when: 'population data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself, and the natural range of the species is neither being reduced or 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.'

Favourable conservation status of a habitat can be described as being achieved when: 'its natural range, and area it covers within that range, is stable or increasing, and the ecological factors that 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'.

Generic Conservation Objectives for cSACs have been provided as follows:

- *To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected.*

One generic Conservation Objective has been provided for SPAs as follows:

- *To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.*

Table 3-2 Screening assessment of European Sites within 15km or with significant hydrological links to the Variation No. 2 boundary

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Interests & Special Conservation Interests (Sensitive Receptors)	Potential effects (Sources of effects with regard to the qualifying interests, special conservation interests and/or conservation objectives of the European Site)	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000781	Slaney River Valley SAC	Adjacent	<p>Estuaries [1130] Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritima</i>) [1330] Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410] Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitans</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachium</i> vegetation [3260] Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0] Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0] <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029] <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> (Sea Lamprey) [1095] <i>Lampetra planeri</i> (Brook Lamprey) [1096] <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> (River Lamprey) [1099] <i>Alosa fallax fallax</i> (Twait Shad) [1103] <i>Salmo salar</i> (Salmon) [1106] <i>Lutra lutra</i> (Otter) [1355] <i>Phoca vitulina</i> (Harbour Seal) [1365]</p>	The qualifying interests of this SAC are particularly sensitive to sedimentation and water quality. The policies and objectives within the Variation (detailed above) and the existing higher level plans have provided for the protection of water quality. These include objectives relating to the use of SUDS both in the Variation and higher level plans. These design features give robust protection to water quality and there are no other significant pathways for effects identified for this SAC.	No	Yes
004076	Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA	250m	<p>Little Grebe (<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>) [A004] Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005] Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017] Grey Heron (<i>Ardea cinerea</i>) [A028] Bewick's Swan (<i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i>) [A037] Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038] Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046]</p>	The site is on the outskirts of Enniscorthy town on the east side of the N11. The site is designated for bird species and the SPA itself starts 250m west of the site, on the far side of the N11. The SPA boundary follows the flow of the river Slaney into the estuary. The existing environment is highly urbanized with busy national road. The species for which the SPA is designated for are sensitive to disturbance due to noise.	No	Yes

			<p>Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050] Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053] Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054] Scaup (<i>Aythya marila</i>) [A062] Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067] Red-breasted Merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069] Hen Harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>) [A082] Coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125] Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142] Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160] Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183] Little Tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) [A195] Greenland White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]</p>	As the existing nature of the site is highly urbanized and the area of the SPA which is within 1km of the Variation location, this effect will not be significant.		
000770	Backstairs Mountains SAC	14km	<p>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010] European dry heaths [4030]</p>	There is no hydrological link to the SAC. No pathways for effects between the variation and the SAC.	No	No
000708	Screens Hills SAC	14.5km	<p>Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>) [3110] European dry heaths [4030]</p>	There is no hydrological link to the SAC. No pathways for effects between the variation and the SAC.	No	No

3.4 Other Plans and Programs

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combinations with the plan or project, have the potential to adversely impact upon European Sites. Table 3-3 outlines plans or projects that may interact with the Variation No. 2 to cause in-combination effects to European Sites.

- Regional Planning Guidelines for the South-East Region 2010-2022;
- South-East River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015;
- Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019;
- Wicklow County Development Plan 2016-2022;
- Carlow County Development Plan 2015-2021;
- Enniscorthy Flood Relief Scheme;
- M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy Scheme; and
- Enniscorthy Main Drainage Scheme.

Given the uncertainties that exist with regard to the scale and location of developments facilitated by the Variation No. 2, it is recognised that the identification of in-combination effects is limited and that the assessment of in-combination effects will need to be undertaken in a more comprehensive manner at the project-level.

As the Variation has to comply with the policies and objectives of Enniscorthy TDP as well as higher-level plans (detailed above) the potential for effects to European Sites are thought to be very low. Therefore, in-combination effects to the integrity of European Sites are not seen to be likely.

Table 3-3 Plans & Projects Likely to Cause In-Combination Effects

Plan or project	Status	Overview	Possible significant effects from plan or project	Possible significant in-combination effects	Is there a risk of significant in-combination effects with the Variation No. 2
South-Eastern River Basin District (ERBD) Management Plan 2009-2015	Published	The ERBD Management Plan describes the actions that are to ensure the necessary protection of our waters over the coming years. There is a second phase of the management plan due to be created.	No Appropriate Assessment carried out	No Screening for potential effects under Habitats Directive Article 6 process is put in place once details of the implementation of the programme of Measures (POMs) under the ERBD are known.	The actions and objectives in relation to the Water Framework Directive and the ERBD Management plan are to protect and restore Protected Areas.
Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019;	Published	A framework to coordinate the strategic planning of development within Wexford County.	No Appropriate Assessment carried out	No Potential effects are to be avoided through avoidance policies in the Plan.	Policies and Objectives contained within both the Plan and the Variation No. 2 are robust. Development proposals which arise as a result of the Development Plan are subject to Appropriate Assessment. This will provide specific project level detail to ensure no adverse significant effects to European Sites.
Wicklow County Development Plan 2016-2022;	Published	A framework to coordinate the strategic planning of development within Wicklow County.	No Appropriate Assessment carried out	No Potential effects are to be avoided through avoidance policies in the Plan.	Policies and Objectives contained within both the Plan and the Variation No. 2 are robust. Development proposals which arise as a result of the Development Plan are subject to Appropriate Assessment. This will provide specific project level detail to ensure no adverse significant effects to European Sites.

