



Introduction

RPS, on behalf of Wexford County Council, carried out a formal screening process of the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 to determine whether appropriate assessment in accordance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive was required.

The screening process was carried out during the plan preparation process and a screening report was produced at three stages as follows:

1. Screening of the Draft Wexford County Development 2013-2019. The report, which is here on referred to as the main Screening Report, is dated June 2012 and is included in Part 2 of this document.
2. Screening of the proposed amendments to the Draft Wexford County Development 2013-2019. The report, dated November 2012, forms Addendum No. 1 to the main Screening Report and is included in Part 3 of this document.
3. Screening of the proposed modifications to the proposed amendments. This report, dated February 2013, forms Addendum No. 2 to the main Screening Report and is included in Part 4 of this document.

Part 1 of this document sets out the determination of Wexford County Council as to whether or not the Draft County Wexford Development 2013-2019 would adversely affect the integrity of a European site.

It is to be noted that this document is not the final Appropriate Assessment Screening Report. It is the intention of the Planning Authority to update the report to include the following:

- A statement summarising how ecological considerations in relation to Natura 2000 sites have been integrated into the plan. This statement will outline how the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report reflects the outcome of the ecological assessment process and consultations and the reasons for choosing the plan as adopted in light of other reasonable alternatives considered; and
- The AA Screening Conclusion Statement.

This will be done in due course. On completion, the final screening report will be made be available for public inspection at the offices of Wexford County Council, online at www.wexfordcoco.ie and a copy will be sent to the relevant prescribed authorities.

Part 1

Determination of Wexford County Council as to whether or not the Draft County Wexford Development 2013-2019 would adversely affect the integrity of a European site.

Determination

RPS, on behalf of Wexford County Council carried out a formal screening process of the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 to determine whether appropriate assessment in accordance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive was required.

The screening exercise were carried out in accordance with the Commission's methodological guidance (EC, 2002) to determine

- a) whether the plan or project is directly connected to or necessary for the management of the site, and
- b) whether the plan, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, is likely to have significant effects on a Natura 2000 site(s) in view of the site(s) conservation objectives.

Wexford County Council determined that an appropriate assessment of the proposed Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 was not required having regard to:

- The reports of RPS dated June 2012, November 2012 and February 2013;
- The characteristics of the plan;
- The objectives of the plan to protect Natura 2000 sites and biodiversity;
- The Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report prepared by Wexford County Council; and
- The consultations with the prescribed bodies, in particular, the National Parks and Wildlife Service section of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.



Part 2

Appropriate Assessment Screening Report
prepared by RPS
June 2012

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

This report comprises information in support of screening for an Appropriate Assessment of the draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 in line with the requirements of Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC). The report has taken into consideration the European Commissions publication- *Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites - Methodological guidance on the provisions of Articles 6 (3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC* referred to as the “EC Article 6 Guidance Document (EC2000)”, Circular Letter SEA 1/08 & NPWS 1/08 from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2010 and *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Project in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities* (December 2009) from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

1.2 DRAFT WEXFORD COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2013-2019

The draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 sets out an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of Wexford County Council for the period 2013-2019. The draft Plan provides for, and controls, the physical, economic and social development of the county, in the interests of the overall common good. This plan covers the entire County of Wexford with the exception of Wexford Town, Enniscorthy Town and New Ross which are covered by their respective Development Plans. The Plan once adopted will replace the existing Wexford Development Plan 2007-2013.

The draft Plan provides the means by which the specific objectives and activities of the private and public sector will be coordinated, to ensure that they are implemented in a mutually integrated, consistent, sustainable and supportive manner. It will promote and encourage development, conserve and protect the environment and make the best possible use of resources.

The conservation of the natural environment forms an important overall policy in the Wexford County Development Plan 2013– 2019. In particular the Plan has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the:-

- Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended);
- Strategic Environment Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC);
- Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC);
- Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC);
- Floods Directive (2007/60/EC);
- Associated regulations which transposed these Directives into Irish Law;
- Planning guidelines made by the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government under Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended); and
- Relevant guidelines, policies and objectives of other Ministers of the Government.

Throughout the draft plan there is an over arching message to ensure that all plans and projects in the County which are likely to have significant effect on a Natura 2000 site, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment screening of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives.

Overall, the development management process and the application of policies / objectives in the draft Plan will assess any future development proposals within the Plan area to ensure the protection of the natural environment and in particular Natura 2000 sites.

2 REQUIREMENTS OF HABITATS DIRECTIVE ASSESSMENT

2.1 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

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. These are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (79/409/ECC).

Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans and projects likely to affect Natura 2000 sites (Annex 1.1). Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for Appropriate Assessment (AA):

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.

Article 6(4) states:-

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.

2.2 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT (AA) GUIDANCE

This appropriate assessment of the Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 has been carried out using the following guidance:-

- Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government Circular NPW 1/10 and PSSP 2/10 on *Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive – Guidance for Planning Authorities* March 2010.
- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government 2009; <http://www.npws.ie/en/media/NPWS/Publications/CodesofPractice/AA%20Guidance.pdf>.
- Managing Natura 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, European Commission 2000; http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/art6/provision_of_art6_en.pdf.

- 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; http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/art6/natura_2000_asses_s_en.pdf.
- 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. http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/art6/guidance_art6_4_en.pdf.
- Guidance document on the implementation of the birds and habitats directive in estuaries and coastal zones with particular attention to port development and dredging. http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/guidance_doc.pdf.

2.3 OBJECTIVES OF APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

The Habitats Directive promotes a hierarchy of avoidance, mitigation and compensatory measures to be addressed in the AA process. The objectives of conducting an appropriate assessment of any plan include:

1. Avoid any negative impacts on Natura 2000 sites by identifying possible impacts early in plan making, and writing the plan in order to avoid such impacts.
2. Apply mitigation measures during the AA process to the point where no adverse impacts on the site(s) remain.
3. Under a worst-case scenario, a plan may have to undergo an assessment of alternative solutions. Under this stage of the assessment, compensatory measures are required for any remaining adverse effects but they are permitted only if (a) there are no alternative solutions and (b) the plan is required for imperative reasons of overriding public interest.

2.4 RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The AA process specifically aims to ensure that the plan will not have an adverse effect on the integrity of a Natura 2000 Sites (SAC & SPA), whereas the objectives of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) are broader as they aim to ensure land-use plans contribute to sustainable development by integrating social, environmental and economic considerations into the plan preparation. A comparison between the AA and SEA process is set out in **Table 1.1** below.

Table 2.1: Comparisons of AA and SEA

	APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
Aim of Pprocess	Maintain the integrity of the Natura 2000 network and its features: SPA for birds, cSAC for habitats and species.	Provide for a high level of protection of the environment.
Emphasis	Prevent activities that could harm Natura 2000 sites. The assessment is "Protection led".	Provide information on environmental impacts, consultation, documenting decisions. Assessment is "Baseline led".
Detail	Detailed focus on a specific sites.	Focus on the environment „ rebalancing in favour of the environment.

2.5 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT CONSULTATION

As part of the consultation process RPS consulted with Mr. Lorcan Scott of the NPWS via telephone and through written consultation.

The key aim of this consultation process was to avoid any negative impacts on Natura 2000 sites by identifying possible impacts early in plan making, and writing the plan in order to avoid such impacts through the provision of Guiding Principles to the plan making team.

RPS consulted with Mr Scott on their approach for assessing the plan, with regards to drafting of Guiding Principles to be adopted as part of the Plan making process and on key environmental issues and pressures within the Plan area.

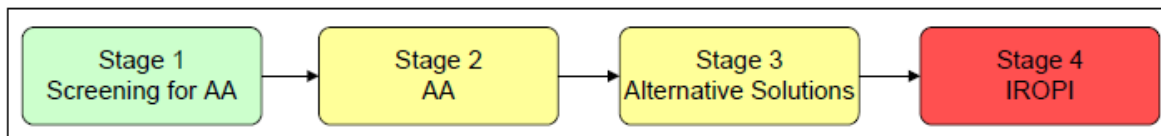
3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 OVERVIEW OF THE AA PROCESS

Based on the guidelines outlined in Section 2.2, the assessment process is a four-staged approach as described below. An important aspect of the process is that the outcome at each successive stage determines whether a further stage in the process is required.

The four stages are summarised diagrammatically below. Stages 1-2 deal with the main requirements for assessment under Article 6(3). Stage 3 may be part of the Article 6(3) Assessment or may be a necessary precursor to Stage 4. Stage 4 is the main derogation step of Article 6(4).

Figure 3.1: The Four Stages of Appropriate Assessment



Stage 1: Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Screening is the process that addresses and records the reasoning and conclusions in relation to the first two tests of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive:

- i) whether a plan or project is directly connected to or necessary for the management of the site, and
- ii) whether a plan or project, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, is likely to have significant effects on a Natura 2000 site.

If the effects are deemed to be significant, potentially significant, or uncertain, or if the screening process becomes overly complicated, then the process must proceed to Stage 2.

Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment

This stage considers whether the plan or project, alone or in combination with other projects or plans, will have adverse effects on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site, and includes any mitigation measures necessary to avoid, reduce or offset negative effects. If the assessment is negative, i.e. adverse effects on the integrity of a site cannot be excluded, then the process must proceed to Stage 4, or the plan or project should be abandoned.

Stage 3: Alternative Solutions

This stage examines any alternative solutions or options that could enable the plan or project to proceed without adverse effects on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site. The process must return to Stage 2 as alternatives will require appropriate assessment in order to proceed. Demonstrating that all reasonable alternatives have been considered and assessed, and that the least damaging option has been selected, it is necessary to progress to Stage 4.

Stage 4: *Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest (IROPI)/Derogation*

Stage 4 is the main derogation process of Article 6(4) which examines whether there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI) for allowing a plan or project that will have adverse effects on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site to proceed in cases where it has been established that no less damaging alternative solution exists. Compensatory measures must be proposed and assessed. The Commission must be informed of the compensatory measures. Compensatory measures must be practical, implementable, likely to succeed, proportionate and enforceable, and they must be approved by the Minister.

3.2 STAGE 1- SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

This Report specifically addresses the Screening Stage and includes the following:-

- Description of the draft Plan;
- Brief description of the Natura 2000 site(s) potentially affected;
- Conservation objectives of the Natura 2000 site(s);
- Assessment criteria;
 - Likely impacts on Natura 2000 site(s);
 - Cumulative and in combination impacts;
 - Likely changes to Natura 2000 site(s); and
 - Elements of the draft Plan where the impacts are likely to be significant.
- Identification and description of individual and cumulative impacts likely to result;
- Assessment of the significance of the impacts identified above on site(s) integrity;
- Exclusion of site(s) where it can be objectively concluded that there will be no significant effects; and
- Screening conclusion and statement.

4 SCREENING STAGE

4.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAFT PLAN

The Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 has two main purposes, firstly to provide a framework of acceptable uses within the County defining acceptable forms of development and where it should be located and secondly to provide a detailed base for the promotion and management of sustainable development. Thus the plan provides a framework for the development of County Wexford over the plan period 2013-2019, incorporating the relevant strategic objectives at a national and regional level into a County specific format while consolidating local level plans relating to issues such as biodiversity, heritage, community infrastructure and setting the context for the remaining local area plans.

The CDP identifies specific policies and objectives applicable to Wexford County in order to facilitate land use in a manner that will promote proper planning and sustainable development. Key issues comprise housing provision, economic development, retail and tourism development, urban design and town centre development, movement and transport, water, drainage and environmental services, community, education and cultural issues, energy and climate, built and natural heritage and biodiversity and recreation, amenity and open space.

The strategy for the future development of Wexford County will focus on the framework provided by the National Spatial Strategy (NSS), National Planning Guidelines issued under s.28 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2010, the Regional Planning Guidelines for the South-East Region 2010-2022 (RPGs), the South-Eastern River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015 (SERBMP), the Joint Waste Management Plan for the South East Region 2006-2011 (JWMP) and any relevant Pollution Reduction Programme (PRP) prepared for Shellfish Designated Areas.

The overall vision in the Draft Plan seeks to develop a county;

- Where people want to live, work and play;
- Which offers high quality sustainable employment opportunities and residential developments;
- With high quality urban and rural environments supported by excellent sustainable physical and social infrastructure; and
- Which values its natural environment, built and cultural heritage.

In summary the aim of the Plan is to provide:

- A sustainable spatial development strategy to guide the location of development;
- Clear guidance on the future use of land and the pattern of development over the next six years;
- A framework for the future investment in physical and social infrastructure;
- A framework for developing the County's economy;

- Management and control by indicating standards to be achieved in new developments;
- Mechanisms to conserve and enhance the urban and rural environment and to protect the diversity of the natural and cultural landscape, and
- Guidance for public and private investors in relation to land use and development.

This CDP identifies specific policies and objectives applicable to Wexford County in order to facilitate land use in a manner that will promote proper planning and sustainable development. The following is a summary of the objectives of the CDP.

1) Compliance with Core Strategy to Achieve Sustainable Growth

To ensure the future development of Wexford County is in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010, the population targets for the county as set out in the Regional Planning Guidelines for the South-East Region 2010-2022 (SERPGs) and as far as practical with the national and regional development objectives set out in the National Spatial Strategy (NSS) and the Regional Planning Guidelines (RPGs).

The CDP sets out policy in relation to the Settlement Strategy and Settlement Hierarchy for the County. It allocates population targets for the towns, villages and rural areas in the hierarchy which centres on developing the role of Wexford Town as the Hub; supported by the County's other three larger towns New Ross Town, Enniscorthy Town and Gorey Town.

The Core Strategy is aligned with, and supported by, the Economic Development Strategy (Chapter 6), Transportation Strategy (Chapter 8), the Retail Strategy (Volume 4), the Housing Strategy (Volume 6) and the Development Management Standards (Chapter 18).

A framework is also established for the county's sustainable growth through the incorporation of policies in relation to flooding, Appropriate Assessment, provision of green belts and phasing of development. Within the Plan area phasing will be based on the sequential approach with the zoning extending outwards from the Town Centre. A strong emphasis will be placed on consolidating existing patterns of development, encouraging infill opportunities and a better use of land.

2) Economic Development

The need to build on the potential of Wexford as a place to do business is paramount. The Plan focuses on resolving unemployment in County Wexford through a co-ordinated economic strategy which capitalises on the county's assets, supports local entrepreneurship, attracts foreign investment and facilitates development in a sustainable manner.

To achieve this, the CDP sets out policies and objectives that build on the county's retail and heritage strengths to create a unique tourism destination while also taking maximum advantage of lands strategically located to provide for future new employment hubs in areas of pharmaceutical and biotechnology and food.

The economic development strategy focuses on developing the strengths and opportunities offered by the County's location, transport links, natural and built resources and its people. The Plan aims to maximise the County's potential for the development of renewable energies, energy crops, sustainable construction and the County's ports as drivers for economic development, in particular, the transport and logistics sector, tourism, food and manufacturing sectors.

3) Housing

The Plan aims to facilitate the provision of high quality housing in a range of locations to meet the needs of the County's population, with particular emphasis on facilitating access to housing to suit different household and tenure needs in a sustainable manner and in appropriate locations.

4) Climate

Adapting to climate change is an underlying theme throughout the Plan and it expressly influenced the formulation of the:

- Settlement Strategy;
- Transport Strategy;
- Economic Development Strategy;
- Energy;
- Flood risk management; and
- Coastal zone management sections.

5) Retail

The retail sector is important for the residents of the County, for visitors and businesses and also as it creates demand for local suppliers and provides local employment. The preparation of the Plan included a full review of the County Retail Strategy 2007- 2013, in line with the 'Retail Planning Guidelines for Planning Authorities produced by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government 2005.

The potential of Wexford County to operate as a tourist and retailing destination is advocated within the Plan. The protection of built heritage and the integration and linkage of new retail developments with the existing urban form/layout are key objectives. To prioritise the reuse of vacant and derelict buildings in the town centre for uses including retail development is also a key policy within the Plan.

6) Tourism

The Plan considers tourism as an important economic and social role within the County of Wexford. It has traditionally been an area of strength in Wexford with its reputation as being at the heart of the 'Sunny South East' where holidaymakers come to enjoy its extensive coastline, rich architecture, natural resources and cultural heritage

It is a policy of the Plan to continue to develop the role of tourism and to provide for the development of a high quality and diverse tourism product throughout the County in a balanced and sustainable manner.

7) Transport

A key focus of the Plan is to develop an integrated Transport Plan for the County which will deliver local transport links, provide safe and efficient road and rail access within the County and to other regions. This, in turn, will facilitate improved public transport provision and reduce the distance that people need to travel to work, schools, services and recreational facilities.

The transport strategy also focuses improving facilities for the transport of freight by rail, use of the ports within Wexford and development of the road network in a sustainable manner and in accordance with the requirements of the Habitats Directive.

8) Infrastructure

The adequacy of water, drainage and environmental services in the future development of the County is necessary to facilitate sustainable development. These key issues are addressed in various policies and objectives to provide for sufficient water, waste water and water drainage infrastructure to service the predicted requirements for future development of the town over the plan period. Relevant legislative requirements in relation to environmental requirements are set out including policies and objectives relating to flood risk requirements.

The CDP also advocates the development of an integrated and coherent Green Infrastructure Strategy for the County which will allow for the protection, provision and management of the County's green spaces, in tandem with plans for growth and development.

9) Environmental Management

Management and protection of the environment is one of the core objectives of the Plan. The Council is committed to the protection and enhancement of the environment through the prevention and control of water, air, noise and light pollution and by facilitating good quality waste management facilities. This commitment to the protection of the environment is evident in Chapter 10 of the CDP. .

The protection and enhancement of Wexford's County's significant and unique built heritage is one of the key objectives of this CDP. This CDP incorporates policies and objectives which seek to conserve and protect archaeological sites, monuments (including their settings), underwater archaeology and objects within the jurisdiction of Wexford County Council including those listed on the Record of Monuments and Places or newly discovered sub-surface archaeological remains.

Chapter 14 of the Plan clearly demonstrates Wexford's County Councils commitment to the protection of biodiversity, archaeology and Natura 2000 sites. In particular the Plan demonstrates how it intends to comply with the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive through various policies as described below in Section 4.2.

The CDP promotes the policies and objectives in the first biodiversity Plan prepared for the County which aims to protect the County's biodiversity through actions and raising awareness. The five key objectives of the Plan are to:

1. Identify biodiversity information and fill data gaps for the County, prioritise habitats and species for protection and inform conservation action and decision making.
2. Make information on biodiversity available.

3. Raise awareness across all sectors, groups and ages, of Wexford's biodiversity, its value, the issues facing it and encourage people through various media, training and innovative initiatives to support biodiversity conservation.
4. Promote and support best practice in biodiversity conservation taking in account national and local priorities.
5. Incorporate and raise the profile of biodiversity conservation issues in the local authority's actions and policies.

In addition Chapter 18 of the Plan sets out the development management standards for the County and under Section 18.4 the Council will 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 this plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan or 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 development / 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.

10) Recreation, Sports and Rights of Way

The provision of good quality recreational and sports facilities is a key part of sustainable communities and contributes to quality of life, personal health and well being. It also plays a vital role in developing and strengthening a sense of community.

This CDP has been informed by the findings and recommendations set out in The County Wexford Recreation Strategy which looks at existing facilities around the County and the types of recreational activities that people take part in at various stages of the lifecycle. It outlines a number of objectives and actions to promote awareness of recreational facilities, to increase accessibility to these facilities and to identify future recreational needs.

11) Social Inclusion and Community Facilities

The CDP facilitate the provision of, and improvements to, social and recreational infrastructure throughout the county and aims to provide access to new and existing community facilities throughout the County for all its residents.

The Plan also promotes balanced and sustainable development of the urban and rural areas of the County for a range of residential, services and employment opportunities.

12) Energy & Communications

The development of a more sustainable approach to energy use, power generation and energy efficiency in all sectors is vital to reducing local greenhouse gas emissions. This includes focusing on renewable, energy generation and improving energy efficiency.

4.2 IMPACT AVOIDANCE MEASURES

Throughout the draft plan for County Wexford there is an over arching message to ensure that all plans and projects in the County which are likely to have significant effect on a Natura 2000 site, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives.

4.2.1 Policies and Objectives

Overall, the development management process and the application of policies / objectives in the draft Plan will assess any future development proposals within the Plan area to ensure the protection of the natural environment and in particular Natura 2000 sites.

These policies include the following:

Chapter 3 - Core Strategy

SS02 - To ensure that any plan/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 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.

Chapter 4 - Housing

Objective HP05 - To ensure that any plan/project and any associated works for the provision of residential development or required to accommodate the objectives of this section or the Housing Strategy contained in Volume 6, 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 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.

Chapter 5 - Climate

Objective CC04 - To minimise emissions greenhouse gases in order to contribute to a reduction and avoidance of human induced climate change in accordance with the Kyoto agreement. The Council supports and is committed to the National Climate Change Strategy and in general to facilitating measures which seek to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.

Chapter 6 - Employment, Economy and Enterprise

Objective ED10 - To prohibit quarrying development which could significantly impact on the areas designated as being of European importance (such as cSACs and SPAs) where significant detrimental impacts cannot be satisfactorily mitigated, even if significant aggregate resources are identified in such areas by the GSI. A strict precautionary approach will be taken where designated sites will be affected.

Objective ED17 - To positively engage with industry representatives lobby groups, local amenity groups, other local authorities, National Parks and Wildlife, state bodies and other interested parties in the on-going development and review of the Council's management and control of extractive activities.

Objective ED26 - To maximise the economic potential of Rosslare and New Ross port facilities and promote the development of associated port related employment, subject to ensuring that any plan or project associated with the economic development of lands which has the potential to significantly affect a Natura 2000 site is appropriately assessed in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive in order to avoid adverse impacts on the integrity of the site(s).

Objective ED40 - To ensure that all proposed plans or projects relating to retail development (including retail warehouses, factory outlets, shopping centres, convenience shops etc) and any associated improvement works or associated infrastructure (i.e. parking facilities), 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 Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan or project will only proceed 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 or project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.

Chapter 7 - Tourism

Objective TM03 - To work with Fáilte Ireland, the County Wexford Tourist Board, the Arts Council and other relevant bodies including National Parks and Wildlife to promote and maximise the tourism potential of Wexford, while ensuring the protection of the natural, cultural and built heritage of the area

Objective TM13 - To support and facilitate the development of infrastructure associated with the inland waterways subject to compliance with Articles 6 and Article 10 of the Habitats Directive and subject to an Appropriate Assessment.

Objective TM32 - To consider small scale additions to, or the development of vacant infill plots in existing caravan parks in conjunction with environmental and infrastructural improvements. Regard should be had to Fáilte Ireland's Registration and Renewal of Registration Regulations for Caravan and Camping Parks 2009. While touring caravan sites tend to be less obtrusive than static sites, the provision of new facilities will be assessed against strict planning, design and environmental criteria. This type of development will be resisted in areas already well provided for, in the open countryside, in areas of landscape vulnerability and sensitivity and adjacent to or within Natura 2000 sites.

Chapter 8 - Transport

Objective T03 - To ensure that all proposed plan or projects relating to transportation (including walking, cycling, rail, bus, airports, ports and roads) and any associated improvement 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 Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan or 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 project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.

Objective T16 - To implement the mitigation measures described in the Natura Impact Statement Stage 1 Screening Assessment prepared for the N11-N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour Scheme to ensure protection of the integrity of the Slaney River Valley cSAC and the Wexford Harbour and Sloba SPA.

Chapter 9 - Infrastructure

Objective WS01 - To protect existing and potential water resources for the County, in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/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 the Groundwater Protection Scheme for the County and any other protection plans for water supply sources.

Objective WS03 - To ensure that all proposed future public water abstractions within the plan area are screened for Appropriate Assessment of its potential impact on the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive

Objective WS05 - Where connection to an existing public water supply is not possible or the existing supply system does not have sufficient capacity, the provision of a private water supply will be considered where it can be demonstrated that the proposed water supply meets the standards set out in EU and national legislation and guidance, would not be prejudicial to public health or would not impact on the source of an existing supply or cumulatively on the Natura 2000 network.

Objective WW01 - To ensure that all wastewater generated is collected, treated and discharged after treatment in a safe and sustainable manner, having regard to the standards and requirements set out in EU and national legislation and guidance and subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters, Urban Wastewater Water Directive and the Habitats Directive.

Objective WW02 - To provide, subject to funding, adequate wastewater facilities to serve the existing and future needs of populations in the towns and villages identified in the Settlement Hierarchy subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters, Urban Wastewater Water Directive and the Habitats Directive.

Objective WW04 - To consider the provision of communal private wastewater treatment facilities where appropriate to serve developments in Strong Villages, Smaller Villages and Rural Settlements only where it is demonstrated that the proposed wastewater treatment system will meet all the relevant environmental criteria of the EPA and the Planning Authority and subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters and the Habitats Directive. An

annual renewed contract for the management and maintenance of the system contracted to a reputable company/person will be required; details of which shall be submitted to the Planning Authority.

Objective WW05 - To permit the provision of private wastewater treatment facilities to serve a single dwelling house only where it demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority that the proposed wastewater treatment system is in accordance with the Code of Practice: Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Houses (EPA, 2009) and subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters and the Habitats Directive. An annual renewed contract for the management and maintenance of the system contracted to a reputable company/person will be required; details of which shall be submitted to the Planning Authority.

Objective TC06 - To minimise, and avoid where possible, the development of masts and antennae within the following areas:-

- Prominent locations in Upland, River Valley and Coastal landscape character units and in 'Landscapes of Greater Sensitivity'.
- Locations which impede or detract from existing public view points to/from Landscapes of Greater Sensitivity, rivers, estuaries or the sea.
- Areas within or adjoining the curtilage of protected structures.
- Areas on or within the setting of archaeological sites.
- Within or adjacent to Natura 2000 sites.

The Council may consider an exemption to this objective where:-

- An overriding technical need for the equipment has been demonstrated and which cannot be met by the sharing of existing authorised equipment in the area, and
- The equipment is of a scale and is sited, designed and landscaped in a manner which minimises adverse visual impacts on the subject landscape unit.

Chapter 10 – Environmental Management

Objective WQ01 - To protect existing and potential water resources for the County, in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), the South-East River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015 and any updated version, the 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 and any other protection plans for water supply sources.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Objective AQ01 - To have regard to the Air Quality Standards Regulation 2011 (S.I. No. 180 of 2011) when assessing planning applications for development which may have effects on air quality.

Objective N03 - To ensure new development does not cause an unacceptable increase in noise levels affecting noise sensitive properties. Proposals for new development with the potential to create excessive noise will be required to submit a construction and/or operation management plan to control such emissions.

Objective WM01 - To implement the provisions of the Joint Waste Management Plan for the South-East Region 2006-2011, and any updated version published during the lifetime of the Plan, subject to compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

Objective WM06 - To ensure hazardous household waste is disposed off in accordance with the provisions of the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2008-2012, and any updated version published during the lifetime of the Plan, subject to compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

Objective WM11 - To ensure the disposal of agricultural waste is carried in a safe manner and in compliance with the Nitrates Directive, European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations, 2009 (S.I. No. 101 of 2009), the European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 610 of 2010), the Habitats Directive and any other relevant statutory provisions.

Objective WM12 - To have regard to the Sludge Management Plan for the County 2001-2020 and any updated version published during the lifetime of the Plan, subject to compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

Chapter 11 - Energy

Objective EN06 - To encourage and favourably consider proposals for renewable energy developments and ancillary facilities in order to meet national, regional and county renewable energy targets and to facilitate a reduction in CO₂ emissions and the promotion of a low carbon economy, subject to development management standards and compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

Objective EN12 - To support and assist in the implementation of the South-East Region Bioenergy Implementation Plan 2008-2013 through the planning process, subject to compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

Chapter 12 - Flood Risk Management

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 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 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.

Chapter 13 - Coastal Zone Management

Objective CZM01 - 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 or project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan or 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 Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.

Objective CZM08 - To prohibit the removal of beach material, sand and gravel.

Objective CZM09 - To restrict development outside the boundaries of existing coastal settlements to that which is required to be located in that particular location such as:-

- Development to support the operation of existing ports, harbours and marinas.
- Agricultural development.
- Tourism related facilities appropriate to the particular coastal location (other than new build holiday home accommodation) where there is a demonstration of a location or resource based need.
- Other developments where an overriding need is demonstrated.

New development shall be prohibited where it poses a significant or potential threat to coastal habitats or features, and/or where the development is likely to result in adverse patterns of erosion or deposition elsewhere along the coast and where it is likely to affect the integrity of Natura 2000 sites

Objective CZM21 - To support the South-East Regional Authority in the development of a way-marked Coastal Walkway, where possible and appropriate along the full length of the South-East Region's coastline in conjunction with the other local authorities in the region, landowners and other partner agencies. All programmes and works to develop the coastal walkway will be required to comply with the principles of sustainable development Article 6 and Article 10 of the Habitat's Directive.

Chapter 14 - Heritage

Objective NH01 - 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.

Objective NH02 - To recognise the importance of recommended proposed NHAs and County Geological sites identified by the Geological Survey of Ireland and protect the character and integrity of these sites where appropriate.

Objective NH03 - 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 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.

Objective NH04 - 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.

Objective NH05 - 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 and enhanced.

Objective NH06 - To protect individual or groups of trees and woodlands of particular amenity and nature conservation value and make Tree Preservation Orders where appropriate.

Objective NH07 - 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.

Objective NH08 - 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.

Objective NH09 - To work with local communities, groups, landowners, the NPWS and other relevant parties to identify, protect, manage and, where appropriate, enhance and promote sites of local biodiversity value.

Objective NH10 - To implement the actions identified in the County Wexford Draft Biodiversity Action Plan 2012-2017, or any subsequent plan, in partnership with all relevant parties and stakeholders.

Objective NH11 - To complete mapping of ecological networks/corridors of local biodiversity value outside of designated sites and afford appropriate protection to areas of ecological importance as required.

Objective NH12 - To promote awareness and appreciation of our natural heritage through the production of guidelines for individuals, homeowners, developers and ensure that that biodiversity and natural heritage is taken into account from the earliest point in the design process.

Objective NH13 - To recognise that the Council plays an important role in the management of the landscape and ensure that considerations of natural heritage inform the Council's own decisions, actions and methods of operation

Objective NH14 - To recognise and afford appropriate protection to any new NHAs, SPAs or SACs which are designated within the life time of the Plan.

Objective NH15 - To ensure that natural heritage and biodiversity inform the preparation of Local Area Plans and to identify, protect and manage biodiversity through these Plans.

Objective GI01 - To ensure the protection, enhancement and maintenance of the natural environment and recognise the economic, social, environmental and physical value of green spaces through the integration of Green Infrastructure planning and development in the planning process.

Objective GI02 - To develop and implement a Green Infrastructure Strategy for the County, in consultation with adjoining Local Authorities, key stakeholders and the public, subject to compliance with Articles 6 and 10 of the Habitats Directive. The Strategy will integrate policies and objectives under a number of headings including; natural heritage, parks and open spaces, built heritage and archaeology, water management, flooding and climate change allowing for a strategic approach to green space planning in the County.

Objective CH09 - To cooperate with the Heritage Council, Arts Council, Fáilte Ireland and other relevant bodies such as the National Parks and Wildlife Service to promote and develop the arts, cultural and heritage attractions throughout the County.

Chapter 15 – Recreation, Sport and Public Rights of Way

Objective RS02 - To implement the strategic objectives contained in the County Wexford Recreation Strategy including promoting awareness and access to recreational activities and facilities in the County, identifying future recreational needs and promoting flexibility and adaptability of facilities in order to accommodate emerging needs, subject to compliance with Articles 6 and 10 of the Habitats Directive.

Objective RS11 - To promote the use of natural amenity areas in the County for recreational purposes while ensuring the protection of scenic and environmentally sensitive areas, including Natura 2000 sites.

Objective RS12 - To encourage the provision of access to amenity areas such as beaches, inland waterways, forests and heritage sites in co-operation with landowners and continue to maintain and improve existing accesses, subject to compliance with Articles 6 and 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 RS14 -To co-operate with Coillte in the protection of existing and development of additional forest amenity sites and walks, subject to compliance with Articles 6 and 10 of the Habitats Directive.

Objective RS15 - To support the development of the amenities and recreation potential of the River Barrow in co-operation with National Parks and Wildlife Service, Inland Waterways, adjoining Local Authorities, Harbour Masters and all other relevant authorities. All such development should be undertaken in compliance with Articles 6 and Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.

Objective RS16 - To maintain and improve beaches within the County in order to achieve Blue Flag and Green Coast status where beaches do not have these awards and strive to retain Blue Flag and Green Coast status on beaches where they have currently been awarded.

Objective RS18 - To prohibit the development of static caravan and camping sites in open and exposed coastal and lakeshore areas and areas that are deemed to be ecologically sensitive.

Objective RS22 - To promote the development and use of the Wexford Coastal Pathway (Slí Charman) as a recreation and tourist facility, subject to compliance with Articles 6 and Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.

Objective RS23 - To provide and maintain new/improved coastal access points, right-of-ways and the improvement and upgrading of the Coastal Pathway, subject to 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.

Chapter 16 – Social Inclusion and Community Facilities

Objective CF12 - Facilitate the provision of new burial grounds and the extension of existing cemeteries 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.

Chapter 17 - Urban Design

Objective 16: It is the objective of the Council to ensure that all proposed projects relating to retail development (including retail warehouses, factory outlets, shopping centres, convenience shops etc) and any associated improvement works or associated infrastructure (i.e. parking facilities), individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment 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.

Chapter 18 - Development Management Standards

Section 18.4 -The Council will 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 this plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan or 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 development / 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.

Volume 5 - Wind Energy Strategy

Section 5 of the Wind Energy Strategy contains development management standards which require the following with regards to designated sites:-

- All development proposals must be Screened for Appropriate Assessment and shall be subject to full Appropriate Assessment where they have the potential to have significant adverse impacts on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/42/EEC. Permission will only be granted where the Appropriate Assessment concludes that no likely significant effects are likely to occur.
- Applicants should have regard to the following documents in the preparation of Appropriate Assessments:
 - a) Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended);
 - b) European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 (S.I. No. 94 of 1997)(as amended);
 - c) European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011);
 - d) Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2009); and
 - e) The Wind Energy Developments and Natura 2000 Guidance Document (European Commission, October 2010).
- Where a development is proposed close to or within a Natural Heritage Area, further ecological or geological surveys may need to be undertaken by suitably qualified ecologists or geologists.
- Where construction and maintenance of wind energy developments are proposed close to coastal and estuarine areas, any impacts shall be assessed and adequate measures for the protection of fisheries/shell fisheries should be developed as part of the EIS/EMP. In carrying out such assessment applicants should have due regard to the Shellfish Waters Pollution Reduction Programmes for Wexford Harbour Inner and Outer, Bannow Bay and Waterford Harbour Shellfish Designated Areas.
- Where construction and maintenance of wind energy developments are proposed close to designated freshwater pearl mussel rivers, any impacts shall be assessed and adequate measures for the protection of these areas will be required as part of the EIS/EMP.
- Other biodiversity issues should be considered where these are protected under Irish legislation such as the 1999 Flora Protection Order and the provisions of the Wildlife Acts 1976-2000 and international legislation such as Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.
- The protection of non-designated habitats, species and local biodiversity features should be promoted through site design and landscape management plans.

Objective WE01 - Ensure the security of energy supply by supporting the development of wind energy resources in County Wexford at appropriate scales and in appropriate locations, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Section 5.

Objective WE06 - Encourage the development of ecological enhancements or improvements that go beyond measures required to mitigate or compensate for damage from wind farm construction. Providing attractive and wildlife-rich habitats is a way to contribute to local and national biodiversity strategies and targets.

Objective WE07 - Require an Appropriate Assessment to be carried out for proposals which have the potential to adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000 site. Having regard to Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, where a proposed development will give rise to significant adverse direct, indirect or secondary impacts on Natura 2000 sites (either individually or in combination with other plans or projects), permission will only be granted where there are no alternative solutions and where there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest in favour of granting permission, including those of a social or economic nature.

Rosslare Strand and Castlebridge Objectives

Objective CSO08 - To ensure the protection and conservation of natural heritage including designated sites, protected species, and ecological networks/corridors of local biodiversity value outside the designated sites.

Chapter 18 - Development Management Standards

Chapter 18 of the Development Plan sets out the development management standards for the County and under Section 18.4 of Chapter 18 the Council seek 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 this plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan or 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 development / 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.

4.2.2 Other Instruments

Numerous other higher level measures further mitigate potential impacts of the Plan. These measures include EU Directives, National legislation and various guidelines. Principal among these are the following:-

- The Habitats Directive: The European Council Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC) (Habitats Directive);
- The Water Framework Directive: The Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC;
- The National Biodiversity Plan: UN Convention on Biological Diversity 1992 – National Biodiversity Plan 2002 is as a result of this;
- The Wildlife Act: Wildlife Act 1976 and Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 (Wildlife Act);
- The Birds Directive: The 1979 European Council Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC) (Birds Directive);

- The Ramsar Convention: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar);
- The Bathing Water Directive (BW): Bathing Water Directive (76/160/EEC);
- The Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive: (91/271/EEC) (amended by Directive 98/15/EEC);
- EU Shellfish Waters Directive (2006/113/EC); and
- European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009 (S.I. No. 296 of 2009).

4.3 EXISTING ENVIRONMENT AT THE CDP LANDS

4.3.1 Water Quality

Wexford County is located within the South Eastern River Basin District and a River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) 2009-2015 and Programme of Measures (POM) has been prepared in accordance with the Water Framework Directive.

The South Eastern River Basin District has a land area of 14,000 km², including 1,000 km² of marine waters. Within the SERBD:-

- 47% of rivers, 54% of lakes, 24% of estuaries and 11% of coastal waters have high or good ecological status (percentage calculated by number);
- 53% of rivers, 38% of lakes, 76% of estuaries and 33% of coastal waters are less than good (moderate, poor or bad);
- 0.3 % of rivers, 8% of lakes and 56% of coastal waters are yet to have status assigned; and
- The majority of the surface waters tested so far has good chemical status (one estuary fails chemical status).

The implementation of the SERBMP Plan will bring incremental improvement leading to the majority of waters reaching at least 'good status' by 2027 at the latest, benefiting the whole community by providing long-term sustainable access to and use of those waters. Where waters are currently at less than good status, they must be improved until they reach good status and there must be no deterioration in the existing status of waters.

The Council is a key party in the implementation of this management plan. The Council has a duty to perform its duties in a manner which will achieve the objectives. The Council is also required to carry out a range of environmental monitoring and enforcement activities to ensure that the actions of other stakeholders will lead to water quality improvements.

The two main rivers in the study area comprise the River Barrow and the River Slaney which both have a biological water quality rating ranging from Q4 to Q3-4 as they traverse County Wexford and this is seen as being of good to moderate status. Under the Water Framework Directive these rivers are defined as "at risk" or "probably at risk" of not achieving good status. Monitoring by the Council and other agencies of all water sources is carried out for the purpose of implementing the Water

Framework Directive. It is a policy of the Council to ensure that the EU Water Framework Directive is implemented. Further, it is a policy of the Council to ensure that the specific relevant objectives and measures for individual water bodies set out in the South Eastern River Basin Management Plan and associated Programme of Measures are implemented.

The River Barrow forms part of the River Barrow and River Nore Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (Site code 002162) and the Slaney forms part of the River Slaney SAC (Site Code 00781) , and the Council is committed to protecting and enhancing this river. All proposed development within and adjoining the Wexford area will be screened for Appropriate Assessment of its potential to impact on the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

4.3.2 Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment

The Plan recognises that the provision of high quality water supply and wastewater infrastructure is fundamental to ensure the long-term physical, environmental, social and economic development of the County. The population growth, which occurred in recent years, placed significant pressures on water and wastewater facilities in many of the County's settlements.

The Council is therefore committed to:-

- Providing adequate water supply and wastewater infrastructure which will support economic development, in particular, industrial and commercial;
- Meeting EU and national standards for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure;
- Preserving and protecting water resources as a key element of environmental policy;
- Addressing the issue of climate change in water management; and
- Managing and mitigating the risk and consequences of flooding on water and wastewater infrastructure.

The Council's ability to meet their commitments under the Water Framework Directive could be compromised due to shortfall in wastewater treatment capacity. Currently there are a number of systems are operating at or over capacity. However no development shall be permitted to proceed if the local services are insufficient to cater for the development.

It is a policy of the Council to ensure that all wastewater generated is collected, treated and discharged after treatment in a safe and sustainable manner, having regard to the standards and requirements set out in EU and national legislation and guidance and subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters, Urban Wastewater Water Directive and the Habitats Directive.

Specifically within the Plan the Council have committed to ensuring that any water supply, including water abstraction points, or any wastewater development/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.

4.3.3 Groundwater Protection

The majority of water supplies in the County come from groundwater or surface water sources. The two most significant impacts on water quality arise from discharges from wastewater treatment systems and pollution arising from agricultural activities.

Qualitative and quantitative criteria determine the classification of groundwaters in accordance with the provisions of the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 S.I. No. 9 of 2010. The WFD sets out a series of criteria that must be met for a body to be classed as good chemical and quantitative status. Groundwaters are classified as being either good or poor. All ground water is at 'Good' water quality status in County Wexford.

The Council is committed to protecting and enhancing groundwater in County Wexford and have specific policies which include: to ensure that all proposed developments comply with the Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) in the design of surface water drainage; to ensure the implementation of the Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration; to require surface water runoff to pass through an oil/ petrol / silt interceptor prior to discharging to groundwater, existing sewers or surface water; and to maintain, improve and enhance the environmental and ecological quality of our surface waters and groundwaters by implementing the Programme of Measures contained in the South Eastern River Basin District (SERBD) River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015.

The Council will also implement all relevant Surface Water legislation including 'Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 (S.I. No 272 of 2009).

It is a policy of the Council 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.

4.3.4 Flood Protection, Climate Change and Coastal Zone Management

The County's has an extensive coastline and therefore has large areas potential vulnerable to coastal flooding. This type of flooding is caused by higher sea levels than normal brought about by storm surges, which results in the sea overflowing onto the land. Large parts of the County's coastline are low lying which makes them vulnerable to increases in sea levels. In addition the County is subject to fluvial, pluvial and groundwater flooding.

The 2013-2009 Plan recognises that flooding is an important issue when considering location of development in relation to flood plain of a watercourse and they have therefore prepared a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) which has identified:

- Identified the broad nature of flood risk in the County,
- Outlined the flood risk management objectives to be included in the Plan; and
- Outlined the development management standards to be included in the Plan.

The Plan does not propose to zone any land for development or identify the location of future strategic infrastructure within flood risk areas. Therefore, in accordance with the Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines (DEHLG and OPW, 2009), the SFRA is not required to produce flood risk maps for all watercourses or coastal frontage in the Plan area.

The Planning Authority has been very proactive in area of the flood risk management and has acquired flood zone maps for the County. These maps are currently used as a screening tool for flood risk and have are included in Appendix A of the SFRA for the purposes of identifying sources of flood hazard in the County

Along the coast the concentration of sand extraction developments and wind developments have created dominant features near Cahore, Blackwater, Carnsore Point and Inish Point. The coastal area is experiencing greater pressure for tourism and residential development; parts of the landscape of the Hook peninsula are experiencing pressure from second homes and holiday homes. There are a number of policies within the plan that provide for the protection of coastal SPAs and SACs including those that address potential impacts from increased visitor numbers, infrastructure, wind farms, sand extraction and coastal zone management of erosion.

4.4 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE(S) POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive and sites designated under them form a network of European protected sites that are known at the Natura 2000 network. This consists of:

- Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) for flora, fauna and habitats of Community interest under the Habitats Directive;
- Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for rare, vulnerable or migratory birds under the EU Birds Directive; and
- Sites that are being considered for designation as one of the above are referred to as cSAC (candidate) or pSPA (proposed).

This section of the screening process describes the Natura 2000 sites within a 15km radius of the draft Plan area. A 15km buffer zone has been chosen as a precautionary measure, to ensure that all potentially affected Natura 2000 sites are included in the screening process, which is in line with *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities* produced by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Table 4.1 lists the cSACs that are within the draft Plan area. **Table 4.2** lists the SPAs that are within the draft Plan area. **Table 4.3** lists the SPAs and SACs that are within 15km of the Wexford County Boundary.

Figure 4.1 shows their locations in relation to the draft Wexford County Development Plan. The qualifying features for each site have been obtained through a review of the cSAC Datasheets available from the NPWS website (www.npws.ie).