Carlow County Development Plan 2015-2021;	Published	A framework to coordinate the strategic planning of development within Carlow County.	No Appropriate Assessment carried out	No Potential effects are to be avoided through avoidance policies in the Plan.	Policies and Objectives contained within both the Plan and the Variation No. 2 are robust. Development proposals which arise as a result of the Development Plan are subject to Appropriate Assessment. This will provide specific project level detail to ensure no adverse significant effects to European Sites.
Enniscorthy Flood Relief Scheme;		The Flood Defence Scheme combines a number of measures to prevent flooding in the town. These include river channel widening, river deepening, bridge relocation, and the construction of extensive glass paneled flood walls through the town.	No AA In Progress	Unknown at this time	The details of this project are not available yet as it is still in preparation. In-combination effects will be undertaken at project level.
M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy Scheme;	Published	Road works, and bypass development to the M11/N11 road around Enniscorthy.	No Appropriate Assessment carried out	The scheme was subject to a full EIA and NIS and contain robust policies and objectives to ensure to protect water quality.	Policies and Objectives contained within both the Plan and the Variation No. 2 are robust. Development proposals which arise as a result of the Development Plan are subject to Appropriate Assessment. This will provide specific project level detail to ensure no adverse significant effects to European Sites.
Enniscorthy Main Drainage Scheme.	Published	This plan aims to extend the existing WWTP in Enniscorthy and decommission the Kilgoley WWTP when the capacity is sufficient.	No Appropriate Assessment carried out	The scheme was subject to a full EIA and NIS and contain robust policies and objectives to ensure to protect water quality.	Policies and Objectives contained within both the Plan and the Variation No. 2 are robust. Development proposals which arise as a result of the Development Plan are subject to Appropriate Assessment. This will provide specific project level detail to ensure no adverse significant effects to European Sites.

4 Conclusions

Stage 1 Screening for AA of the Variation No. 2 to the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) has been carried out. It has been demonstrated that implementation of the Variation is not foreseen to have any likely significant effects on any European Site.

The Variation No. 2 must comply with the policies, objectives and mitigation measures contained within the existing Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended). The TDP was subject to its own AA and SEA process which determined there are no likely significant effects to the integrity of any European Site foreseen as a result of the implementation of the plan.

The Appropriate Assessment screening process considered potential effects which may arise during implementation of the Variation No. 2. Through an assessment of the sources for effects and an evaluation of the Variation No. 2 it was determined that the existing Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) accounts for development within Enniscorthy. The existing mitigations within this Plan are seen to be robust, thus the effects arising from the Variation No. 2 are thought to be very low. It has been evaluated that the Variation No. 2 have no likely significant adverse effects on the qualifying interests, special conservation interests or the conservation objectives of any designated European Site. Any effects arising from the rezoning will be subject to project level AA's when fine scale detail is known.

It is concluded that the Variation No. 2 to the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) is not foreseen to give rise to any significant adverse effects on designated European sites², alone or in combination with other plans or projects. This evaluation is made in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species for which these sites have been designated. Consequently, a Stage 2 – NIS is not required for the Variation No. 2.

² Except as provided for in Section 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be:

- a) no alternative solution available,
- b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and
- c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.

**Appropriate Assessment Determination under:
the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)
for the:**

Variation No. 2 to the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended)

An Appropriate Assessment (AA) determination has been made by Wexford County Council regarding Variation No. 2 to the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended).

Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), requires, inter alia, a determination to be made as to whether Proposed Variation to the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan warrant the undertaking of AA. An Appropriate Assessment determination [pursuant to Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive as to whether or not a plan or project would adversely affect the integrity of a European site and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)] is being made by Wexford County Council.

In carrying out this Appropriate Assessment, the Council is taking into account the relevant matters specified under Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), including:

- Existing Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) (and associated NIR and SEA reports);
- The Strategic Environmental Screening Report; and
- The Screening Statement.

It is determined that the risks to the safeguarding and integrity of the qualifying interests, special conservation interests and conservation objectives of all European Sites have been addressed by the inclusion of achievable mitigation measures within the existing Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) with which Variation No. 2 must comply. These prioritise the avoidance of effects in the first place and will reliably mitigate these effects where these cannot be avoided. In addition, any lower level plans and projects arising through the implementation of the Plan will themselves be subject to relevant stages of Appropriate Assessment when further details of design and location are known.

Having incorporated these mitigation commitments; it is considered that the Variation No. 2 to the Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 (as extended) is not foreseen to have any likely significant effects on the ecological integrity of any European Site¹.

Signed: 

Signatory
Approved Officer

¹ Except as provided for in Section 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be:

- a) no alternative solution available,
- b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and
- c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.