Table 4.1: cSACs within Wexford County Boundary

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
Site Code 000696 Ballyteige Burrow	2130	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	Excellent	Serious damage had been caused to the dune and salt marsh habitats in the recent past due to horse riding activities - these have now ceased. Recreational pressures are low as the site is not very accessible. Incoming freshwater to the estuary is of low quality, reflecting the intensive agricultural activities on adjacent lands. A significant threat is the possible construction of a groyne for coastal protection at the western end of the site. This could affect the dynamics of the sand/shingle ridge and the inlet channel.	Development, Recreation: Pedestrian traffic and vehicle use, Walking, horseriding & non-motorised vehicles, camping and caravans, cycling routes, golf courses, paths, tracks. Erosion, grazing, undergrazing, invasion of non-native species, scrub encroachment, trampling, overuse, agricultural improvement, stock feeding, overgrazing by cattle, overgrazing by hares, rabbits, small mammals, restructuring agricultural land holding, sea defence or coastal protection works, disposal of household waste, sand and gravel extraction and other pollution or human activities.
	1330	Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	Good		Invasive species, overgrazing, erosion and accretion and habitat loss.
	1410	Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	Good		Overgrazing, infilling and reclamation, invasive species and erosion.
	1150	Coastal lagoons	Good		Hunting, paths, tracks, improved access, silting up, water pollution (excessive nutrient enrichment, and domestic effluent).
	2150	Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetia)	Good		Agricultural improvement, overgrazing by cattle, undergrazing (leading to scrub encroachment), restructuring of agricultural land holdings, intensive stock feeding and the development of sand quarries.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
	1310	Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	Good		Infilling, reclamation and embankment of some former saltmarsh and intertidal areas for agricultural purposes, erosion, accretion and invasive species.
	1420	Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (<i>Sarcocornetea fruticosi</i>)	Good		Cattle poaching and the tracks created by off-road vehicles and horse riding activities.
	1130	Estuaries	Good		Aquaculture, fishing, coastal development and water pollution, intensive agricultural activities on adjacent lands, professional fishing, taking for fauna, taking for flora, climate change and change in species composition.
	1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Good		Aquaculture, water pollution, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works, invasive species, hard coastal defence structures, sea-level rise, climate change, aggregate extraction (removal of beach material), industrialization, Port/Marina and communications networks.
	2120	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)	Average or Reduced		Erosion, walking, horseriding and nonmotorised vehicles, trampling, sea defence or coastal protection works, removal of beach materials and sand compaction caused by motorised vehicles on the beach.
	1220	Perennial vegetation of stony banks	Good		Disruption of the sediment supply and interruption of coastal processes caused by developments such as car parks and coastal defence structures such as rock armour and sea walls. Gravel removal directly impacts the habitat, trampling caused by horse riding, and vehicles can be significant.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
	1320	Spartina swards (Spartinion maritimae)	Good		Reclamation of mudflats and saltmarsh or coastal protection works and invasive species.
	2110	Embryonic shifting dunes	Average or Reduced		Recreation, sand extraction, construction of coastal protection works and coastal stabilisation.
	1210	Annual Vegetation of drift lines	Good		Recreational uses, including trampling, horse riding, vehicle use and mechanised removal of tidal litter. Grazing, sand and gravel extraction, removal of beach materials and sea defence or coastal protection works.
Site Code 000697 Bannow Bay	1130	Estuaries	Good	The water quality of the site was excellent during the last testing period 1990- 1994. Shellfish farming operations are carried out over much of the intertidal area. This may have implications for future water quality. At present some of the farming practices are not very favourable as abandoned trestles, tractors and other machinery are left on the shore. Tractors driving on the shore affect the vegetation and possibly the birds. Severe natural erosion of one of the dune systems is on-going. This may also be partly as a result of commercial extraction of beach material in the 1970s and 1980s.	Aquaculture, fishing, coastal development and water pollution, intensive agricultural activities on adjacent lands, professional fishing, taking for fauna, taking for flora, climate change and change in species composition.
	1420	Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (Sarcocornetea fruticosi)	Good		Cattle poaching and the tracks created by off-road vehicles and horse riding activities.
	1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Excellent		Aquaculture, water pollution, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works, invasive species, hard coastal defence structures, sea-level rise, climate change, aggregate extraction (removal of beach material) , industrialization, Port/Marina and communications networks.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
	1210	Annual vegetation of drift lines	Good		(County Wexford has the highest number of habitat records along the east coast). Recreational uses, including trampling, horse riding, vehicle use and mechanised removal of tidal litter. Grazing, sand and gravel extraction, removal of beach materials and sea defence or coastal protection works.
	1310	Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	Good		Infilling, reclamation and embankment of some former saltmarsh and intertidal areas for agricultural purposes, erosion, accretion, invasive species
	1330	Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	Good		Invasive species, overgrazing, erosion and accretion and habitat loss.
	2120	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	Good		Erosion, Walking, horseriding and nonmotorised vehicles, Trampling, overuse, Sea defence or coastal protection works, removal of beach materials, construction of coastal protection works or by sand compaction caused by motorised vehicles on the beach. High visitor pressure on dunes causes trampling,
	1410	Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) Embryonic shifting dunes	Good		Overgrazing, infilling and reclamation, invasive species and erosion.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
	2130	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	Good		Intense pressure from development. Sites on the east coast suffer in particular from recreation: Pedestrian traffic and vehicle use, Walking, horseriding & non-motorised vehicles, camping and caravans, cycling routes, golf courses, paths, tracks. Erosion, grazing, undergrazing, invasion of non-native species, scrub encroachment, trampling, overuse, agricultural improvement, stock feeding, overgrazing by cattle, overgrazing by hares, rabbits, small mammals, restructuring agricultural land holding, sea defence or coastal protection works, dispersed habitation, disposal of household waste, sand and gravel extraction and other pollution or human activities.
	1220	Perennial vegetation of stony banks	Average or Reduced		Disruption of the sediment supply and interruption of coastal processes caused by developments such as car parks and coastal defence structures such as rock armour and sea walls. Gravel removal directly impacts the habitat, trampling caused by horse riding, and vehicles can be significant.
	1320	Spartina swards (Spartinion maritimae)	Good		Reclamation of mudflats and saltmarsh or coastal protection works and invasive species.
Site Code 000770 Blackstairs Mountains	4030	European dry heaths	Excellent	The site is particularly vulnerable to afforestation with coniferous species - much of the land surrounding the site has been planted. The site is also vulnerable to overgrazing and to uncontrolled burning.	All terrain vehicles (ATVs), Burning , Decline of the Red Grouse population, Erosion, Grazing and Group water schemes.
	4010	North Atlantic wet heath with Erica tetralix	Average or Reduced		

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
Site Code 000700 Cahore Polders and Dunes	1210	Annual vegetation of drift lines	Good	The dunes are subject to high recreational pressure, mainly at the northern end. Over the years there has been loss of dune habitat in this area to houses and caravan parks. Erosion by the sea is also a feature of this stretch of coast with significant losses in recent years. Undergrazing in parts of the dunes has allowed the spread of <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> and scrub, including <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> . Appropriate management is required to lessen adverse effects from the above-mentioned activities. Present landuse on site is suitable for the wintering waterfowl.	County Wexford has the highest number of habitat records along the east coast). Recreational uses, including trampling, horse riding, vehicle use and mechanised removal of tidal litter. Grazing, sand and gravel extraction, removal of beach materials and sea defence or coastal protection works.
	2110	Embryonic shifting dunes	Good		Recreation, sand extraction, construction of coastal protection works and coastal stabilisation.
	2120	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)	Good		Erosion, Walking, horse riding and non motorised vehicles, Trampling, overuse, Sea defence or coastal protection works, removal of beach materials, construction of coastal protection works or by sand compaction caused by motorised vehicles on the beach and trampling caused by high visitor pressure on dunes.
	2130	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	Good		Intense pressure from development. Sites on the east coast suffer in particular from recreation: Pedestrian traffic and vehicle use, Walking, horse riding & non-motorised vehicles, camping and caravans, cycling routes, golf courses, paths, tracks. Erosion, grazing, undergrazing, invasion of non-native species, scrub encroachment, trampling, overuse, agricultural improvement, stock feeding, overgrazing by cattle, overgrazing by hares, rabbits, small mammals, restructuring agricultural land holding, sea defence or coastal protection works, dispersed habitation, disposal of household waste, sand and gravel extraction, other pollution or human activities.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
Site Code 002269 Carnsore Point	1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Good	Carne Beach is a popular resort and its recreational use seems likely to increase. Although intertidal sand flats are sensitive to recreational use, there is no record of structural damage to the area. There is a shipping channel to the south east of the site. Dredging activities are of more concern to the reef communities, since these may increase suspended sediments in the area. The beds of <i>Musculus discors</i> , which are filter feeders, may be particularly affected by this activity. The infralittoral and circalittoral reefs are used for fishing (potting) though this does not appear to have damaged the structure of the reef. It is possible that potting could alter the trophic structure of the reef if key species are targeted.	Aquaculture, water pollution, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works, invasive species, hard coastal defence structures, sea-level rise, climate change, aggregate extraction (removal of beach material), industrialization, Port/Marina and communications networks.
	1170	Reefs	Excellent		Professional fishing, taking for fauna, taking for flora, water pollution, climate change and change in species composition.
Site Code 000764 Hook Head	1170	Reefs	Excellent	There are no apparent significant threats to the cliff habitat at this site. Fossil collecting occurs and may increase in the future. Fishing trawling takes place in the site. The effects of these activities have not been studied but trawling generally has detrimental effects on benthic communities. A dump site for dredge soil is located to the west of the site but as the predominant water currents are to the west the site should not be affected.	Professional fishing, taking for fauna, taking for flora, water pollution, climate change and change in species composition.
	1230	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	Good		Erosion, grazing, recreational pressures, development of golf courses and housing, dumping and cutting of peat., coastal protection works and climate change.
	1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	Good		Aquaculture, Professional Fishing, Recreational fishing, Removal of fauna, Housing development, Discharges, Autoroutes, Port/Marina, Water Pollution, Reclamation of land, Dredging, Dumping of dredged material and invasion of species.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
Site Code 001741 Kilmuckridge -Tinnaberna Sandhills	2130	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	Excellent	Much of the site is remote and difficult to reach, but the dunes at the north end are subject to pressure from holiday makers, horse riding and walking. The introduced shrub <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> is spreading on the fixed dunes and may reduce the present species diversity.	Intense pressure from development. Sites on the east coast suffer in particular from recreation: Pedestrian traffic and vehicle use, Walking, horseriding & non-motorised vehicles, camping and caravans, cycling routes, golf courses, paths, tracks. Erosion, grazing, undergrazing, invasion of non-native species, scrub encroachment, trampling, overuse, agricultural improvement, stock feeding, overgrazing by cattle, overgrazing by hares, rabbits, small mammals, restructuring agricultural land holding, sea defence or coastal protection works, dispersed habitation, disposal of household waste, sand and gravel extraction and other pollution or human activities.
	2120	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)	Good		Erosion, Walking, horseriding and nonmotorised vehicles, Trampling, overuse, Sea defence or coastal protection works, removal of beach materials, construction of coastal protection works or by sand compaction caused by motorised vehicles on the beach. Trampling of dunes caused by high visitor pressure.
Site Code 001742 Kilpatrick Sandhills	1210	Annual vegetation of drift lines	Good	The main land uses which presently occur on this site are grazing by cattle and recreational activities. Grazing has not caused significant damage to date but any increases in stocking rates could threaten the stability of the dunes. There is some erosion of the dunes in the southern part of the site due to tracks leading to the beach. An increase in the numbers of visitors to the area would probably be detrimental to the site unless carefully managed.	County Wexford has the highest number of such habitat records along the east coast. Recreational uses, including trampling, horse riding, vehicle use and mechanised removal of tidal litter. Grazing, sand and gravel extraction, removal of beach materials and sea defence or coastal protection works.
	2110	Embryonic shifting dunes	Good		Recreation, sand extraction, construction of coastal protection works and coastal stabilisation.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
	2120	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)	Good		Erosion, Walking, horseriding and nonmotorised vehicles, Trampling, overuse, Sea defence or coastal protection works, removal of beach materials, construction of coastal protection works or by sand compaction caused by motorised vehicles on the beach. Trampling of dunes caused by high visitor pressure.
	2130	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	Good		Intense pressure from development. Sites on the east coast suffer in particular from recreation: Pedestrian traffic and vehicle use, Walking, horseriding & non-motorised vehicles, camping and caravans, cycling routes, golf courses, paths, tracks. Erosion, grazing, undergrazing, invasion of non-native species, scrub encroachment, trampling, overuse, agricultural improvement, stock feeding, overgrazing by cattle, overgrazing by hares, rabbits, small mammals, restructuring agricultural land holding, sea defence or coastal protection works, dispersed habitation, disposal of household waste, sand and gravel extraction, other pollution or human activities
	2150	Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (<i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i>)	Good		Agricultural improvement, overgrazing by cattle, undergrazing (leading to scrub encroachment), restructuring of agricultural land holdings, intensive stock feeding and the development of sand quarries.
Site Code 000704 Lady's Island Lake	1150	Coastal lagoons	Good	Deliberate breaching of the barrier leads to increased salinity of the lagoon which could be detrimental to the flora and fauna. The lagoon is also prone to eutrophication from agricultural and domestic effluents. Regular breaching of the gravel barrier may weaken it in the long-term. Increased recreational activities in the area, including water	Hunting, paths, tracks, improved access to site, outdoor sports leisure, water pollution, reclamation, drainage, modification of hydrography, management of water levels, eutrophication and accumulation of organic material.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
	1220	Perennial vegetation of stony banks	Good	sports, would lead to disturbance of breeding birds. Horse riding and motor cycling activities have caused damage to the surface vegetation of the barrier in the past and remain threats. Removal of sand and gravel is a continuous threat. The reef community is not known to be threatened though would be vulnerable to oil pollution.	Disruption of the sediment supply and interruption of coastal processes caused by developments such as car parks and coastal defence structures such as rock armour and sea walls. Gravel removal directly impacts the habitat, trampling caused by horse riding, and vehicles can be significant.
	1170	Reefs	Excellent		Professional fishing, taking for fauna, taking for flora, water pollution, climate change, change in species composition.
Site Code 002161 Long Bank	1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	Good	No specific threats known. In general, however, sand banks are threatened by sand and gravel extraction and have potential for the siting of offshore wind farms.	Aggregate extraction, coal extraction and wind farm development.
Site Code 000710 Raven Point Nature Reserve	2110	Embryonic shifting dunes	Good	As most of the site is managed as a Nature Reserve, there are no significant threats from potential damaging activities. Horse riding activities cause some damage to the driftline and embryonic dune communities. The gradual replacement of the conifers with hardwood species will result in ecological change to the planted dunes. As the site is a highly dynamic system, erosion and accretion are natural features.	Erosion, Walking, horseriding and nonmotorised vehicles, Trampling, overuse, Sea defence or coastal protection works. Recreation, sand extraction and coastal stabilisation.
	2120	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)	Good		Erosion, walking, horseriding and nonmotorised vehicles, Trampling, overuse, Sea defence or coastal protection works, removal of beach materials, construction of coastal protection works or by sand compaction caused by motorised vehicles on the beach. Trampling of dunes caused by high visitor pressure.
	2170	Dunes with <i>Salix repens ssp. argentea</i> (<i>Salix arenariae</i>)	Average or Reduced		The main impacts and threats to this habitat include overgrazing, undergrazing, agricultural improvement and recreation.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
	1210	Annual vegetation of drift lines	Good		County Wexford has the highest number of habitat records along the east coast). Recreational uses, including trampling, horse riding, vehicle use and mechanised removal of tidal litter. Grazing, sand and gravel extraction, removal of beach materials and sea defence or coastal protection works.
	2130	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	Good		Intense pressure from development. Sites on the east coast suffer in particular from recreation: Pedestrian traffic and vehicle use, Walking, horseriding & non-motorised vehicles, camping and caravans, cycling routes, golf courses, paths, tracks. Erosion, grazing, under-grazing, invasion of non-native species, scrub encroachment, trampling, overuse, agricultural improvement, stock feeding, overgrazing by cattle, overgrazing by hares, rabbits, small mammals, restructuring agricultural land holding, sea defence or coastal protection works, dispersed habitation, disposal of household waste, sand and gravel extraction and other pollution or human activities.
	2190	Humid dune slacks	Average or Reduced		Overgrazing, undergrazing, over-stabilisation of dunes, water abstraction and drainage, golf course developments, forestry and coastal protection works.
	1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Excellent		Aquaculture, water pollution, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works, invasive species, hard coastal defence structures, sea-level rise, climate change, aggregate extraction (removal of beach material) , industrialization, Port/Marina and communications networks.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
	1330	Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	Good		Invasive species, overgrazing, erosion and accretion, and habitat loss.
Site Code 002162 River Barrow and River Nore	91A0	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	Good	30% of the site consists of water: 10% freshwater and 20% of estuarine and tidal stretches. The Annex II species listed in Section 4.2 are dependent on the quality of these waters. Much of the site along the water courses is under threat from pollution caused by increased fertiliser application, sewage and industrial waste. There is also loss of saltmeadow habitat with two legally protected species and a rare sedge, as a result of infilling and agricultural intensification. Alosa fallax may be vulnerable to angling pressure. Aquaculture occurs in Waterford Harbour and may be causing some disturbance to the intertidal sediments and wintering birds - intensification of aquaculture is a threat.	Inappropriate grazing levels and invasive species, clearance for agriculture or felling for timber, fragmentation and planting of non-native conifers.
	91E0	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	Excellent		Fragmentation, invasive species, drainage and sub-optimal grazing regimes.
	3260	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculum fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation	Good		Eutrophication, overgrazing, excessive fertilisation, afforestation and invasive alien species.
	1330	Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	Excellent		Invasive species, overgrazing, erosion and accretion, and habitat loss.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
	1410	Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>)	Excellent		Overgrazing, infilling and reclamation, invasive species and erosion.
	4030	European dry heaths	Good		Agriculture, burning, sand and gravel extraction, urbanization, industrialization, acidification, tropospheric ozone and nitrogen enrichment caused by atmospheric deposition, afforestation, over-burning, over-grazing and under-grazing and bracken invasion.
	1130	Estuaries	Good		Aquaculture, fishing, coastal development and water pollution, intensive agricultural activities on adjacent lands, professional fishing, taking for fauna, taking for flora, climate change, change in species composition.
	7220	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>)	Good		Land reclamation, turf cutting and drainage.
	6430	Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	Good		Invasive species, arterial drainage and agricultural improvement at the river edge.
	1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Good		Aquaculture, water pollution, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works, invasive species, hard coastal defence structures, sea-level rise, climate change, aggregate extraction (removal of beach material), industrialization, Port/Marina and communications networks.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
	1310	Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	Good		Infilling, reclamation and embankment of some former saltmarsh and intertidal areas for agricultural purposes, erosion, accretion and invasive species.
		<i>Petromyzon marinus</i> (Sea Lamprey)	Good		Obstructions, Impassible weirs, Gross Pollution, and specific pollutants
		<i>Lampetra planeri</i> (European Brook Lamprey)	Good		Channel maintenance, barriers, Passage obstruction, Gross pollution and specific pollutants.
		<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> (River Lamprey)	Good		Barriers to migration, habitat loss and water quality.
		<i>Salmo salar</i> (Atlantic Salmon)	Good		Man-made barriers to migration, eutrophication, water quality, leisure fishing, drift netting, sedimentation of gravels and neglected riparian corridors.
		<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> (White Clawed Crayfish)	Excellent		Alien species, crayfish plague, water quality, pollution (in particular silage effluent and biocides) and drainage maintenance.
		<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> (Freshwater Pearl Mussel)	Good		Sedimentation, pollution, water quality. channelisation and disease in salmonids
		<i>Lutra lutra</i> (Otter)	Excellent		Use of pesticides, fertilization, removal of hedges and copses, removal of scrub, felling of native or mixed woodland, professional fishing (including lobster pots and fyke nets), hunting, trapping, poisoning, poaching, sand and gravel extraction, mechanical removal of peat, urbanised areas, human habitation, continuous urbanization, industrial or commercial areas, discharges, disposal of household waste, disposal of

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
					industrial waste, disposal of inert materials, other discharges, routes, autoroutes, bridge, viaduct, water pollution, other forms or mixed forms of pollution, infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, drainage, management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, removal of sediments, canalization or modifying structures of inland water course.
		<i>Alosa fallax</i> (Twaite Shad)	Good		Manmade barriers to migration, eutrophication, leisure fishing and drift netting.
		<i>Alosa alosa</i> (Allis Shad)	Good		
		<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> (Desmoulins Whorl Snail)	Good		Cultivation, Use of pesticides, Fertilisation, Grazing, Undergrazing, Forestry planting, Stock feeding, Burning, Peat extraction, Communications networks, Paths, tracks, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Water pollution, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, Drainage and modifying structures of inland water course.
		<i>Trichomanes speciosum</i> (Killarney Fern)	Excellent		Collection of samples, Outdoor sport and leisure, Human disturbance in localities used for recreational purposes, Woodland clearance, Overgrazing, Natural processes such as wind felling of trees, Modifications to the hydrology of a site through afforestation, road development or hydro-electric engineering, Water pollution, Air pollution hydrocarbons, Global warming and Climate change.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
		<i>Margaritifera durrovensis</i> (Nore Freshwater Pearl Mussel)	Average or Reduced		The principal threat to this species is poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment coupled with increased levels of siltation.
Site Code 000707 Saltee Islands	1170	Reefs	Excellent	The removal of target flatfish species and other marine species by trawling and potting on their predator and prey species is uncertain and could be damaging to the seabed communities. The fragility of the deep circalittoral reef communities makes them particularly vulnerable to mechanical damage. Bait digging occurs at Kilmore Quay and could be damaging to the intertidal communities. Seawalls have been erected at Kilmore Quay -the impact of these, or future coastal defence schemes, is unknown but could be damaging to the seabed and intertidal communities. The terrestrial habitats of the island are not threatened. No known threats to the grey seal population though conflict may arise with fishing interests in surrounding waters. No known significant threats to breeding seabird populations. The presence of <i>Rattus norvegicus</i> may affect breeding <i>Puffinus puffinus</i> and <i>Fratercula arctica</i> .	Professional fishing, taking for fauna, taking for flora, water pollution, climate change, change in species composition. The extent of fisheries impacts on offshore reefs has not been documented.
	1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Good		Aquaculture, water pollution, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works, invasive species, hard coastal defence structures, sea-level rise, climate change, aggregate extraction (removal of beach material) , industrialization, Port/Marina and communications networks.
	1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	Good		Aquaculture, Professional Fishing, Recreational fishing, Removal of fauna, Housing development, Discharges, Auto-routes, Port/Marina, Water Pollution, Reclamation of land, Dredging, Dumping of dredged material and invasion of species.
	1230	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	Excellent		Erosion, grazing, recreational pressures, development of golf courses and housing, dumping and cutting of peat., coastal protection works and climate change.
	8330	Submerged or partly submerged sea caves	Good		None identified
		<i>Halichoerus grypus</i> (Grey Seal)	Excellent		Changes in fishing practices, fisheries interactions, disease and ecotourism.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
Site Code 000708 Screen Hills	4030	European dry heaths	Excellent	The heath is vulnerable to agricultural improvement - namely fertilization and ploughing/reseeding. Lakes are vulnerable mostly to artificial enrichment from run-off. Complete reclamation of the smaller ponds is a threat.	Agriculture, burning, sand and gravel extraction, urbanization, industrialization, acidification, tropospheric ozone and nitrogen enrichment caused by atmospheric deposition, afforestation, over-burning, over-grazing, under-grazing and bracken invasion.
	3110	Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>)	Good		Fertilisation, Grazing, Forestry, Burning, Leisure fishing, Hunting, Peat extraction, Dispersed habitation, Discharges, Sport and leisure structures, Pollution, Drainage, Erosion and Alien Invasive species.
Site Code 000781 Slaney River Valley	1130	Estuaries	Good	Most of the habitats and species of ecological importance within this site are dependant on good water quality. While generally good, the system receives nutrient run-off from agricultural activities and also inputs of pollution from point sources associated with domestic and industrial activities. Any increases in the present levels of pollution could be harmful to water quality. Localised reclamation has occurred along the banks of the river and in the marginal areas of the estuary and any further reclamation is undesirable.	Aquaculture, fishing, coastal development and water pollution, intensive agricultural activities on adjacent lands, professional fishing, taking for fauna, taking for flora, climate change and change in species composition.
	1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Good		Aquaculture, water pollution, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works, invasive species, hard coastal defence structures, sea-level rise, climate change, aggregate extraction (removal of beach material), industrialization, Port/Marina and communications networks.
	3260	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation	Good		Eutrophication, overgrazing, excessive fertilisation, afforestation and invasive alien species.
	91E0	Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Good		Fragmentation, invasive species, drainage and sub-optimal grazing regimes.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
		(Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)			
	91A0	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	Good		Inappropriate grazing levels and invasive species, clearance for agriculture or felling for timber, fragmentation and planting of non-native conifers.
		<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> (River Lamprey)	Good		Barriers to migration, habitat loss and water quality.
		<i>Lampetra planeri</i> (European Brook Lamprey)	Good		Channel maintenance, barriers, Passage obstruction, Gross pollution and specific pollutants.
		<i>Petromyzon marinus</i> (Sea Lamprey)	Good		Obstructions, Impassible weirs, Gross Pollution and Specific Pollutants.
		<i>Salmo salar</i> (Atlantic Salmon)	Good		Man-made barriers to migration, eutrophication, water quality, leisure fishing, drift netting, sedimentation of gravels and neglected riparian corridors.
		<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> (Freshwater Pearl Mussel)	Good		Sedimentation, pollution and water quality.
		<i>Lutra lutra</i> (Otter)	Excellent		Use of pesticides, fertilization, removal of hedges and copses, removal of scrub, felling of native or mixed woodland, professional fishing (including lobster pots and fyke nets), hunting, trapping, poisoning, poaching, sand and gravel extraction, mechanical removal of peat, urbanised areas, human habitation, continuous urbanization, industrial or commercial areas,

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
					discharges, disposal of household waste, disposal of industrial waste, disposal of inert materials, other discharges, routes, autoroutes, bridge, viaduct, water pollution, other forms or mixed forms of pollution, infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, drainage, management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, removal of sediments and canalization or modifying structures of inland water course
		<i>Alosa fallax</i> (Twaite Shad)	Good		Manmade barriers to migration, eutrophication, leisure fishing and drift netting.
		<i>Alosa alosa</i> (Allis Shad)	Good		
Site Code 000709 Tacumshin Lake	1150	Coastal lagoons	Good	Lagoon habitat is potentially threatened by implementation of a more effective drainage system. In recent years parts of the lagoon and sand dune habitats have been seriously damaged by horse racing activities and such activities remain a threat. Significant disturbance in summer and autumn due to a range of recreational activities, including dog exercising, bird watching and driving of cars.	Hunting, paths, tracks, improved access to site, outdoor sports leisure, water pollution, reclamation, drainage, modification of hydrography, management of water levels, eutrophication and accumulation of organic material.
	1210	Annual vegetation of drift lines	Good		County Wexford has the highest number of habitat records along the east coast). Recreational uses, including trampling, horse riding, vehicle use and mechanised removal of tidal litter. Grazing, sand and gravel extraction, removal of beach materials and sea defence or coastal protection works.
	2120	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)	Good		Erosion, walking, horseriding and nonmotorised vehicles, Trampling, overuse, Sea defence or coastal protection works, removal of beach materials, construction of coastal protection works or by sand compaction caused by motorised vehicles on the beach. Trampling of dunes caused by high visitor

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Specific Threats to Natura 2000 Site	Threats to Individual Qualifying Features (Site Integrity)
					pressure.
	1220	Perennial vegetation of stony banks	Good		Disruption of the sediment supply and interruption of coastal processes caused by developments such as car parks and coastal defence structures such as rock armour and sea walls. Gravel removal directly impacts the habitat, trampling caused by horse riding, and vehicles can be significant.
	2110	Embryonic shifting dunes	Good		Erosion, Walking, horseriding and nonmotorised vehicles, Trampling, overuse, Sea defence or coastal protection works. Recreation, sand extraction, coastal stabilisation.

1 = Information on conservation status for each habitat and specie within the cSACs and SPAs in County Wexford was extracted from the Natura 2000 Standard Data Forms for each of the cSAC on the NPWS website <http://www.npws.ie/protectedsites/>. This information provides specific details on the conservation status of each habitat and specie within the SAC rather than the conservation status of the habitat in Ireland which is available in The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland.

Table 4.2: SPAs within 15km of draft Plan Area

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Threats to Natura 2000 Site
Site Code 004020	A046	Light-Bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>)	Good	No serious imminent threats to the bird populations.
Ballyteigue Burrow	A048	Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>)	Good	
	A140	Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>)	Good	
	A141	Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)	Good	
	A142	Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>)	Good	
	A156	Black-Tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>)	Excellent	
	A157	Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>)	Excellent	
	[A999]	Wetlands & Waterbirds		
Site Code 004118	A017	Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>)	Excellent	The site is fairly inaccessible and there are no known threats.
Keeragh Islands				

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Threats to Natura 2000 Site
Site Code 004002 Saltee Islands	A009	Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>)	Excellent	Day trippers, mainly to Great Saltee, may cause some disturbance. The presence of <i>Rattus norvegicus</i> may affect breeding <i>Puffinus puffinus</i> and <i>Fratercula arctica</i> . The removal of target flatfish species and other marine species by trawling and potting could affect the food resources of the seabirds.
	A016	Gannet (<i>Morus bassanus</i>)	Excellent	
	A017	Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>)	Excellent	
	A018	Shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>)	N/a	
	A183	Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>)	Excellent	
	A184	Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>)	N/a	
	A188	Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>)	Excellent	
	A199	Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>)	Excellent	
	A200	Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>)	Excellent	
	A204	Puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>)	Excellent	

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Threats to Natura 2000 Site
Site Code 004009 Ladys Island Lake	A051	Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>)	Excellent	Deliberate breaching of the barrier leads to increased salinity of the lagoon which could be detrimental to the flora and fauna. Removal of sand and gravel from the barrier is a continuous threat and is detrimental to the entire lagoon system. A reduction in the water level can permit terrestrial predators to reach nesting birds on the islands. The lagoon is also prone to eutrophication from agricultural and domestic effluents. Increased recreational activities in the area, including water sports, may cause disturbance to breeding and wintering birds. A population of feral (<i>Anser anser</i>) present at the site may have negative interactions with other bird species.
	A179	Black-headed Gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>)	Excellent	
	A191	Sandwich Tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>)	Excellent	
	A192	Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>)	Excellent	
	A193	Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>)	Excellent	
	A194	Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>)	Excellent	
	A999	Wetlands & Waterbirds		
Site Code 004019 The Raven	A001	Red-throated Diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>)	Excellent	There are no imminent threats to the wintering bird populations. The colony of <i>Sterna albifrons</i> is vulnerable to disturbance from recreational activities. As the site is a highly dynamic system, erosion and accretion are natural features and the suitability of the area for nesting <i>Sterna albifrons</i> varies between years.
	A017	Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>)	Excellent	
	A065	Common Scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>)	Excellent	
	A141	Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)	Excellent	

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Threats to Natura 2000 Site
	A144	Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>)	Excellent	
	A395	Greenland White-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>)	Excellent	
	A999	Wetlands & Waterbirds		
Site Code 004033 Bannow Bay	A046	Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>)	Excellent	There are no serious imminent threats to the wintering birds. However, shellfish farming is carried out over much of the intertidal areas and may cause disturbance to birds and/or their habitats. Wildfowling in part of the site causes some disturbance.
	A048	Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>)	Excellent	
	A054	Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>)	Excellent	
	A130	Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>)	Excellent	
	A140	Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>)	Good	
	A141	Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)	Excellent	
	A142	Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>)	Excellent	
	A143	Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>)	Excellent	
	A149	Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>)	Excellent	

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Threats to Natura 2000 Site
	A156	Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>)	Excellent	
	A157	Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>)	Excellent	
	A160	Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>)	Excellent	
	A162	Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>)	Excellent	
	A999	Wetlands & Waterbirds		
Site Code 004076 Wexford Harbour and Slob	A004	Little Grebe (<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>)	N/a	There are no imminent significant threats to the wintering bird populations. In the longterm, projected increases in sea level could cause problems in maintaining the Slob as dry land. In recent times, the South Slob has become less suitable due to changes in landuse, including forestry operations, and a sustained programme of scaring. An increase in the number of new housing in the vicinity of the North Slob has led to increased levels of disturbance in recent times. Localised reclamation has occurred in Wexford Harbour and any further reclamation of estuarine habitat is undesirable. Aquaculture occurs in Wexford Harbour though it is not known what effects, if any, this has on the bird populations.
	A005	Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>)	Excellent	
	A017	Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>)	Excellent	
	A028	Grey Heron (<i>Ardea cinerea</i>)	N/a	
	A037	Bewick's Swan (<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>)	N/a	
	A038	Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>)	Excellent	
	A046	Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>)	Excellent	
	A048	Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>)	Excellent	

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Threats to Natura 2000 Site
	A050	Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>)	Excellent	
	A052	Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>)	Excellent	
	A053	Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)	Excellent	
	A054	Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>)	Excellent	
	A062	Scaup (<i>Aythya marila</i>)	Excellent	
	A067	Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>)	Excellent	
	A069	Red-breasted Merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>)	Excellent	
	A082	Hen Harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>)	N/a	
	A125	Coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>)	Excellent	
	A130	Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>)	Excellent	
	A140	Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>)	Excellent	
	A141	Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)	Excellent	
	A142	Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>)	Excellent	
	A143	Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>)	Excellent	

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Threats to Natura 2000 Site
	A144	Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>)	Excellent	
	A149	Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>)	Excellent	
	A156	Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>)	Excellent	
	A157	Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>)	Excellent	
	A160	Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>)	Excellent	
	A162	Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>)	Excellent	
	A179	Black-headed Gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>)	Good	
	A183	Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>)	N/a	
	A195	Little Tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>)	N/a	
	A395	Greenland White-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>)	N/a	
	A999	Wetlands & Waterbirds		
Site Code 004143 Cahore	A050	Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>)	Good	Whilst current management of the agricultural land is favourable for the wintering birds, any intensification involving drainage could make the site less attractive.

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Threats to Natura 2000 Site
Marshes	A140	Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>)	Excellent	
	A142	Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>)	Good	
	A395	Greenland White-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>)	Excellent	
	A999	Wetlands & Waterbirds		
Site Code 000709 Tacumshin Lake	A004	Little Grebe (<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>)	N/a	The lagoon habitat is potentially threatened by implementation of a more effective drainage system. In recent years parts of the lagoon and sand dune system have been seriously damaged by horse racing activities and such activities remain a threat. Significant disturbance occurs in summer and autumn due to a range of recreational activities, including dog exercising, bird watching and driving of cars.
	A037	Bewick's Swan (<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>)	Good	
	A038	Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>)	Good	
	A050	Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>)	Excellent	
	A051	Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>)	Excellent	
	A052	Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>)	Excellent	
	A054	Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>)	Excellent	

Natura 2000 Sites	Qualifying Interest		Conservation Status ¹	Threats to Natura 2000 Site
	A056	Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>)	Excellent	
	A061	Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>)	Good	
	A125	Coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>)	Excellent	
	A140	Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>)	Good	
	A141	Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)	Excellent	
	A142	Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>)	Excellent	
	A156	Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>)	Excellent	
	A999	Wetlands & Waterbirds		

Table 4.3: SACs and SPAs within 15km of Wexford County Boundary

Natura 2000 Site	Site Code	Qualifying Features	Conservation Objectives
Lower River Suir	002137	Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) [1029]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I
		White-clawed crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) [1092]	habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected (column 3 of this Table)
		Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) [1095]	To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.
		Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) [1096]	To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.
		River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) [1099]	
		Allis shad (<i>Alosa alosa</i>) [1102]	
		Twaite shad (<i>Alosa fallax fallax</i>) [1103]	
		Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106]	
		Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330]	
		Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]	
		Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410]	
		Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260]	
		Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430]	

Natura 2000 Site	Site Code	Qualifying Features	Conservation Objectives
		<p>Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles [91A0]</p> <p>Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]</p> <p>Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0]</p>	
Buckroney-Brittias Dunes and Fen	000729	<p>Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]</p> <p>Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]</p> <p>Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]</p> <p>Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]</p> <p>Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]</p> <p>Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]</p> <p>Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea) [2150]</p> <p>Dunes with Salix repens ssp. argentea (Salix arenariae) [2170]</p> <p>Humid dune slacks [2190]</p> <p>Alkaline fens [7230]</p>	<p>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 (column 3 of this Table)</p> <p>To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.</p> <p>To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.</p>
Tramore Backstrand SPA	004027	<p>Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046]</p> <p>Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140]</p> <p>Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141]</p>	<p>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 (column 3 of this Table)</p>

Natura 2000 Site	Site Code	Qualifying Features	Conservation Objectives
		<p>Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142]</p> <p>Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149]</p> <p>Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156]</p> <p>Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157]</p> <p>Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160]</p> <p>Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]</p>	<p>To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.</p> <p>To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.</p>
River Nore SPA	004233	Kingfisher (<i>Alcedo atthis</i>) [A229]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA: <i>Alcedo atthis</i>
Tramore Dunes and Backstrand	000671	<p>Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]</p> <p>Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]</p> <p>Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]</p> <p>Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310]</p> <p>Spartina swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>) [1320]</p> <p>Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330]</p> <p>Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410]</p> <p>Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]</p> <p>Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120]</p> <p>Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]</p>	<p>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 (column 3 of this Table)</p> <p>To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site.</p> <p>To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities.</p>

4.5 CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES OF THE NATURA 2000 SITE(S)

The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the favourable conservation status of habitats and species of community interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives and Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas are designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as the Natura 2000 network.

4.5.1 Conservation Objectives of the cSACs within Wexford County Boundary.

The Qualifying Features of cSACs can reasonably be defined as the Annex I habitats and Annex II species for the protection of which the site has been designated. These are listed on the NPWS website: (http://www.npws.ie/en/media/NPWS/Publications/sac/Media_5198_en.xls). Full details of the Qualifying Features for each cSAC within the Plan area boundary are presented in Table 2.1 above.

4.5.2 General Conservation Objectives of cSACs

In the absence of Management Plans for every site the National Parks and Wildlife Service have established general Conservation Objectives for Natura 2000 sites as follows:-

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

The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

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, and
- 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.

4.5.3 General Conservation Objectives for SPAs

Conservation Objectives for the SPAs within the Plan area boundary are as follows:-

- To maintain, and where possible, enhance the habitats that support the bird populations for which the SPA has been selected at favourable conservation status;
- To maintain the Annex I species for which the SPA has been selected at favourable conservation status;
- To maintain, and where possible enhance, the extent, biodiversity and species richness of the site;
- To maintain other habitats at favourable conservation status; and
- To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant Authorities.

4.5.4 Detailed Conservation Objectives

Within County Wexford the NPWS has prepared a number of Conservation Series for some of the Natura 2000 sites, these Conservation Series contain detailed conservation objectives specific to species and habitats within the cSAC. Table 4.4 below lists the SACs which the NPWS has prepared site specific Conservation Objectives for and where the information is available to review. These documents were all reviewed as part of the Appropriate Assessment Screening Process.

Table 4.4: Natura 2000 Sites with Detailed Conservation Objectives

Natura 2000 Site	Site Specific Conservation Objectives Reference
Slaney River Valley SAC	http://www.npws.ie/media/npwsie/content/images/protectedsites/conservationobjectives/CO000781.pdf
Hook Head SAC	http://www.npws.ie/media/npwsie/content/images/protectedsites/conservationobjectives/CO000764.pdf
River Barrow and River Nore SAC	http://www.npws.ie/media/npwsie/content/images/protectedsites/conservationobjectives/CO002162.pdf

Natura 2000 Site	Site Specific Conservation Objectives Reference
Carnsore SAC	http://www.npws.ie/media/npwsie/content/images/protectedsites/conservationobjectives/CO002269.pdf
Raven Point SPA and SAC	http://www.npws.ie/media/npwsie/content/images/protectedsites/conservationobjectives/CO000710.pdf and http://www.npws.ie/media/npwsie/content/images/protectedsites/conservationobjectives/CO004019.pdf
Saltee Islands SAC and SPA	http://www.npws.ie/media/npwsie/content/images/protectedsites/conservationobjectives/CO000707.pdf and http://www.npws.ie/media/npwsie/content/images/protectedsites/conservationobjectives/CO004002.pdf
Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA	http://www.npws.ie/media/npwsie/content/images/protectedsites/conservationobjectives/CO004076.pdf
Blackstairs Mountains SAC	http://www.npws.ie/media/npwsie/content/images/protectedsites/conservationplan/CP000770.pdf (Management Plan)

4.6 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The information requirements and assessment criteria of screening specified in the European guidance on Appropriate Assessment (European Commission Environment Division's Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites, 2001) have served as the basis for the following screening appraisal.

4.6.1 Examples of Direct, Indirect or Secondary Impacts

- Indirect impacts on groundwater fed habitats (i.e. bogs) through dewatering or abstraction;
- Run off of pollutants during construction and operational phase of development;
- Disturbance of habitats and species;
- Agricultural land reclamation and land use changes; and
- Urbanisation.

4.6.2 Elements of the Plan with Potential to give rise to significant effects

Individual elements of the draft Plan have been identified that may result in impacts on Natura 2000 sites (See Section 4.3). The elements are outlined below:-

- Settlement strategies, including population growth in and around the urban area;
- Increase in tourism activities due to tourist promotion of the greater urban area;
- Increase in recreational demand and facilities associated with the increased population;

- Infrastructural improvements associated with maintenance and improvement of national transport corridors serving Wexford town, in particular the N25/M11;
- Water supply services investment programme;
- Coastal erosion;
- Wastewater services investment programme; and
- Flood Risk and Management Strategy for the SERBD.

Throughout the Plan the Council is committed to protecting and enhancing the conservation status of these Natura 2000 sites and have specific policies relating to their protection and maintenance, as appropriate.

A number of the cSACs are water dependent ecosystems, and therefore, any changes to the groundwater regime or surface water quality as a result of the CDP could have adverse effects on the habitats and species for which the sites have been designated. The most likely potential direct impacts of the proposed objectives and policies of the Plan are alterations in water quality e.g. deterioration in water quality or water pollution. These impacts are listed as threats to the sensitive and protected species (such as the Otter, Lamprey, Freshwater pearl mussel and Crayfish) living in a number of the cSACs (See Table 2.1 above) for example the River Barrow and Nore cSAC and the River Slaney cSAC. Again, the Council have specific policies relating to the protection and maintenance of both the groundwater regime and surface water quality.

Appendix A provides a list of all policies and objectives in the Plan (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) with potential to give rise to impacts on Natura 2000 sites.

Table A1 in Appendix A identifies whether these policies and objectives are likely to cause any direct, indirect or secondary impacts (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) on the Natura 2000 sites by assessing them against each sites qualifying features (Tables 2.1 - 2.3) and 'conservation objectives, as given in Section 4.5 above.

Where potential impacts are identified, then avoidance/mitigation measures contained as policies or objectives within the Plan as well as other laws/standards/procedures are cited and it is determined whether there will be any residual impacts or not.

4.6.3 Cumulative and in Combination Impacts

For Appropriate Assessment, it is required to identify all those elements of other plans/programmes that have the potential for having significant effects on the Natural 2000 Sites either alone or in combination with each other. Therefore, an assessment of the 'in combination' effects was also carried out. The scope of the assessment was set at a County level. In reviewing other plans/programmes, the following assessment questions were asked:-

- Will these other Plans/Programmes lead to the *probability* or the *risk* of having a significant effect on a designated site?
- Are these other plans/programmes likely to undermine the site's conservation objectives?

- Will these other plans/programmes lead to the probability or the risk of having a significant effect on a designated site either:-
 - a) in combination with other plans/programmes as outlined, or
 - b) in combination with the Objectives and Policies of the Joint Spatial Plan

The overall in-combination effect is a key part of the screening process as it ensures plans or policies are captured that would not trigger a likely significant effect on their own. In order to identify potential “In Combination Effects”, the following plans have been considered:-

- Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow and Wicklow County Development Plans;
- South Eastern River Basin Management Plan 2010;
- SERBD Catchment Flood Risk and Management Plan;
- Freshwater Pearl Mussel Nore River Basin Management Plan;
- IPPC Programme;
- Local Authority Discharge;
- Groundwater Pollution Reduction Programmes;
- Surface Water Pollution Reduction Programmes;
- South East Regional Planning Guidelines 2010;
- National Spatial Strategy;
- National Development Plan;
- Water Services Investment Programme;
- Groundwater Pollution Reduction Programmes;
- Surface Water Pollution Reduction Programmes; and
- Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans.

No other pathway has been identified by which any of the plans and projects identified could have a significant ‘in combination’ effect on any of the five Natura 2000 sites identified. In fact, the in combination effect of the above water related plans and programmes would have positive effects on water quality resulting in positive indirect impacts to a number of the SACs including the River Barrow and River Nore SAC, the River Slaney Valley cSAC.

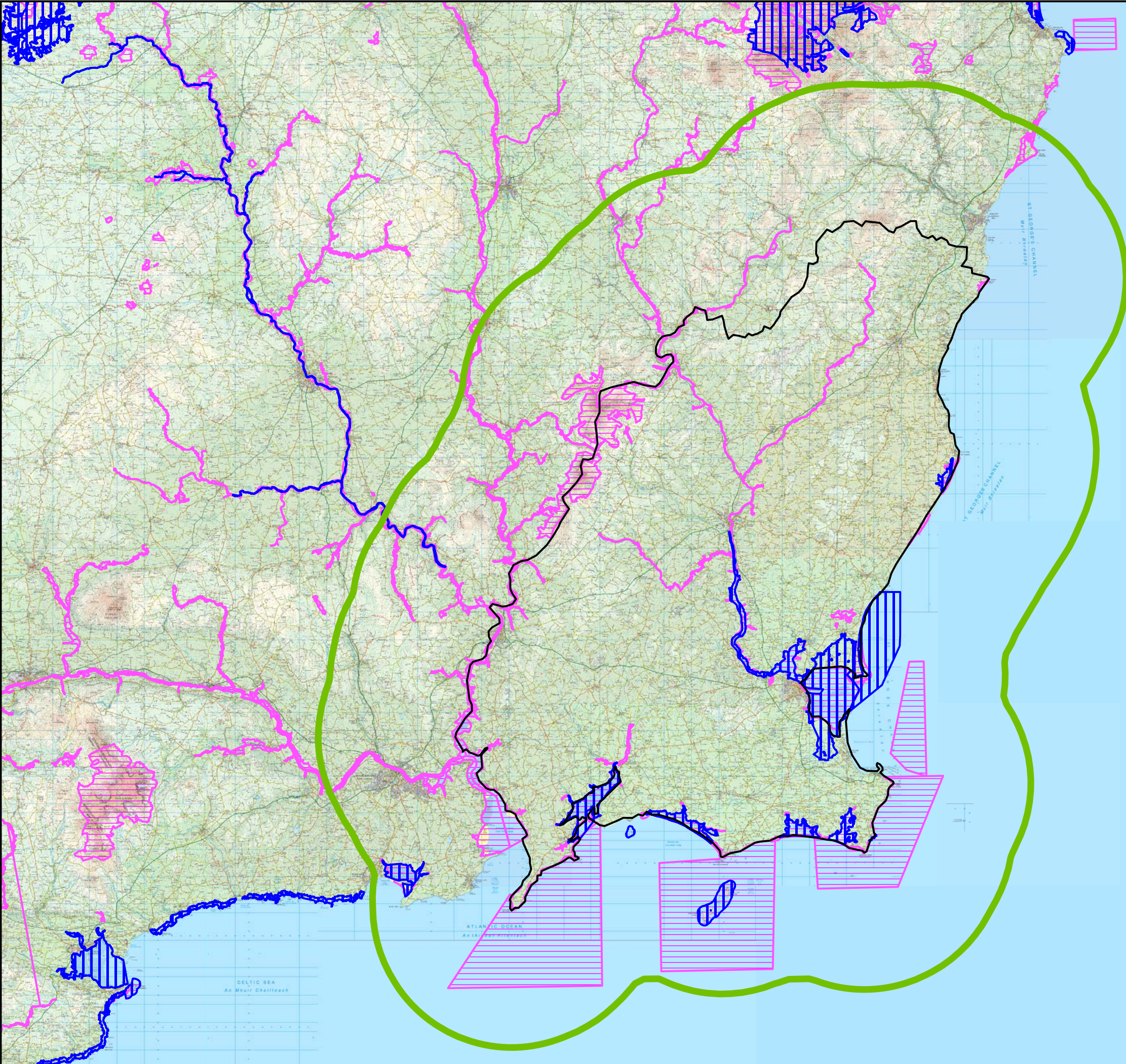
4.6.4 Likely Changes to the Site

The likely changes that could arise from the implementation of the CDP have been examined in the context of a number of factors that could potentially affect the integrity of the identified Natura 2000 sites. It has been determined that no Natura 2000 sites will be potentially impacted as a result of the CDP. **Table 4.5** shows the Likely Changes to Natura 2000 Sites as a result of the CDP.

Table 4.5: Likely Changes to Natura 2000 Sites

Site Name	Reduction of Habitat Area	Disturbance to Key Species	Habitat or Species Fragmentation	Reduction in Species Density	Changes in Key Indicators of Conservation Value (Water Quality Etc.)	Climate Change
Ballyteige Burrow cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Bannow Bay cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Blackstairs Mountains cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Cahore Polders and Dunes cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Carnsore Point cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Hook Head cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills	None	None	None	None	N/A	N/A
Kilpatrick Sandhills	None	None	None	None	N/A	
Lady's Island Lake cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Long Bank cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Raven Point Nature Reserve cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
River Barrow and River Nore cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Saltee Islands cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Screen Hills cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Slaney River Valley cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Tacumshin Lake cSAC	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Ballyteigue Burrow SPA	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Keeragh Islands SPA	None	None	None	None	None	N/A

Site Name	Reduction of Habitat Area	Disturbance to Key Species	Habitat or Species Fragmentation	Reduction in Species Density	Changes in Key Indicators of Conservation Value (Water Quality Etc.)	Climate Change
Saltee Islands SPA	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Ladys Island Lake SPA	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
The Raven SPA	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Bannow Bay SPA	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Wexford Harbour and Slobbs SPA	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Cahore Marshes SPA	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Tacumshin Lake SPA	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Lower River Suir	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Buckroneys-Brittias Dunes and Fen	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Tramore Backstrand SPA	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
River Nore SPA	None	None	None	None	None	N/A
Tramore Dunes and Backstrand	None	None	None	None	None	N/A



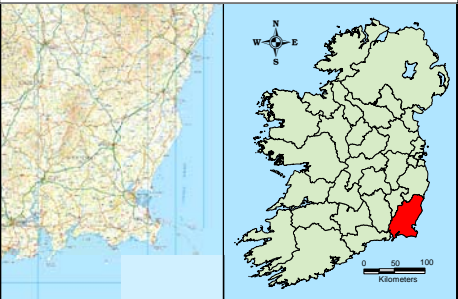
Legend

15km Buffer Around Wexford County

Wexford County Boundary

Special Protection Areas (SPA)

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)



Client

Wexford County Council

Project

Wexford County Council Development Plan 2013-2017

Title

Natura 2000 Sites within 15km of County Wexford

Figure

2.1

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Issue Details			
Drawn by: Eimear Egan/T Hurley	Project No.	MCE0721	
Checked by: Aileen Fitzgerald	File Ref.	MCE0721MI0001F01	
Approved by: A. Ryan	Drawing No.	MI0001	Rev. F01
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Notes

1. This drawing is the property of RPS Group Ltd. It is a confidential document and must not be copied, used, or its contents divulged without prior written consent.

2. All levels are referred to Ordnance Datum, Malin Head.

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5 SCREENING CONCLUSIONS AND STATEMENT

The trigger for a Stage Two AA would be if the Plan were likely to have significant effects on a Natura 2000 site.

This screening report evaluates the Plan to see if it needs to be the subject of a Stage Two AA. The likely impacts that will arise from the draft CDP have been examined in the context of a number of factors that could potentially affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 network. None of the sites within 15km of the plan area will be adversely affected. It finds that the Plan has been formulated to ensure that uses, developments and effects arising from permissions based upon the Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans or projects) shall not give rise to significant effects on the integrity of any Natura 2000 sites. Therefore, in accordance with the Methodological guidance on the provision of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, it is concluded that the Plan does not require any further assessment to demonstrate compliance with the Directive.

APPENDIX A

ASSESSMENT OF POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

Table A1_Assessment of Likely Effects of the Policies and Objectives of the County Development 2013-2019

Table A1 lists the full text of the policies and objectives as they appear in the Plan. These policies and objectives have been found to have the potential to give rise to impacts on the Natura 2000 sites (see section 4.1 in main report for details). These policies and objectives are evaluated in the table below for impacts on Natura 2000 sites within the County and within a 15km radius of the County's boundary.

Please note that the policies and objectives are evaluated in groups as opposed to individual evaluations of each policy or objective. The national guidance document entitled Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland –

Guidance for Planning Authorities¹ cites the following examples of impact types and significance indicators.

- Impact type Significance indicator;
- Loss of habitat area Percentage of loss;
- Fragmentation Duration or permanence, level in relation to original extent;
- Disturbance Duration or permanence, distance from site;
- Species population density Timescale for replacement;
- Water resource Relative change; and
- Water quality Relative change in key indicative chemicals and other elements

The Assessment of Potential and Residual Impacts of Policies and Objectives that is set out in this Appendix has considered the effects of each proposed policy and objective of the Plan under each of these criteria. Where it is determined that any policy or objective has potential to directly, indirectly or cumulatively give rise to any of these impact types on a particular Natura 2000 site then this is indicated by an "X" in the relevant box within Table A1 . Where it is determined that no such potential exists then an "~" symbol is shown. Where it is determined that the policy demonstrates proactive measures to protect Natura 2000 sites then a ✓ symbol is shown.

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Chapter 3 – Core Strategy					
Objective SS01 - To meet the housing needs of the County in an environmentally sustainable manner.	X	X	X	SS02 HP05 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15	Water Framework Directive Wildlife Act Birds Directive Ramsar Convention

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
				GI01-GI02 CH09 Section 18.4 Chapter 18	Bathing Water Directive EU Shellfish Directive Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive Floods Directive
Objective SS02 - To ensure that any plan/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 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.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective SS03 - To manage the County's settlement pattern in accordance with the population targets set out in the Regional Planning Guidelines for the South-East Region 2010-2022, the Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy.	X	X	X	SS02 HP05 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 NH01-NH15 GI01-GI02 CH09 Section 18.4 Chapter 18	
Objective SS04 - To encourage new residential developments to occur in the Hub, Larger Towns and District Towns in accordance with the Core Strategy and	X	X	X	SS02 HP05 WQ1-WQ5	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Settlement Strategy and subject to adequate capacity being available in the relevant wastewater treatment facilities in the interests of protecting water resources in the area.				AQ1 N03 NH01-NH15 GI01-GI02 CH09 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9	
Objective SS05 - To ensure the density of residential developments is appropriate to the location of the proposed development having regard to the benefits of ensuring that land is efficiently used. In deciding on the appropriate density for a particular location the Council will have regard to the existing grain and density of the settlement, the proximity of the site to the town or village centre or public transport nodes and the availability of existing services and the Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas and the accompanying Urban Design Manual-A Best Practice Guide (DEHLG, 2009) and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective SS06 - To ensure the zoning of lands for residential use is in accordance with the Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy. The development of this zoned land is subject to adequate capacity being available in the relevant wastewater treatment facilities in the interests of the protecting water resources in the area.	X	X	X	SS02 HP05 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 NH01-NH15 GI01-GI02 CH09 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective SS07 - To avoid the siting of new residential developments in areas vulnerable to flood risk in accordance with the provisions of the Flood Risk Management-Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DEHLG and OPW, 2009).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective SS08 - To encourage new residential development to occur in the Hub in accordance with the Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy and subject to normal planning and environmental criteria	X	X	X	SS02 HP05 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 NH01-NH15 GI01-GI02 CH09 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9	
Objective SS09 - To ensure the zoning of lands for residential development in accordance with the population targets set down by the Regional Planning Guidelines for the South-East Region, the Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy in order to achieve the critical mass necessary to sustain the town's role as a Hub in the South-East Region.	X	X	X	SS02 HP05 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 NH01-NH15 GI01-GI02 CH09 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9	
Objective SS10 - To generally require the phasing of development on residential zoned lands. Phasing will be based on the sequential approach with the zoning extending outwards from the Town Centre. A strong emphasis will be placed on consolidating existing	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
patterns of development, encouraging infill opportunities and a better use of land.					
Objective SS11 - To encourage new residential development to occur in the Larger Towns in accordance with the Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective SS12 - Ensure the zoning of lands for residential use in the Larger Towns is in accordance with the Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy. The development of this zoned land is subject to adequate capacity being available in the relevant wastewater treatment facilities in the interests of the protecting water resources in the area and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective SS13 - Require the phasing of land zoned for residential development. The phasing of development will be based on a clear sequential approach with the zoning extending outwards from the town centres. A strong emphasis will be placed on consolidating existing patterns of development, encouraging infill opportunities and better use of lands.	X	X	X	SS02 HP05 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 NH01-NH15 GI01-GI02 CH09 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9	
Objective SS14 - To encourage new residential development to occur in the District Towns in accordance with the Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective SS15 - To require the phasing of land zoned for residential development. The phasing of development will be based on a clear sequential approach with the zoning extending outwards from the town centres. A strong emphasis will be placed on consolidating existing patterns of development, encouraging infill opportunities and better use of lands.	X	X	X	SS02 HP05 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 NH01-NH15 GI01-GI02 CH09 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9	
Objective SS16 - To prepare a Local Area Plan for Courtown and Riverchapel.	X	X	X	SS02 HP05 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15 GI01-GI02 CH09 Section 18.4 Chapter 18	
Objective SS17 - To ensure the Strong Villages maintain and enhance their roles as important service centres.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective SS18 - To prepare a Village Design Statements for Kiltalea, Rosslare Strand, Bridgetown, Coolgreaney, Kilmuckridge and Campile	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective SS19 - To ensure new residential development in the Strong Villages is in accordance with the Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective SS20 - To ensure that new residential	X	X	X	SS02	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
development complies with the sequential approach to the development of land which is focused on developing lands closest to the village centre first				HP05 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 NH01-NH15 GI01-GI02 CH09 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9	
Objective SS21 - To promote and facilitate the provision of serviced residential sites within Strong Villages subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective SS22 - To ensure the smaller villages in the County maintain and enhance their roles as important local service centres in order to maintain sustainable communities and ensure a good quality of life. Objective SS23 - To encourage the provision of additional social and communities facilities within the smaller villages to serve the population of the village and its surrounding rural hinterland.	~ X	~ X	~ X	n/a SS02 HP05 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15 GI01-GI02 CH09 Section 18.4 Chapter 18	
Objective SS24 - To ensure that siting of new residential development complies with the sequential approach to the development of land which is focused on developing	X	X	X	SS02 HP05 WQ1-WQ5	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
lands closest to the village centre first.				AQ1 N03 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15 GI01-GI02 CH09 Section 18.4 Chapter 18	
ObjectiveSS25 - To promote and facilitate the provision of serviced residential sites within Strong Villages subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective SS26 - To support the development of rural transport initiatives which provide public transport links between Smaller Villages and Rural Settlements and the County's towns for the populations of these settlements and their surrounding rural hinterland	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective SS27 - To conserve, protect and enhance the character of rural settlements.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective SS28 - To encourage cluster developments in rural settlements where there is a basic nucleus of community facilities and services, which include all or at least two of the following-school, post office, local shop, church and public house subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective SS29 - To promote and facilitate the provision of serviced residential sites within Strong Villages subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective SS30 - To support the development of rural	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
transport initiatives which will provide public transport links between Smaller Villages and Rural Settlements and the County's towns for the populations of these settlements and their surrounding rural hinterland Objective SS31 - To permit one-off rural housing in accordance with the Sustainable Rural Housing Strategy in Section 4 and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Chapter 4 - Housing					
Objective HP01 - To promote Universal Design and Lifetime Housing in accordance with best practice and the policies and principles contained in Building for Everyone: A Universal Design Approach (National Disability Authority, 2012) and Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas: Guidelines for Planning Authorities and its companion document Urban Design Manual (DEHLG, 2008). Universal design is design of environment that can be accessed, understood and used to the greatest possible extent by all people regardless of their age, size or ability.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP02 - To ensure that all new housing developments represent 'Sustainable Neighbourhoods' which are inclusive and responsive to the physical or cultural needs of those who use them, are well located relative to the social, community, commercial and administrative services which sustain them and are integrated with the community within which it will be located.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP03 - To ensure that new housing developments contribute to the social or recreation infrastructure of the community in which they will be located either through the provision of amenities or through financial contribution.	X	X	X	HP05 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15 Section 18.4 Chapter	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
				18	
Objective HP04 - To ensure that new housing development minimises the use of natural resources and impacts on natural assets. Locations selected for residential developments should maximise the potential for the use of sustainable modes of transport such as walking, cycling and the use of public transport to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. The design of the individual dwellings and associated services should minimise the use of natural energy and water.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective HP05 - To ensure that any plan/project and any associated works for the provision of residential development or required to accommodate the objectives of this section or the Housing Strategy contained in Volume 6, 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 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.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective HP06 - To ensure that all new housing developments provide a high quality living environment with attractive and efficient buildings which are located in a high quality public realm and which are serviced by well designed and located open spaces.	X	x	x	HP05 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective HP07 - To require all developments over 10 houses to be accompanied by an Urban Design Statement showing how the matters detailed in Chapter17 have been taken into account in the design of the development.	~	~	~	FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15 n/a	
Objective HP08 - To ensure the density of residential developments is appropriate to the location of the proposed development to ensure that land is efficiently used. In deciding on the appropriate density for a particular location the Council will have regard to the existing grain and density of the settlement, the proximity of the site to the town or village centre or public transport nodes and the availability of existing services and the Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas and the accompanying Urban Design Manual-A Best Practice Guide (DEHLG, 2009) and normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP09 - To implement the objectives of the Housing Strategy contained in Volume 6 in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and the Housing (Miscellaneous) Act 2009 and having regard to the amendments to Government policy outlined in the Housing Policy Statement issued in June 2011.	x	x	x	HP05 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15	
Objective HP10 - To require that 20% of all land zoned for residential use, or for a mixture of residential and other uses, be reserved for the purposes of Part V of the Act Section 94(4)(a)(i) and 4(a)(ii) with the exception of the exemptions provided for in Section 4 of the Housing Strategy contained in Volume 6 and the Planning and	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Development Act 2000 (as amended). Objective HP11 - To review the Housing Strategy contained in Volume 6 when Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) is revised to take account of the of the new economic and policy contexts.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP12 - To ensure that adequate and appropriate land is zoned to meet the likely future housing need identified in the Housing Strategy and Core Strategy.	x	x	x	SS02 HP05 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15	
Objective HP13 - To seek to facilitate all households to access good quality housing appropriate to household circumstances and in their particular community of choice. The Council's priority will be on meeting the most acute needs – those unable to provide for their accommodation from their own resources.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP14 - To ensure that housing is available for people of different income types. This shall be achieved through the housing support system and through the planning system which will ensure that an appropriate mix of units is provided in appropriate locations.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP15 - To require all applications for residential development of 10 houses or more contain a mix of house types. The mix of house types shall be appropriate to the needs identified where the scheme will be located. This will not apply where it can be demonstrated that there a need for a particular type of unit and the proposed development meets this need.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP16 - To ensure that the Council's selection of lands, or housing units to purchase or lease, acts to	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
counteract undue segregation by persons of different social backgrounds.					
Objective HP17 - To ensure that those with specific housing needs, such as the elderly, persons with a disability, homeless people and Travellers are accommodated in a manner which is appropriate to their specific needs.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP18 - To work with other statutory, voluntary, representative and interest groups to identify the requirements of those with special housing needs and the appropriate policy and strategic responses.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP19 - To have regard to the National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability 2011-2016 and, insofar as possible, having regard to budgetary constraints, implement the strategic aims of this strategy.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP20 - To ensure that a minimum of 20% of dwellings in all new housing estates of five dwellings or more are suitable to accommodate or are adaptable to provide accommodation for people with disabilities. Developers will be required to show an accessible route to the residential units from the boundary of the property. Proximity and access to local services must also be considered relative to the units which are accessible.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP21 - To require an Access Statement to be carried out for significant developments in accordance with Appendix 6 of Buildings for Everyone: A Universal Design Approach (National Disability Authority, 2012).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP22 - To implement, insofar as possible having regard to budgetary constraints, the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2007-2013 and any subsequently adopted strategy subject.	x	x	x	HP05 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective HP23 - To implement, insofar as possible having regard to budgetary constraints, the actions contained in the South-East Homeless Action Plan 2010-2013 and any subsequently adopted plan.				HP05 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15	
Objective HP24 - To promote best practice and innovation with regard to ongoing management and maintenance of all Council housing stock and the associated public realm.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP25 - To have regard to the Managing and Resolving Unfinished Housing Developments - Guidance Manual (Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, 2011) when preparing Town Development Plans and Local Areas Plans and assessing planning applications dealing with unfinished housing developments	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP26 - To have regard to the nature and quantum of unfinished housing developments when preparing Core Strategies for the Town Development Plans and zoning lands for residential developments in Local Area Plans.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HP27 - To adopt a flexible approach to planning applications to resolve issues relating to unfinished estates where this would result in substantial environmental or community gain. Such flexibility may include for reconfiguration of estates in relation to open space, roads and circulation requirement.	x	x	x	HP05 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective RH01 - To facilitate the development of individual houses in the open countryside in 'Areas under Strong Urban Influence' in accordance with the criteria laid down in Table No. 11 subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards laid down in Chapter 18.	x	x	x	HP05 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15	
Objective RH02 -To facilitate individual houses, other than those referred to in 'Areas under Strong Urban Influence' in Table No. 11, in the existing settlements including those settlements defined in the settlement hierarchy as Strong Villages and Small Villages and Rural Settlements subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards laid down in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RH03 - To facilitate the development of individual houses in the open countryside in 'Stronger rural areas' in accordance with the criteria laid down in Table No. 11 subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards laid down in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RH04 - To facilitate individual houses, other than those referred to in 'Stronger Rural Areas' in Table No. 11, in the existing settlements including those settlements defined in the settlement hierarchy as Strong Villages and Small Villages and Rural Settlements subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards laid down in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RH05 - To facilitate the development of individual houses in the open countryside in 'Structurally Weak Areas' in accordance with the criteria laid down in Table No. 11 subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
management standards laid down in Chapter 18. Objective RH06 - To facilitate and where possible stimulate or provide the development of housing, economic development, services and infrastructure in the villages in 'Structurally weak areas' to sustain and renew populations and services in these areas, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards laid down in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RH07 - To minimise the individual or cumulative adverse visual impacts that local concentrations of one-off housing, outside of settlements, may have on Upland, River Valley and Coastal landscape character units or Landscapes of Greater Sensitivity. In this regard, in locations where the Council considers that there is a risk of individual or cumulative adverse impacts, the Council will only consider proposals for housing developments where the applicant has demonstrated an overriding need to reside in the particular location in accordance with the criteria contained in Table No. 11.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RH08 - To facilitate the development of individual houses in the open countryside in 'Coastal Zone/Natural Heritage Areas' in accordance with the criteria laid down in Table No. 11, subject to the applicant demonstrating that the proposed development complies with the policies contained in Chapter 13 and will not have an adverse impact on natural heritage and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards laid down in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RH09 - To ensure that the rural houses are of high quality design and well sited in the landscape.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RH10 - To adopt a presumption in favour of the retention of existing traditional dwellings with appropriate adaption, as required, subject to normal	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
planning and environmental criteria and, where appropriate, the development management standards laid down in Chapter 18. Objective RH11 - To facilitate the replacement of dwellings where it has been demonstrated that a dwelling cannot be retained having regard to sustainability or structural condition or where the dwelling concerned is not worthy of retention subject to the criteria outlined in Table No. 12, normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards laid down in Section 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RH12 - To prohibit individual new build holiday homes outside the existing settlements outlined on the Settlement Hierarchy.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective RH13 - To facilitate the conversion of substantially intact vernacular buildings (houses or farm/industrial buildings) within or outside settlements for individual holiday home use subject to subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards laid down in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Chapter 5 – Climate Change					
Objective CC01 - To have regard to the National Climate Change Strategy 2007-2012 and any updated version of this document published during the lifetime of the Plan.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CC02 - To have regard to the any future Climate Change Action Plan for the South-East Region.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CC03 - To prepare, in conjunction with other key stakeholders, a Climate Change Strategy for the County during the life time of the Plan.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CC04 - To minimise emissions greenhouse gases in order to contribute to a reduction and avoidance of human induced climate change in accordance with the Kyoto agreement. The Council supports and is committed to the National Climate Change Strategy and in general to facilitating measures which seek to reduce	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
emissions of greenhouse gases. Objective CC05 - To prepare a Renewable Energy Strategy for County Wexford during the lifetime of the Plan, which will build on and support the Wind Energy Strategy 2013-2019, any Climate Change Strategy prepared for the County and the National Renewable Energy Action Plan (Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, 2010).	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CC06 - To adopt sustainable planning strategies through the integration of land use and transportation as a means of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CC07 - To raise awareness of climate change and its potential impacts and encourage businesses, local communities and people to be as self-sustaining as possible.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CC08 - To encourage improved energy efficiency of its existing building stock and to promote energy efficiency and conservation in the design and development of all new buildings and in residential schemes in particular.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CC09 - To promote and encourage new developments to mitigate against, and adapt to, where possible the impacts of climate change through the location, layout and design of the development	√	√	√	n/a	
Chapter 6 – Employment, Economy and Enterprise					
Objective ED01 - To ensure that sufficient serviced land is available for enterprise and employment related development through the zoning of appropriate lands in Town Development Plans and Local Area Plans. Economic development proposals will be permitted within settlements on suitably zoned land or within towns and village settlements defined within the Core Strategy/Settlement Hierarchy, subject to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area,	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
compliance with normal planning and environment criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18. The Council will ensure that suitable industrial and commercial lands are protected from inappropriate development that could compromise the economic potential of these lands.					
Objective ED02 - To consider economic development proposals of a scale which are appropriate to the town or village's location within the Core Strategy/ Settlement Hierarchy, or an enterprise in a rural area, so as to achieve sustainable balanced economic development subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED03 - To permit the extension of an existing industrial or enterprise facility within towns or villages provided the resultant scale and form of the enterprise is compatible with the character and scale of the area and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED04 - To permit the extension of an existing industrial or enterprise facility within the countryside provided the resultant scale and form of the enterprise is compatible with the character and scale of the area and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED05 - To support and encourage the further expansion of existing third level educational facilities in the County in order to improve education, training and skills development in the workforce subject to compliance with normal planning and environment criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective ED06 - To encourage and support research, development and innovation in collaboration with educational institutions and development agencies and to provide sufficient zoned land for this purpose.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED07 - To develop and maximise the tourism potential of Wexford by facilitating the expansion of existing and the provision of new sustainable tourism products, facilities and infrastructure, subject to compliance with normal planning and environment criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED08 - To facilitate and encourage the development of 'green' industries including industries relating to renewable energy, energy-efficient technologies, waste recycling and conservation on appropriately zoned land or on land within villages to a scale and size that is in keeping with the character of the area, subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards in Chapter 18. Green industries will not be permitted outside settlements unless the development complies with the locational requirements of waste management facilities outlined in Chapter 10 and subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED09 - To prohibit quarrying development which could significantly impact on the areas designated as being of European importance (such as cSACs and SPAs) where significant detrimental impacts cannot be satisfactorily mitigated, even if significant aggregate resources are identified in such areas by the GSI. A strict precautionary approach will be taken where designated sites will be affected.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective ED10 - Extractive industry sites can themselves create important new habitats, and further to	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
the key objective of this Plan to protect and enhance the County's unique natural heritage and biodiversity, while promoting and developing its cultural, educational and eco-tourism potential in a sustainable manner, the Council will require that the operators of all proposed quarrying sites maximise the bio-diversity potential of their site by including proposals which promote bio-diversity throughout the working life and restoration of the quarry in their application.					
Objective ED11 - To ensure that permitted extractive industry developments are in accordance with the guidelines on Environmental Management in the Extractive Industry (EPA, 2006), the Wildlife, Habitats and the Extractive Industry (Notice Nature/ Irish Concrete Federation / NPWS 2010) and the Environmental Code (ICF, 2006).	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective ED12 - To ensure facilities for the manufacture of concrete and tarmac, where applicable, are located within existing quarries, to take advantage of a convenient supply of materials, subject to such facilities being appropriately sited, on-going management and controls over the generation of emissions, the access and local roads network being acceptable for the traffic generated and compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED13 - To consider the use of worked out sites for the deposit of inert waste material subject to complying with the necessary environmental and traffic safeguards, particularly when such proposals result in the creation and protection of habitats and subject to compliance with the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED14 - To prepare supplementary guidance or vary the plan to include policies which will balance the interests of non-extractive rural amenity and	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
development with the need to protect important aggregate deposits for possible future extraction, if and when such deposits are identified.					
Objective ED15 - To facilitate the use of extractive industry sites for other purposes such as concrete and tarmac manufacture and the deposit of inert waste material, provided that such activity can take place without generating adverse traffic and other adverse impacts (which cannot be adequately mitigated through sensitive siting and design and on-going compliance with planning conditions) and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED16 -To positively engage with industry representatives lobby groups, local amenity groups, other local authorities, National Parks and Wildlife, state bodies and other interested parties in the on-going development and review of the Council's management and control of extractive activities	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective ED17 - To promote the continued development of food production and processing within the County subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED18 - To promote and encourage food producers and processing to provide associated activities by permitting the expansion and development of existing businesses, subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED19- To encourage and facilitate the diversification of the agricultural economy through farm diversification as defined by the Wexford Local Development's Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 provided that this does not negatively affect public health, the character and the amenity of the surrounding	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
area or Natura 2000 sites and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.					
Objective ED20 - 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.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED21 - To facilitate the sustainable development of forestry in Wexford provided that it is in harmony with the surrounding landscape, that no undue injury is caused to natural waters, wildlife habitats or conservation areas and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED22 - To encourage the establishment of a self-sustaining forest industry based on a variety of species and a wide range of post-felling services in proximity to large forested areas which are used for source material, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED23 - To encourage the establishment of primary, secondary and tertiary forest based processing industries subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED24 - To ensure that land with the potential to accommodate port related development at Rosslare Europort and New Ross Port is protected from inappropriate development that would prejudice its long term potential to accommodate this form of development.	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective ED25 - To maximise the economic potential of Rosslare and New Ross port facilities and promote the development of associated port related employment, subject to ensuring that any plan or project associated with the economic development of lands which has the potential to significantly affect a Natura 2000 site is appropriately assessed in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive in order to avoid adverse impacts on the integrity of the site(s).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED26 - To provide sufficient and suitably zoned land to promote economic activity in the area of the Ports and assist in the realisation of the economic potential of Rosslare Europort and New Ross Port subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED27 - To support the development of Rosslare Europort as a Sustainable Energy Zone (SEZ) and provide the necessary infrastructure to facilitate its development as an SEZ.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED28 - To co-operate with state and semi-state employment agencies and local organisations in promoting, marketing and encouraging enterprises to locate suitable activities in the distribution, logistics and other related sectors in Rosslare Harbour and New Ross	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED29 - To facilitate new development and/ or the conversion of part of a dwelling to an appropriate home-based economic activity, where the dwelling remains as the main residence of the practitioner and the economic use is ancillary to the residential use and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED30 - To ensure that all retail development permitted is in accordance with the Guidelines for Planning Authorities Retail Planning (DECLG, 2012) and	X	X	X	ED40 Section 18.4 Chapter 18	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
the Wexford County Retail Strategy.				WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH15	
Objective ED31 - To permit retail development of a scale which is appropriate to the level of the town/area within the retail hierarchy and the population of the catchment.	X	X	X	ED40 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH15	
Objective ED32 - To prohibit new retail developments if they would either by themselves or cumulatively with other recent developments and proposals seriously damage the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED33 - To have regard to the findings of the capacity assessment contained in the County Retail Strategy in assessing planning applications, however when considering any individual planning proposal in any town the applicant will be required to demonstrate in the Retail Impact Assessment that the floorspace is appropriate having regard to the quantum of floorspace required in that town. The Retail Impact Assessment shall take account of the particular catchment, extant permissions and their likelihood of being implemented and vacancies in the individual towns. Information with regard to extant permissions can be provided by the Council. The quantitative need for the quantum of floorspace will not be the only deciding factor; the Council will also consider whether any given planning application will be better located sequentially than permitted developments or whether it would be required for qualitative reasons such as strengthening the County's retail profile profile.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED34 - To promote and protect the designated Primary and Secondary Retail streets as the key locations for retail development.	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective ED35 - To resist applications for planning permission which would result in net loss of convenience and comparison shopping floorspace at ground level on Primary Shopping Frontages where this would affect the vitality and viability of these streets.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED36 - To prioritise the reuse of vacant and derelict buildings in the town centre for uses including retail development.	X	X	x	NI01	
Objective ED37 - To encourage 'living over the shop' whereby the upper storeys of buildings have a residential function with the ground floor used for commercial or retail purposes.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED38 - To consider tourism related retail developments in towns and villages or at existing established tourist attractions. The retail facility shall be suitably designed, sited and of a scale that does not detract from the tourism feature.	X	x	x	NI01-NI15 TM03	
Objective ED39 - To continue to make environmental improvements to the town centres.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective ED40 - To ensure that all proposed plans or projects relating to retail development (including retail warehouses, factory outlets, shopping centres, convenience shops etc) and any associated improvement works or associated infrastructure (i.e. parking facilities), 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 Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan or project will only proceed after it has been ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where in the absence of alternative solutions,	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
the plan or project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive. Objective ED41 - To consider the reuse/redevelopment of brownfield sites in the countryside for farm diversification activities as defined by the Wexford Local Development's Rural Development Programme 2007-2013, subject to compliance with normal planning and environment criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ED42 - To consider the re-use/re-development of brownfield sites in town and villages for appropriate economic development proposals subject to the scale of the proposed development and the nature of the proposed process or activity being appropriate to and compatible with the character of the town or village and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards in Chapter 18	~	~	~	n/a	
Chapter 7 - Tourism					
Objective TM01 - To protect and sustain those natural, built and cultural features that form the basis of the County's tourism industry, including landscapes of greater sensitivity, local scenic landscapes, areas of important wildlife interest, historic buildings and structures.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective TM02 - To facilitate the development of a diversified tourism industry subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM03 - To work with Fáilte Ireland, the County Wexford Tourist Board, the Arts Council and other relevant bodies including National Parks and Wildlife to	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
promote and maximise the tourism potential of Wexford, while ensuring the protection of the natural, cultural and built heritage of the area. Objective TM04 - To develop and maximise the tourism potential of Wexford by facilitating the expansion of existing and the provision of new sustainable tourism products, facilities and infrastructure while ensuring the protection of the environment and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM05 - To support tourism product clustering with other sites and attractions in the South-East Region Objective TM06- To support the development of conferencing facilities in appropriate locations as a means of attracting business and tourism subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM07 - To maintain and improve tourist routes, accesses to the County and infrastructure through the provision of attractive, useful, informative signage methods and by carrying out environmental improvements along tourist routes subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM08 - To facilitate improved access to Rosslare Europort and promote integrated access arrangement in accordance with Guidelines for Accessible Maritime Passenger Transport (Department of Transport, March 2010).	x	x	x	Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH15 T03	
Objective TM09 - To promote the integration of road, rail and maritime services in accordance with the trans-European combined transport network.	x	x	x	Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
				NH01-NH15 T03	
Objective TM10 - To encourage the development of coastal tourism such as water sports and water related events subject to the compliance with the Coastal Zone Management objectives contained in Chapter 13, normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM11 - To prohibit tourism development which would significantly diminish the amenity and economic value of the County's coastline.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM12 - To promote the development of marine leisure and recreation clusters at appropriate locations along the County's coastline subject to compliance with the Coastal Zone Management objectives contained in Chapter 13, normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM13 - To support and facilitate the development of infrastructure associated with the inland waterways subject to compliance with Articles 6 and Article 10 of the Habitats Directive and subject to an Appropriate Assessment.	√	√	√	n/a	
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.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective TM15 -To protect the views and vistas from waterways from inappropriate development which would detract from the amenity of the waterways.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM16 - To improve the visual appearance of towns and villages, protect their inherent character and	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
<p>maximise their tourism potential by the continuance of environmental schemes, design control and the removal/improving dereliction.</p> <p>Objective TM17 - To support the expansion of a diversified range of tourist accommodation including developments to cater for tour groups within town and village centres subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.</p> <p>Objective TM18 - To encourage and facilitate the development of 'Craft and Design' shops in town and village centres</p> <p>Objective TM19 - To promote and facilitate the development and expansion of existing resource based rural tourism (for example open farms, bird watching and visitor centres), which is not detrimental to the character, amenity, scenic value, heritage value and environmental quality of a rural area subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.</p>	~	~	~	n/a	
	~	~	~	n/a	
	~	~	~	n/a	
<p>Objective TM20 - To ensure that holiday home developments are located in towns and villages and that such development relates sympathetically to the scale and level of development and facilities in the locality.</p> <p>Objective TM21 - To encourage the reuse and refurbishment of vernacular buildings (houses or farm/industrial buildings) for tourist related facilities, including holiday home accommodation. The development shall relate in scale to the site's characteristics and location, shall not be detrimental to the rural amenity of the surrounding area and is subject to compliance with the normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.</p> <p>Objective TM22 - To prepare a Heritage Plan to assist</p>	x	x	x	HP05	
	~	~	~	n/a	
	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
the development of the arts and cultural tourism industry in a sustainable manner in harmony with the urban/rural, physical and human environment. Objective TM23 - To work with the Heritage Council, Arts Council, Fáilte Ireland and other relevant bodies such as National Parks and Wildlife to promote and develop the arts, cultural and heritage attractions throughout the County.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM24 - To safeguard the cultural and historic heritage of the County and facilitate the expansion and development of appropriate facilities suitably located adjacent to points of interest subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM25 - To support and promote the existing festivals and cultural events which take in the County and to facilitate the establishment of new events where viable.	x	x	x	HP05 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15	
Objective TM26 - To promote and facilitate the development of tourist related resorts and amenities in towns and villages subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM27 - To consider the development of tourist-related resorts and amenities outside of settlements where it is demonstrated that the development is dependent on an existing local resource or a unique site characteristic or where an overriding need is demonstrated, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective TM28 - To encourage the provision of indoor and activity based tourism facilities and events which extend the tourism season within town and villages or in rural areas subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM29 - To generally restrict the development of new camping/glamping and caravan parks to built-up areas subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM30 - To promote and encourage the visual and environmental improvement of existing caravan parks and the upgrading of their associated infrastructure and facilities.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM31 - To consider holiday home developments on the sites of existing caravan parks in association with or the replacement of existing caravans and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TM32 -To consider small scale additions to, or the development of vacant infill plots in existing caravan parks in conjunction with environmental and infrastructural improvements. Regard should be had to Fáilte Ireland's Registration and Renewal of Registration Regulations for Caravan and Camping Parks 2009. While touring caravan sites tend to be less obtrusive than static sites, the provision of new facilities will be assessed against strict planning, design and environmental criteria. This type of development will be resisted in areas already well provided for, in the open countryside, in areas of landscape vulnerability and sensitivity and adjacent to or within Natura 2000 sites.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective TM33 - To facilitate the development of 'Camper Van' touring facilities at appropriate locations	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
within towns and villages subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18. Objective TM34 - To prohibit the replacement of individual mobile homes and caravans in rural or urban areas except in extenuating circumstances and where permitted the planning permission will only be for a limited period.	~	~	~	n/a	
Chapter 8 - Transport					
Objective T01 - To support the sustainable transport principles outlined in Smarter Travel: A Sustainable Transport Future (Department of Transport, 2009).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T02 - To integrate land use and transport in the development and application of land use planning objectives in a manner which reduces reliance on car-based travel and promotes more sustainable transport choices.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T03 - To ensure that all proposed projects relating to transportation (including walking, cycling, rail, bus, airports, ports and roads) and any associated improvement 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 Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan or 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 project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Directive Objective T04 - To support and facilitate proposals, including infrastructure developments, which enhance the quality, frequency and speed of existing train and bus public transport services in the County and to support and facilitate the provision of new services, such as on the Rosslare Europort – Waterford and New Ross–Waterford railway lines.	x	x	x	T03 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH1	
Objective T05 - To support the use and zoning of land in suitable locations which facilitates public transport usage and to support the development of appropriately sited and designed facilities, such as additional stations, car and cycle parking, taxi ranks, bus parking facilities, bus shelters and bus lanes which facilitate increased public transport usage; all of which contribute to the development of integrated sustainable transport systems.	x	x	x	Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH15 T03	
Objective T06 - To prevent proposed development which would impede the safe operation of current and future rail services on existing operational lines and which would impede the potential future reintroduction of services on lines which are currently disused.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T07 - To encourage and facilitate the development of enhanced rail freight services and supporting infrastructure within the County.	x	x	x	T03 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH1	
Objective T08 - To promote improvements to bus and rail services and infrastructure serving County to ensure greater access for people with disabilities.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T09 To encourage walking and cycling by all sections of the community through: Promoting walking and cycling as sustainable transport modes and healthy recreation activities	x	x	x	T03 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH1	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
<p>throughout the County;</p> <p>Promoting cycling and pedestrian friendly development layouts, provide facilities at public transport nodes, towns and villages, plan for and make provision for the integration of cyclist and pedestrian needs when considering new proposed development proposals;</p> <p>Promoting cycling and walking facilities as integral to the provision of vehicular traffic facilities;</p> <p>Requiring the provision of drop kerbs at all junctions and central island refuges to facilitate ease of access for elderly and mobility restricted people;</p> <p>Requiring that proposed developments are sited and designed in a manner in which facilitates and encourages safe walking and cycling;</p> <p>Supporting the installation of infrastructure measures (for example new/wider pavements, road crossings, cycle parking facilities), retrofitted if necessary, which facilitates and encourages safe walking and cycling;</p> <p>Supporting the preparation of walking and cycling audits for the settlements in the County;</p> <p>Ensuring that the needs of walkers and cyclists are given thorough consideration in all planning documents, including Town Development Plans, Local Area Plans, Village Design Statements and Public Realm plans produced by or in conjunction with the Council;</p> <p>Ensuring that the needs of walkers and cyclists are given full consideration in proposals to maintain and upgrade public roads, in undertaking traffic calming and proposals to maintain or change local speed limits in all town, village and rural locations.</p> <p>Objective T10 To support and facilitate the development of enhanced</p>	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
transport infrastructure at Rosslare Europort, including the development of rail freight handling facilities, the development of facilities to handle more load-on load-off cargo, and the development of facilities to enable usage of the port by more container ships subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria, the development management standards in Chapter 18 of the Plan, and any other relevant Plans and guidance documents. Objective T11 - To support the development of port related services and industries on lands adjacent to the ports of Rosslare Europort and New Ross.	x	x	x	T03 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH1	
Objective T12 - To support and facilitate the development of enhanced transport infrastructure at Rosslare Europort and New Ross Port subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria, the development management standards contained in Chapter 18 and other relevant Plans and guidance documents. Chapters 6, 7 and 13 also include objectives supporting the County's Ports.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T13 - To support the on-going development of Waterford Airport and to support and facilitate proposals to improve access to Waterford Airport and all other airports in the Country to and from County Wexford, in particular by public transport.	x	x	x	T03 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH1	
Objective T14 - To support, facilitate and enable the sustainable development of, and improvements to, the national roads network in the County, as guided by the NRA National Roads programme.	x	x	x	T03 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH1	
Objective T15 - To support the development of the following national roads schemes:	x	x	x	T03 Section 18.4 Chapter 18	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
<p>N25/N11 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour</p> <p>N11 Enniscorthy Bypass</p> <p>N30 Clonroche Bypass</p> <p>N25 New Ross Bypass</p> <p>Objective T16 - To implement the mitigation measures described in the Natura Impact Statement Stage 1 Screening Assessment prepared for the N11-N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour Scheme to ensure protection of the integrity of the Slaney River Valley cSAC and the Wexford Harbour and Slobbs SPA.</p> <p>Objective T17 - To support the development of the national primary routes to a minimum dual carriageway standard.</p>	<p>√</p> <p>x</p>	<p>√</p> <p>x</p>	<p>√</p> <p>x</p>	<p>WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH1</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>T03 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH1</p>	
<p>Objective T18 - To facilitate and enable the development of national road schemes having regard to the Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Spatial Planning and National Roads (NRA, 2012) and consultations with the National Roads Authority on each proposal. The Council will:</p> <p>Retain required lands free from development</p> <p>Require that adjacent development of sensitive uses such as housing, schools and nursing homes, are compatible with the construction and long-term operation of the road</p> <p>Ensure that development objectives, including the zoning of land, do not compromise the route selection process</p>	x	x	x	<p>T03 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH1</p>	
<p>Objective T19 - To prevent inappropriate development, land uses and zoning proposals on lands adjacent to existing national roads and national roads junctions particularly outside of settlements in order to allow for the possible future upgrade of these roads and junctions.</p> <p>Objective T20 - To restrict all new and intensified use of existing access/egress points to the national road</p>	<p>~</p> <p>~</p>	<p>~</p> <p>~</p>	<p>~</p> <p>~</p>	<p>n/a</p> <p>n/a</p>	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
network, except in the following exceptional circumstances.					
Objective T21 - To require that a Traffic and Transportation Assessment (TTA) is undertaken for larger proposed developments in order to assess the implications for the capacity and efficient operation of national roads and to ensure that the national road links and junctions in the vicinity of the development are adequate to accommodate the proposed development without causing additional delays to existing and future road based traffic. The TTA shall be prepared having regard to the Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines (NRA, 2007) and the Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Spatial Planning and National Roads (DECLG, 2012). The Council will have regard to the threshold and sub-threshold guidance within the Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines in the determination of whether a TTA is required. The TTA should include a Mobility Management Plan which promotes sustainable travel.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T22 - To require that a Road Safety Audit (RSA) be undertaken for development proposals which require new or significant changes to an existing access/egress point to a national road in order to fully assess implications for safety on national roads. The RSA shall be prepared in accordance with the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (NRA, 2010).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T23 - To manage and maintain the regional road network in the County in a manner which safeguards the strategic function of regional roads.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T24 - To prevent new or the significant intensification of existing, access/egress points from/to Class I Regional Roads. This objective will not apply in the following locations and circumstances but only in locations and for developments which will not give rise to public safety hazards:	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
<p>Within the development boundaries/built up areas of towns, villages or other settlements where a speed limit of 50 – 60 k.p.h. applies and where a safe access, avoiding undue proliferation of access points, can be achieved.</p> <p>Farmers and their sons or daughters proposing to build a dwelling house for their own use provided that a need for that dwelling has been clearly established and where there is no suitable alternative access possible from the family landholding onto a local road.</p> <p>The sub-division of dwelling house sites to provide a dwelling for the use of a son or daughter of the original site owner, where a need for that dwelling has been clearly established and where there is no suitable alternative access possible from the family landholding onto a local road. Proposals for granny flat type developments at such properties will be considered on their merits having regard to the characteristics of the site and the anticipated level of intensification of use of existing access point.</p> <p>For developments of a commercial nature, where a clear need for the development is established, which could not be met in other locations, and where there is no suitable alternative access to a local road possible. The Council will have regard to the likely number and type of traffic movements associated with proposed development in the assessment of such proposals.</p> <p>The above criteria also apply where a shared access/egress from/to the Class 1 regional road is proposed (including with an existing access) and where access/egress from/to the Class 1 regional road is proposed via a private lane.</p> <p>Objective T25 - To control new and significant intensification of existing, access/egress points from/to non-class 1 regional roads except for circumstances</p>	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
where a need for the development at that location has been clearly established and where there is no suitable alternative access possible onto a local road. This shall also apply where a shared access to the non- class 1 regional road is proposed and where access to the non- class 1 regional road is proposed via a private lane.					
Objective T26 - To promote: The development of inner relief routes which may have regional road status, for traffic in Gorey Town, Wexford Town, New Ross Town and Enniscorthy Town to include possible new river crossings in Wexford and New Ross The upgrade of the R700 which provides an important link between Counties Wexford and Kilkenny.	x	x	x	T03 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH1	
Objective T27 - To manage and maintain local roads in the County having regard to their important function, as resources allow.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T28 - To facilitate access proposals to local roads on a site by site basis having regard to the characteristics of the site and the road where access is proposed.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T29 - To promote and encourage road safety having regard to the National Roads Safety Strategy (RSA, 2007) and to exercise its functions with regard to the maintenance and improvement of all regional and local roads in a manner which has regard to the safety of all potential users of those roads including agricultural vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians and public transport and to protect the biodiversity and amenity value of roadside landscaping.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T30 - To assess the detailed siting and design of proposals for new or intensified use of existing accesses to roads on their merits having regard to the objectives of this chapter and the development managements standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T31 - To restrict development:	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Where the local roads network is deficient including considerations of capacity, width, alignment, surface or structural condition Which would create serious traffic congestion Which would unduly obstruct other road users A Traffic and Transport Assessment (TTA) with a Mobility Management Plan may be sought for proposed developments affecting non-national roads with regard to this objective					
Objective T32 - To undertake traffic management schemes, which may include reductions in speed limits and/or other measures, with a view to enhancing safety for all road users, where considered appropriate to do so and as resources allow.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T33 - 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.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T34 - To support and facilitate the provision of charging points for electric vehicles	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T35 - To ensure that traffic noise levels are considered in the assessment of all significant development proposals. This assessment will have regard to noise maps for national and major non-national roads to be prepared by the NRA and the Council further to Environmental Noise Regulation S.I. No. 140 of 2006.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective T36 To consider proposals for petrol filling stations / service stations/ truck parking facilities subject to compliance with the following general principles and the design standards contained in the development management standards in Chapter 18 of the Plan: Such developments at or near national roads shall be assessed having regard to NRA Guidance contained	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
<p>Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities (NRA, 2012).</p> <p>The provision of such facilities on those sections of regional roads and local roads where the maximum speed limit applies will generally be discouraged, unless an overriding need for the development in that location is clearly demonstrated.</p> <p>The proposed development would not result in traffic safety hazards, serious traffic congestion, or the undue obstruction of other road users.</p> <p>The proposed development would not result in adverse impacts on the environment and local amenities.</p> <p>The proposed development would not result in an undue proliferation of such facilities.</p> <p>The proposed development would not undermine the vitality of retail services in local villages in contravention of the Retail objectives of this Plan.</p> <p>The proposed development shall not contravene other objectives of this Plan.</p> <p>Objective T37 To retain, maintain and provide appropriately sited and designed parking facilities for cars, buses, motorcycles and cycles where required and as resources allow.</p> <p>Objective T38 To require developments to: Provide adequate, well designed and safe parking and waiting provision for private cars, taxis, buses, motorbikes and cycles, which meets the development management standards in Chapter 18, and which has regard to the promotion of good urban and rural design and the safety of all road users and facilitates access by walking, cycling and public transport. Provide adequate arrangements for servicing and deliveries which meet best practice standards having</p>	<p>x</p> <p>~</p>	<p>x</p> <p>~</p>	<p>x</p> <p>~</p>	<p>Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH1 T03 n/a</p>	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
regard to the need to promote good urban and rural design and to protect public safety.					
Chapter 9 - Infrastructure					
Objective WS01 - To protect existing and potential water resources for the County, in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/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 the Groundwater Protection Scheme for the County and any other protection plans for water supply sources.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WS02 - To ensure drinking water supplied by the public water network complies with the European Communities (Drinking Water) Regulations 2007.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WS03 - To ensure that all proposed future public water abstractions within the plan area are screened for Appropriate Assessment of its potential impact on the Natura 2000 network, in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WS04 - To ensure the delivery of an adequate and reliable public water supply which serves the domestic, commercial and industrial needs of the County.	X	X	X	WS01, WS03 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 NH01-NH1 n/a	
Objective WS05 - Where connection to an existing public water supply is not possible or the existing supply system does not have sufficient capacity, the provision of a private water supply will be considered where it can be demonstrated that the proposed water supply meets the standards set out in EU and national legislation and guidance, would not be prejudicial to public health or would not impact on the source of an existing supply or cumulatively on the Natura 2000 network.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WS06 - To provide sufficient water storage, supply and pressure of potable water to serve all lands	~	~	~	n/a	

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zoned for development in the County and in accordance with the hierarchy of settlements as set out in Settlement Strategy.					
Objective WS07 - To facilitate measures to secure the delivery of the Water Services Investment Programme for the County.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective WC01 - To improve efficiency in the operation and demand management of the water supply infrastructure, promote water conservation and reduce the overall level of water loss in the public water supply.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective WC02 - To support and promote the use of water conservation measures in new developments, for example, rainwater harvesting systems.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective WW01 - To ensure that all wastewater generated is collected, treated and discharged after treatment in a safe and sustainable manner, having regard to the standards and requirements set out in EU and national legislation and guidance and subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters, Urban Wastewater Water Directive and the Habitats Directive	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WW02 - To provide, subject to funding, adequate wastewater facilities to serve the existing and future needs of populations in the towns and villages identified in the Settlement Hierarchy subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters, Urban Wastewater Water Directive and the Habitats Directive.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WW03 - To consider the provision of private wastewater treatment facilities to serve commercial/employment generating developments	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
where it is demonstrated that the proposed wastewater treatment system will meet all the relevant environmental criteria of the EPA and the Planning Authority, and subject to complying the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters and the Habitats Directive. An annual renewed contract for the management and maintenance of the system contracted to a reputable company/person will be required; details of which shall be submitted to the Planning Authority					
Objective WW04 - To consider the provision of communal private wastewater treatment facilities where appropriate to serve developments in Strong Villages, Smaller Villages and Rural Settlements only where it demonstrated that the proposed wastewater treatment system will meet all the relevant environmental criteria of the EPA and the Planning Authority and subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters and the Habitats Directive. An annual renewed contract for the management and maintenance of the system contracted to a reputable company/person will be required; details of which shall be submitted to the Planning Authority.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WW05 - To permit the provision of private wastewater treatment facilities to serve a single dwelling house only where it demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority that the proposed wastewater treatment system is in accordance with the Code of Practice: Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Houses (EPA, 2009) and subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction	√	√	√	n/a	

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Programmes for Shellfish Waters and the Habitats Directive. An annual renewed contract for the management and maintenance of the system contracted to a reputable company/person will be required; details of which shall be submitted to the Planning Authority.					
Objective WW06 - To work with relevant agencies and to assist in the research and development of new sustainable effluent treatment systems including zero discharge systems such as Willow Beds or Reed Beds.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WW07 - To examine the feasibility of connecting unsewered areas, including individual properties and premises served by on-site wastewater treatment facilities, to existing and planned sewer networks.	~	~	~	n/a	
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.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective SWM02 - To ensure that all storm water generated in a new development is disposed of on-site or is attenuated and treated prior to discharge to an approved storm water system.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective SWM03 - The discharge of surface water run-off and rainwater into foul water sewage drainage systems will not be permitted.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objectives SWM04 - To require the separation of foul and surface water discharges in new developments through the provision by the developer of separate networks.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective TCO1 - To facilitate the delivery of high-capacity telecommunications infrastructure at appropriate locations throughout the County subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
contained in Chapter 18. Objective TC02 - To have regard to Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures-Guidelines for Planning Authorities (Department of the Environment and Local Government, 1996) or updated guidelines published during the lifetime of the Plan.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TCO3 - To co-operate with telecommunications service providers in the development of this infrastructure, having regard to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TC04 - To require a demonstration of need for the proposed mast, having regard to the requirements for the co-location of masts and facilities where practicable and technically feasible. It will be the requirement of the applicants to satisfy the Planning Authority that a reasonable effort has been made to share installations. In situations where it not possible to share a support structure, applicants will be encouraged to share a site or to locate adjacently so that masts and antennae may be clustered.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TC05 - To adopt a presumption against the erection of antennae in proximity to residential areas, schools and community facilities.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective TC06 - To minimise, and avoid where possible, the development of masts and antennae within the following areas: Prominent locations in Upland, River Valley and Coastal landscape character units and in 'Landscapes of Greater Sensitivity' Locations which impede or detract from existing public view points to/from Landscapes of Greater Sensitivity, rivers, estuaries or the sea	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
<p>Areas within or adjoining the curtilage of protected structures</p> <p>Areas on or within the setting of archaeological sites</p> <p>Within or adjacent to Natura 2000 sites</p> <p>The Council may consider an exemption to this objective where:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">An overriding technical need for the equipment has been demonstrated and which cannot be met by the sharing of existing authorised equipment in the area, and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The equipment is of a scale and is sited, designed and landscaped in a manner which minimises adverse visual impacts on the subject landscape unit.</p> <p>Objective TC07 - To ensure the location of telecommunications structures minimise and/or mitigate any adverse impacts on communities, the natural and built environment and public rights of way.</p>	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective BB01 - To encourage and facilitate the co-ordinated development and extension of broadband infrastructure throughout the County, in particular in the Hub, larger towns and district towns, by state or private operators as a means for improving economic competitiveness and social inclusion subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective BB02 - To support the rollout of the National Broadband Scheme, the Rural Broadband Scheme and the Broadband to School Scheme in conjunction with the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources.	X	X	X	BB01	
Objective BB03 - To ensure that there is ducting for broadband fibre connections installed during the installations of services, in all new commercial and housing scheme and during any work on road or rail lines	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective BB04 - To encourage the provision of WiFi zones in public buildings.	~	~	~	n/a	
Chapter 10 – Environmental Management					
Objective WQ01 - To protect existing and potential water resources for the County, in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), the South-East River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015 and any updated version, the 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 and any other protection plans for water supply sources.	√	√	√	n/a	
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.	√	√	√	n/a	
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.	√	√	√	n/a	
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.	√	√	√	n/a	
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.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective AQ01 - To have regard to the Air Quality Standards Regulation 2011 (S.I. No. 180 of 2011) when assessing planning applications for development which	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
may have effects on air quality. Objective AQ02 - To encourage sustainable industrial developments by promoting the use of cleaner technologies and production techniques, reducing waste production, conservation and recycling of materials.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective AQ03 - To manage development to provide the efficient use of land and infrastructure, thereby controlling and limiting air emissions.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective AQ04 - To require the submission of measures to prevent and reduce dust and airborne particulate emissions for activities that may have a negative effect on air quality.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective AQ05 - To encourage a modal change from private car use towards other types of travel and to promote the use of public transport as a means of reducing vehicle emissions and improving air quality.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective N01 - To have regard to the provisions of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Acts 1992 and 2003 and the Environmental Protection Agency Noise Regulations 1994 when assessing planning applications.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective N02 - To regulate and control activities likely to give rise to excessive noise, other than those activities which are regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective N03 - To ensure new development does not cause an unacceptable increase in noise levels affecting noise sensitive properties. Proposals for new development with the potential to create excessive noise will be required to submit a construction and/or operation management plan to control such emissions.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective N04 - To require activities likely to give rise to excessive noise to install noise mitigation measures and monitors. The provision of a noise audit may be required where appropriate.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective N05 - To ensure that relevant planning	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
applications comply with the provisions of any Noise Action Plan or noise maps relating to the area.					
Objective L01 - To require developments providing external lighting, to clearly demonstrate that the lighting scheme is the minimum needed for security and working purposes.	√	√	√	n/a	
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.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WM01 - To implement the provisions of the Joint Waste Management Plan for the South-East Region 2006-2011, and any updated version published during the lifetime of the Plan, subject to compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WM02 - To increase public awareness of the importance of waste management, in particular prevention and minimisation of waste. The Council will encourage local communities, schools and businesses to become involved in environmental awareness activities and community based recycling or environmental management initiatives that will lead to local sustainable waste management practices.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WM03 - To implement the National Waste Prevention Programme and any update version published during the lifetime of the Plan. The Council will continue to support initiatives such as the 'Green Business Initiative' and the 'Green Schools Programme' which promote waste prevention in businesses and schools	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WM04 - To encourage the development of waste minimisation strategies for domestic, commercial and industrial waste.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WM05 - To support the development of appropriately sited waste recycling and recovery	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
facilities, such as bring centres, civic amenity centres, waste transfer stations, waste material facilities and authorised treatment facilities for end-of-life vehicles as a means of facilitating a reduction in the quantity of waste that goes to landfill disposal sites subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the relevant development management standards set out in Chapter 18.					
Objective WM06 - To ensure hazardous household waste is disposed off in accordance with the provisions of the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2008-2012, and any updated version published during the lifetime of the Plan, subject to compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WM07 - To encourage and facilitate the development of new alternatives and technological advances in relation to waste management such as Organic Waste to Energy/Combined Heat and Power schemes subject to the criteria for location of waste management facilities contained in Section 9.6.5 above and compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective WM08 - To support the provision of infrastructure for composting and other forms of recycling for bio-waste subject to the criteria for location of waste management facilities contained in Section 9.6.5 above and compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective WM09 - To encourage the development of Construction and Demolition waste recycling facilities at appropriate sites subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the relevant development management standards set out in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective WM10 - To promote the recycling and reuse of aggregates from Construction and Demolition waste.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WM11 - To ensure the disposal of agricultural waste is carried in a safe manner and in compliance with the Nitrates Directive, European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations, 2009 (S.I. No. 101 of 2009), the European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 610 of 2010), the Habitats Directive and any other relevant statutory provisions.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WM12 - To have regard to the Sludge Management Plan for the County 2001-2020 and any updated version published during the lifetime of the Plan, subject to compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective LM01 - To implement the provision of the "Litter Management Plan 2010-2013 for County Wexford" and any updated version of the Plan.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective HL01 - To carefully consider the land use and proposals for developments within 250 metres of identified historic landfill sites in accordance with the provisions of the document Protection of New Buildings and Occupants from Landfill Gas (Department of the Environment and Local Government, 1994) and any subsequent updated version of this document .	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HL02 - To implement remediation plans for the identified historic landfills in the County.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective BG01 - To provide and facilitate burial grounds, or extensions to existing burial grounds, at appropriate locations throughout the County subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective BG02 - To ensure that burial grounds	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
throughout the County are managed and maintained in a manner that respects their associated culture and heritage. Objective CM01 - To consider the provision of human crematorium and associated facilities including a chapel/funeral service home at appropriate locations in the County subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18. Objective COMAH01 - To control the following for the purposes of reducing the risk or limiting the consequences of a major accident (regard will be had to the provisions of the Major Accidents Directive and any regulations, under any enactment, giving effect to that Directive): The siting of Major Accident Hazard sites The modification of an existing Major Accident Hazard site Development in the vicinity of a Major Accident Hazard site as specified in the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).	~	~	~	n/a	
	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective COMAH02 - To consult with and have regard to the technical advice of the Health and Safety Authority when preparing Development Plans and Local Area Plans and assessing planning applications where the Major Accidents Directive and any associated regulations are relevant.	~	~	~	n/a	
Chapter 11 - Energy					
Objective EN01 - To facilitate the achievement of a secure and efficient energy supply and storage for County Wexford.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN02 - To promote County Wexford as a low carbon County by 2019 as a means of attracting inward investment and to facilitate the development of energy sources which will achieve low carbon outputs.	x	x	x	Section 5 of Volume 5 Wind Energy Strategy	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective EN03 - To facilitate the provision of and improvements to energy networks in principle, provided that it can be demonstrated that: The development is required in order to facilitate the provision or retention of significant economic or social infrastructure The route proposed has been identified with due consideration for social, environmental and cultural impacts The design is such that will achieve least environmental impact consistent with not incurring excessive cost Where impacts are inevitable mitigation features have been included Proposals for energy infrastructure should be assessed in accordance with the requirements of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective EN04 - To support the extension of the gas network to County Wexford, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN05 - To support the development of appropriately located gas fired peaking plants with a capacity of between 50-100 MW, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN06 - To encourage and favourably consider proposals for renewable energy developments and ancillary facilities in order to meet national, regional and county renewable energy targets and to facilitate a reduction in CO ₂ emissions and the promotion of a low carbon economy, subject to development management standards and compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective EN07 - To support and assist Wexford County Development Board in implementing the measures contained in Positioning Wexford for the Upturn: Towards Sustainable Growth and Development (Wexford County Development Board, 2010) in relation to developing a sustainable energy supply and promoting County Wexford as a 'Green County.'	x	x	x	Section 5 of Volume 5 Wind Energy Strategy Chapter 18 Section 18.4	
Objective EN08 - To support the development of Sustainable Energy Zones initially at Johnstown Castle, Drinagh and Rosslare Eurport with other zones to follow throughout the County in accordance with the Council's document Job Creation from the Generation and Utilisation of Energy from Renewable Energy Resources (Wexford County Council, 2010).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN09 - To prepare a Renewable Energy Strategy for County Wexford during the lifetime of the Plan which will build on and support the Wind Energy Strategy 2013-2019, any Climate Change Strategy prepared for the County and the National Renewable Energy Action Plan (Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, 2010).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN10 - To promote and facilitate wind energy development in accordance with Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Wind Energy Development (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2006) and the Wind Energy Strategy which forms part of this Plan, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	And Section 5 of Volume 5	
Objective EN11 - To support and encourage the development of the bioenergy sector and facilitate its development for energy production, heat storage and distribution, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective EN12 - To support and assist in the implementation of the South-East Region Bioenergy Implementation Plan 2008-2013 through the planning process, subject to compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN13 - To encourage the development of anaerobic digesters and biofuel processing plants, subject to the criteria for renewable energies, energy crops and sustainable construction in Chapter 6 and compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN14 - To facilitate the development of Organic Waste to Energy/Combined Heat and Power schemes, subject to the criteria for location of waste management facilities contained in Chapter 10 and compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN15 - To support and encourage the development of Biomass District Heating and facilitate its development for energy production, heat storage and distribution, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN16 - To support the development of feasibility studies which examine the tidal energy resource off Tuskar Rock and the development of this resource where viable, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN17 - To promote the use of solar technologies in new and existing dwellings, offices, commercial and industrial buildings, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.					
Objective EN18 - To encourage the development of small scale hydroelectric projects, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN19 - To promote the use of geothermal energy products in new developments, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN20 - To require all new building developments to meet low energy performance targets. Each buildings energy performance, as calculated by the Building Energy Rating (BER), will have a minimum energy efficiency that meets the requirements of Part L of the Building Regulations. New buildings should incorporate renewable energy technologies in order to help achieve the rating required.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN21 - To promote innovative building design and layout that demonstrates a high level of energy conservation, energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective EN22 - To encourage the integration of micro renewable energy sources into the design and construction of single and multiple housing developments	X	X	X	Hp05	
Objective EN23 - To promote the development and use of electric vehicles and facilitate the provision of appropriate infrastructure, such as electric charging points, at accessible locations throughout the County, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective EN24 - To encourage the utilisation of sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, cycling and walking as a measure to reduce man-made Green House Gas emissions through the sustainable settlement policies in this Plan and the provision of appropriate infrastructure, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Chapter 12 – Flood Risk Management					
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.	~	√	√	n/a	
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).	~	√	√	n/a	
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.	~	√	√	n/a	
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	~	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
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.	~	√	√	n/a	
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.	~	√	√	n/a	
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 Chapter 18.	~	√	√	n/a	
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.	~	~	~	n/a	
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.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective FRM10 - To preserve appropriately sized riparian strips alongside river channels free of development and of adequate width to permit access for river maintenance.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective FRM11 - To ensure that development proposals in areas at moderate (Flood Zone B) or high	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
(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. Objective FRM12 - To ensure new development does not increase flood risk elsewhere including that which may arise from surface water run-off.	~	~	~	n/a	
Chapter 13- Coastal Zone Management					
Objective CZM01 - 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 or project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan or 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 Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CZM02 - To have regard to any future national and/or regional Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan for the coastal and estuarine areas of the County. To work in collaboration with the South-East Regional Authority, local communities and other relevant stakeholders in the preparation and implementation of an Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan for the coastal and estuarine areas of the Region and the County.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM03 - To consider the carrying out of environmentally sensitive coastal protection works where	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
necessary subject to the works being appropriately designed and where it is demonstrated that the works would not exacerbate existing problems of coastal erosion or result in altered patterns of erosion, deposition or flooding elsewhere along the coast to the detriment of other properties, important habitats, coastal features or Natura 2000 sites.					
Objective CZM04 - To prohibit development within areas liable to coastal flooding, other than in accordance with the Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities (Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and Office of Public Works, 2009).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM05- To have regard to the findings and recommendations of the Irish Coastal Protection Strategy Studies in the assessment of planning applications.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM06 - To establish a coastal monitoring programme to provide information on coastal erosion on an ongoing basis.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM07 - To ensure that developments in the coastal zone are correctly sited and designed having regard to visual impact on the coastal zone and the coastal landscape character unit	~	~	~	CZM01	
Objective CZM08 - To prohibit the removal of beach material, sand and gravel.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CZM09 To restrict development outside the boundaries of existing coastal settlements to that which is required to be located in that particular location such as: Development to support the operation of existing ports, harbours and marinas Agricultural development Tourism related facilities appropriate to the particular coastal location (other than new build holiday home	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
accommodation) where there is a demonstration of a location or resource based need Other developments where an overriding need is demonstrated. New development shall be prohibited where it poses a significant or potential threat to coastal habitats or features, and/or where the development is likely to result in adverse patterns of erosion or deposition elsewhere along the coast and where it is likely to affect the integrity of Natura 2000 sites.					
Objective CZM10 - To consider one-off housing in areas outside of the boundaries of existing settlements in accordance with the rural housing objectives in the Sustainable Rural Housing Strategy in Chapter 4 and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	HP05	
Objective CZM11 - To encourage proposals to reinstate, conserve and or replace existing or disused dwellings for permanent or second home residential use subject to compliance with the rural housing objectives in the Sustainable Rural Housing Strategy in Chapter 4 and subject to compliance normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	HP05	
Objective CZM12 - To encourage small-scale enterprises where it proposed to renovate an existing barn, outhouse or other existing structure for use by the enterprise subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM13 - To ensure that developments are sensitively sited, designed and landscaped and do not detract from the visual amenity of the area.	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective CZM14 - To prohibit development outside the boundaries of existing coastal settlements where such development could not be adequately defended over the lifetime of the development without the need to construct new or additional coastal defence works	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM15 - To prohibit the development of any building (including caravans or temporary dwellings) outside the boundary of existing coastal settlements where the development is within 100m of the 'soft shoreline', that is, shorelines that are prone to erosion, unless it can be objectively established based on the best scientific information available at the time of the planning application, that the likelihood of erosion at the location is minimal taking into account, inter alia, any impacts of the proposed development on erosion, or deposition, and that the development will not pose a significant or potential threat to coastal habitats or features. This objective will not apply to minor extensions to existing buildings.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM16 - To control the nature and pattern of development within existing settlements in the coastal zone. Development shall be prohibited where it poses a significant or potential threat to coastal habitats or features, and/or where the development is likely to result in adverse patterns of erosion or deposition elsewhere along the coast.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CZM17 - To ensure that development is in keeping with the scale and character of the coastal settlement, and that the design positively contributes to and enhances the coastal landscape setting.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM18 - To consider the development of a building (including caravans or temporary dwellings) within the boundary of an existing settlement where the development is within 100m of the 'soft shoreline', that is, shorelines that are prone to erosion. It must be objectively established based on the best scientific	x	x	x	CZM01 NH01-NH15	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
information available at the time of the planning application, that the likelihood of erosion at a the location is minimal taking into account, inter alia, any impacts of the proposed development on erosion or deposition, and that the development will not pose a significant or potential threat to coastal habitats or features.					
Objective CZM19 - To require new holiday home schemes and second home developments to locate within the existing towns and villages in the coastal zone. The scale of housing home schemes shall be compatible with the scale and character of the town or village and in compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	HP05	
Objective CZM20 - To consider appropriate tourism and recreational activities (other than new holiday home accommodation) in areas outside of existing settlements providing these activities do not cause significant adverse impacts on the coastal character and subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM21 - To support the South-East Regional Authority in the development of a way-marked Coastal Walkway, where possible and appropriate along the full length of the South-East Region's coastline in conjunction with the other local authorities in the region, landowners and other partner agencies. All programmes and works to develop the coastal walkway will be required to comply with the principles of sustainable development Article 6 and Article 10 of the Habitat's Directive.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CZM22 - To ensure that there is appropriate public access to the coast including the provision of coastal walkways and cycle ways subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
development management standards contained in Chapter 18.					
Objective CZM23 - To encourage tourism and recreation facilities and developments to be accessible for pedestrians and cyclists and take advantage of sustainable transport alternatives through the provision of pathways, cycleway and links to the public transport system where possible, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM24 - To promote access, including public walkways, to beaches and the seashore where environmentally appropriate, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM25 - To maintain and upgrade facilities in coastal areas through the provision of appropriate support facilities such as car parking, cycle parking, public toilets and refuse disposal facilities, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM26 - To support the development of Rosslare Europort, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM27 - To maintain and improve the harbours, piers and quays under the control of Wexford County Council, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM28 - To encourage universally accessible extensions of the use of harbours where appropriate to include elements of active and passive leisure, tourism and service enterprises to create vibrant, attractive focal	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
points for existing coastal settlements subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.					
Objective CZM29 - To encourage the development of universally accessible marinas, jetties and facilities for maritime leisure developments where the siting of such installations will detract from the visual amenity, the environmental quality of the area, or public access to beaches and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM30 - To protect beaches, access to beaches and designated bathing areas as valuable local amenities and as a tourism resource.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM31 - To protect bathing waters in order that they meet the required bathing water standards and to implement the findings and recommendations of the Quality of Bathing Water in Ireland reports as published.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CZM32 - To protect, enhance and conserve all beaches in the County and to retain Blue Flag status and strive to increase the number of beaches with this status.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CZM33 - To provide car parking, cycle parking toilet and waste facilities at suitable locations at the County's bathing areas, where possible, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM34 - To improve and develop accessibility to beaches for people with disabilities, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM35 - To support the contribution of fishing and aquaculture to the rural economy by encouraging	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
and facilitating the use and development of existing port/pier/harbour facilities for commercial fishing, whilst taking account of the need to conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the coast and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.					
Objective CZM36 - To work with local communities, relevant stakeholders and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to ensure the proper and successful implementation of the Shellfish Waters Directive along the County Wexford coastline.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CZM37 - To support the development of marine tourism clusters along the South-East coastline and promote the implementation of the objectives contained in the Development Strategy for Marine and Leisure Infrastructure (Marine Institute, 2002) subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CZM38 - To support and protect identified shellfish areas in the County.	√	√	√	n/a	
Chapter 14 – Heritage (built, natural, green infrastructure and landscape)					
Objective HT01 - To prepare a Heritage Plan to assist the management and promotion our valuable heritage in a sustainable manner.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective HT02 - To ensure that the use of our heritage assets is managed in a manner that does not adversely impact on the intrinsic value of the assets.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HT03 - To ensure that development proposals do not have an unacceptable impact on our heritage unless there is a reason of over-riding public interest for such development. Any such development shall be in compliance with all other planning and environmental	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.					
Objective NH01 - 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.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective NH02 - To recognise the importance of recommended proposed NHAs and County Geological sites identified by the Geological Survey of Ireland and protect the character and integrity of these sites where appropriate.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective NH03 - 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 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.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective NH04 - 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.	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective NH05 - 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 and enhanced.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective NH06 - To protect individual or groups of trees and woodlands of particular amenity and nature conservation value and make Tree Preservation Orders where appropriate.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective NH07 - 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.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective NH08 - 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.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective NH09 - To work with local communities, groups, landowners, the NPWS and other relevant parties to identify, protect, manage and, where appropriate, enhance and promote sites of local biodiversity value.	~	√	√	n/a	
Objective NH10 - To implement the actions identified in the County Wexford Draft Biodiversity Action Plan 2012-2017, or any subsequent plan, in partnership with all relevant parties and stakeholders.	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective NH11 - To complete mapping of ecological networks/corridors of local biodiversity value outside of designated sites and afford appropriate protection to areas of ecological importance as required.	~	√	√	n/a	
Objective NH12 - To promote awareness and appreciation of our natural heritage through the production of guidelines for individuals, homeowners, developers and ensure that that biodiversity and natural heritage is taken into account from the earliest point in the design process.	~	√	√	n/a	
Objective NH13 - To recognise that the Council plays an important role in the management of the landscape and ensure that considerations of natural heritage inform the Council's own decisions, actions and methods of operation	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective NH14 - To recognise and afford appropriate protection to any new NHAs, SPAs or SACs which are designated within the life time of the Plan.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective NH15 - To ensure that natural heritage and biodiversity inform the preparation of Local Area Plans and to identify, protect and manage biodiversity through these Plans.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective GI01 - To ensure the protection, enhancement and maintenance of the natural environment and recognise the economic, social, environmental and physical value of green spaces through the integration of Green Infrastructure planning and development in the planning process.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective GI02 - To develop and implement a Green Infrastructure Strategy for the County, in consultation with adjoining Local Authorities, key stakeholders and the public, subject to compliance with Articles 6 and 10 of the Habitats Directive. The Strategy will integrate policies and objectives under a number of headings including; natural heritage, parks and open spaces, built	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
heritage and archaeology, water management, flooding and climate change allowing for a strategic approach to green space planning in the County.					
Objective GI03 - To identify, protect, enhance and manage Green Infrastructure in all Local Area Plans in an integrated and coherent manner.	~	~	~	n/a	
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.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective GI05 - To require new developments to contribute to the protection and enhancement of existing Green Infrastructure, and the provision of new Green Infrastructure where appropriate, in an integrated and coherent manner. Such development shall be in compliance with all other planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective GI06 - To require proposals for medium to high-density residential schemes to have regard to the recommendations of the 'Green City Guidelines' (UCD Urban Institute of Ireland, 2008) when designing such schemes, and to demonstrate this in the planning application.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective GI07 - To require proposals for significant development to submit a Green Infrastructure Plan as part of the planning application.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective L01 - To have regard to the Landscape Character Assessment and associated map contained in Volume 3, the Landscape and Landscape Assessment-Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2000) Draft and any	~	√	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
updated versions of these guidelines published during the lifetime of the Plan, when assessing planning applications for development. Objective L02 - To review the Landscape Character Assessment and the landscape objectives in the Plan, after the publication of the National Landscape Strategy and future guidelines issued by a Minister of the Government with respect to landscape.	~	√	~	n/a	
Objective L03 - To ensure that developments are not unduly visually obtrusive in the landscape, in particular in the Upland, River Valley and Coastal landscape units and on or in the vicinity of Landscapes of Greater Sensitivity.	~	√	~	n/a	
Objective L04 - To require all developments to be appropriate in scale and sited, designed and landscaped having regard to their setting in the landscape so as to ensure that any potential adverse visual impacts are minimised.	~	√	~	n/a	
Objectives L05 - To prohibit developments which are likely to have significant adverse visual impacts, either individually or cumulatively, on the character of the Uplands, River Valley or Coastal landscape or a Landscape of Greater Sensitivity and where there is no overriding need for the development to be in that particular location.	~	√	~	n/a	
Objective L06 - To ensure that, where there is an overriding need is demonstrated for a particular development in an Upland, River Valley or Coastal landscape unit or on or in the vicinity of a Landscape of Greater Sensitivity, careful consideration is given to site selection. The development should be appropriate in scale and be sited, designed and landscaped in a manner which minimises potentially adverse impacts on the subject landscape and will be required to comply with all normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in	~	√	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Chapter 18. Objective L07 - To encourage appropriate development which would enhance an existing degraded landscape and/or which would enhance and introduce views to or from a Landscapes of Greater Sensitivity from public viewpoints, subject to compliance with all normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective L08 - To consider appropriate rural recreational and tourism related developments which would facilitate public access to and appreciation of Upland, River Valley and Coastal Landscapes and Landscapes of Greater Sensitivity in the County subject to compliance with the relevant objectives in Chapters 6, 7 and 13. Developments should be appropriate in scale and be sited, designed and landscaped in a manner which minimises potentially adverse impacts on the landscape and shall be in compliance with all other planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective L09 To require developments to be sited, designed and landscaped in manner which has regard to the site specific characteristics of the natural and built landscape, for example, developments should be sited, designed and landscaped to minimise loss of natural features such as mature trees and hedging, and built features.	~	v	~	n/a	
Objective L10 To adopt a presumption against the siting of telecommunications equipment: In prominent locations in Upland, River Valley and Coastal landscape character units and in Landscapes of Greater Sensitivity In locations which would impede or detract	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
<p>from existing public viewpoints to or from a Landscape of Greater Sensitivity, rivers, estuaries or the sea.</p> <p>The Council may consider an exemption to this objective, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development managements contained in Chapter 18, where:</p> <p>An overriding technical need for the equipment has been demonstrated and which cannot be met by the sharing of existing authorised equipment in the area, and</p> <p>The equipment is of a scale and is sited, designed and landscaped in a manner which minimises adverse visual impacts on the subject landscape unit.</p>					
<p>Objective L11 - To seek to minimise the individual and cumulative adverse visual impacts that local concentrations of one-off housing, outside of settlements, may have on Upland, River Valley and Coastal landscape character units or Landscapes of Greater Sensitivity. In this regard, in locations where the Council considers that there is a risk of individual or cumulative adverse impacts, the Council will only consider proposals for housing developments where a need for the dwelling has been demonstrated in accordance with the criteria Table No. 11 in Chapter 4.</p>	~	~	~	n/a	
<p>Objective AH01 - To conserve and protect archaeological sites, monuments (including their settings), underwater archaeology and objects within the jurisdiction of Wexford County Council including those listed on the Record of Monuments and Places, the Register of Historic Monuments or newly discovered sub-surface archaeological remains.</p>	~	~	~	n/a	
<p>Objective AH02 - To protect the heritage of groups of important national monuments, inclusive of their contextual setting and interpretation, in the operation of development management.</p>	~	~	~	n/a	

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Objective AH03 - To fully consider the protection of the archaeological heritage when undertaking, approving or authorising development. In considering such protection the Council will have regard to the advice and recommendations of the National Monuments Service and the principles set out in Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, 1999).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective AH04 - To require an archaeological assessment for development that may, due to its size, location or nature, have a significant effect upon archaeological heritage and to take appropriate measures to safeguard this archaeological heritage. In all such cases the Planning Authority shall consult with the National Monuments Service in the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective AH05 - To promote a presumption in favour of preservation in-situ of archaeological remains and settings when dealing with proposals for development that would impact upon archaeological sites and/or features. Where preservation in-situ is not possible the Council will consider preservation by record in appropriate circumstances.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective AH06 - To protect historic and archaeological landscapes, including battlefields, and promote access to such sites provided that this does not threaten the feature.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective AH07 - To protect historic urban defences (both upstanding and buried) and associated features and safeguard them from inappropriate development in accordance with National Policy on Town Defences (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2008).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective AH08 - To include archaeological landscapes as part of the updated Landscape Character	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Assessment of the County to be prepared following the publication of a National Landscape Strategy/National Landscape Character Assessment.					
Objective AH09 - To identify appropriate archaeological sites in the County to which public access could be provided, and work to secure public access where appropriate in consultation with the land owner, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective AH10 - To retain existing street layouts, historic building lines and traditional plot widths which derive from medieval or earlier origin.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective AH11 - To protect historical burial grounds within County Wexford and encourage their maintenance in accordance with conservation principles	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective PS01 - To protect the architectural heritage of County Wexford and to include structures considered to be of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest in the Record of Protected Structures	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective PS02 - To protect the curtilage of Protected Structures or proposed Protected Structures from any works which would cause loss of or damage to the special character of the structure and loss of or damage to, any structures of heritage value within the curtilage or attendant grounds of the structure	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective PS03 - To encourage development within the curtilage of a Protected Structure that is compatible with its character in terms of siting, building lines, proportions, scale, massing, height, roof treatment and materials subject to normal planning and development criteria and the development standards contained in Chapter 18 where appropriate This does not preclude putting forward innovative contemporary designs that respect	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
the context of the Protected Structure. Objective PS04 - To promote the maintenance and appropriate reuse of Protected Structures and older buildings of architectural heritage merit that make a positive contribution to the character, appearance and quality of local areas and the sustainable development of the County.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective PS05 - To promote the retention of original or early building fabric including timber sash windows, stonework, brickwork, joinery, render and slate. Likewise the Council will encourage the re-instatement of historically correct traditional features.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective PS06 - To encourage the retention of those elements that give a Protected Structure its special interest where the structure has suffered damage by fire or other accidental causes and where those elements have survived either in whole or in part.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective PS07 - To ensure that applications in relation to Protected Structures include an architectural heritage assessment/architectural impact assessment report. This report should assess the implications of the development on the character of the structure and the area in which it is located. This should be prepared in accordance with appendix B of Architectural Heritage Protection-Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DEHLG, 2004) and any subsequent drafts.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective PS08 - To ensure that all applications for Protected Structures are assessed by taking into consideration the advice contained in Architectural Heritage Protection- Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DEHLG, 2004), and any subsequent drafts. Objective PS09 - To encourage the repair and retention of traditional timber, rendered and/or tiled shop fronts and pub fronts, including those, which may not be Protected Structures.	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective PS10 - To facilitate the retention of older buildings, the Planning Authority will give consideration to the relaxation of car parking and other Development Management requirements in appropriate circumstances.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective PS11 - To ensure that elements of the architectural heritage of the County, such as historic gardens, stone walls, ditches and street furniture that make a positive contribution to the built heritage, are retained.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ACA01 - To identify and designate areas as Architectural Conservation Areas in the Towns and Villages of County Wexford where appropriate through Town Development Plan and Local Area Plan processes.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective ACA02 - To ensure that all proposed developments are carried out to the highest architectural and urban design standards within designated areas of Architectural Conservation Areas.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective G01 - To preserve and enhance the County's graveyards through improved management and access and community stewardship and to provide historical information at each location and promote the unique character of each of the burial grounds to the surrounding residents and property owners.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CH01 - To support the sustainable development and promotion of our cultural heritage and the associated infrastructure subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CH02 - To safeguard the cultural heritage of the County and facilitate the expansion and development of appropriate facilities suitably located adjacent to points of interest subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
management standards contained in Chapter 18. Objective CH03 - To promote cultural and artistic excellence and innovation and support the work of those involved in the development of our arts and cultural heritage subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CH04 - To help to ensure that our cultural heritage and associated facilities are accessible and inclusive subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CH05 - To continue to promote the Wexford Festival Opera and the bringing of international arts to the County. The Council will also promote international audiences for Wexford based artists and arts projects, and support multi-cultural initiatives.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CH06 - To encourage and facilitate the development, creation and display of works of art in public areas subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental standards and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CH07 - To encourage the provisions of public works of art in major new commercial and private residential developments in the County to enhance the amenities of the local environment.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CH08 - To support the development and expansion of Library Services. Such development and expansion shall be carried out to the highest internationally recognized standard and shall be subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental standards and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18 where appropriate.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CH09 - To cooperate with the Heritage Council, Arts Council, Fáilte Ireland and other relevant	~	√	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
bodies such as the National Parks and Wildlife Service to promote and develop the arts, cultural and heritage attractions throughout the County.					
Chapter 15 – Recreation, Sport and Public Rights of Way					
Objective RS01 - To ensure that adequate amenity and recreational open space and facilities are available for all groups of the population through the zoning of appropriate lands in Development Plans and Local Area Plans.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS02 - To implement the strategic objectives contained in the County Wexford Recreation Strategy including promoting awareness and access to recreational activities and facilities in the County, identifying future recreational needs and promoting flexibility and adaptability of facilities in order to accommodate emerging needs, subject to compliance with Articles 6 and 10 of the Habitats Directive.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective RS03 - To encourage the use of school grounds and associated recreational facilities outside of school hours by all members of the community provided that this does not conflict with the delivery of the education service.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS04 - To promote recreation based tourism and associated employment opportunities in the County subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18 of Volume 1.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS05 - To ensure that new recreational facilities are located in existing settlements close to the main residential areas and other community facilities, where possible, to maximise participation levels and reduce the need to travel subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18 of	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Volume 1 Objective RS06 - To promote and encourage a vibrant and active sports sector, with increased participation levels, good quality sustainable facilities and opportunities for people to play an active role in sport.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS07 - To develop sport, recreation and amenity facilities consistent with proper planning and sustainable development in appropriate locations in the County, in partnership with local community and sports groups and/or private parties, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS08 - To maximise the range of play opportunities available to all children, particularly children who are marginalised, disadvantaged or who are disabled.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS09 - To ensure that high quality play and recreation facilities are incorporated into new housing developments over 75 dwellings. Play facilities may include playgrounds, basket ball courts, tennis courts, hurling walls or other facilities considered appropriate by the Council. This standard may be modified in any particular case where there are significant reasons for doing so. Criteria that may be taken into account include the existing geographical distribution of play facilities and the emerging demographic profile of the area.	x	x	x	HP05	
Objective RS10 - To encourage the development of Multi-User Games Areas (MUGAS) at appropriate locations in the County and ensure that new community facilities and public open spaces are designed to allow flexibility in their use subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18 of Volume 1	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS11 - To promote the use of natural amenity	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
areas in the County for recreational purposes while ensuring the protection of scenic and environmentally sensitive areas, including Natura 2000 sites subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18 of Volume 1					
Objective RS12 - To encourage the provision of access to amenity areas such as beaches, inland waterways, forests and heritage sites in co-operation with landowners and continue to maintain and improve existing accesses, subject to compliance with Articles 6 and 10 of the Habitats Directive to ensure all development is in accordance with objectives in Chapter 13 (Coastal Zone Management) of Volume 1.	√	√	√	n/a	
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.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective RS14 -To co-operate with Coillte in the protection of existing and development of additional forest amenity sites and walks, subject to compliance with Articles 6 and 10 of the Habitats Directive.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective RS15 - To support the development of the amenities and recreation potential of the River Barrow in co-operation with National Parks and Wildlife Service, Inland Waterways, adjoining Local Authorities, Harbour Masters and all other relevant authorities. All such development should be undertaken in compliance with Articles 6 and Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective RS16 - To maintain and improve beaches within the County in order to achieve Blue Flag and Green Coast status where beaches do not have these	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
awards and strive to retain Blue Flag and Green Coast status on beaches where they have currently been awarded.					
Objective RS17 - To identify beaches within the County which can best service the needs of disabled members of the community and to develop these beaches in association with disability representative groups, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective RS18 - To prohibit the development of static caravan and camping sites in open and exposed coastal and lakeshore areas and areas that are deemed to be ecologically sensitive.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective RS19 - To promote sustainable outdoor recreation in the form of walking and cycling and exploit the recreational and tourist potential of walking and cycling routes in the County whilst ensuring the protection of the environment.	x	x	x	Chapter 18 Section 18.4 EN24 T03	
Objective RS20 - To engage and co-operate with representative bodies, local groups, landowners and where relevant adjoining local authorities, in order to support the sustainable development of walking and cycling routes.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS21 - To maintain a listing of national trails approved in County Wexford and promote their greater use.	x	x	x	T03 EN24	
Objective RS22 - To promote the development and use of the Wexford Coastal Pathway (Slí Charman) as a recreation and tourist facility, subject to compliance with Articles 6 and Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective RS23 - To provide and maintain new/improved coastal access points, right-of-ways and the improvement and upgrading of the Coastal Pathway, subject to compliance with Articles 6 and Article 10 of the	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
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.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective RS25 - To facilitate the development of disused railways for amenity purposes provided that the use does not interfere with the re-opening of lines, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS26 - To improve cycle routes with better signposting, better road surfaces and greater safety for the cyclist and to ensure that new urban road infrastructure and traffic management measures are designed to be cyclist friendly. Objective RS27 - To support the development of a National Cycle Network and examine the feasibility of linking the main towns of County Wexford to this network	~ x	~ x	~ x	n/a T03	
Objective RS28 - To require the provision of good quality, accessible, well located and functional open spaces in new residential developments in accordance with the standards recommended in Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas: Guidelines for Planning Authorities and its companion document Urban Design Manual (DEHLG, 2008).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS29 - To ensure that all residents have reasonable access to a range of different types of open space and that new open spaces are integrated with	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
good pedestrian, cyclist and disabled access.					
Objective RS30 - To ensure a detailed landscaping plan accompanies all applications for housing estates, significant industrial and commercial developments	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS31 - To avoid loss of public and private recreational open space and facilities unless alternative recreational facilities are provided in a suitable location.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS32 - To promote the development of allotments on suitable sites which are accessible from the built-up areas of the County taking into consideration the demand for such facilities and subject normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS33 - To preserve public rights of way which give access to seashore, mountain, lakeshore, riverbank or other places of natural beauty or recreational activity. These public rights of way shall be identified both by marking them on at least one of the maps forming part of the development plan and by indicating their location on a list appended to the development plan during the life of the Plan and the County Development Plan will be varied accordingly.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RS34 - To identify the existing public rights of way which give access to seashore, mountain, lakeshore, riverbank or other places of natural beauty or recreational activity using the following methodology: Place an advert in local papers seeking submissions from the public to identify public rights of way which give access to seashore, mountain, lakeshore, riverbank or other place of natural beauty or recreational utility. The Council will identify existing rights of ways, paths, and access points to seashore, mountain, lakeshore, riverbank or other places of natural beauty or recreational activity. The Council will identify access points to seashore,	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
<p>mountain, lakeshore, riverbank or other places of natural beauty or recreational activity which the Council have maintained or repaired with a view to identifying public rights of way.</p> <p>The Council will carry out a desktop analysis of public records, maps, aerial photographs, newspaper accounts to identify reputations of public rights of way.</p> <p>Once the list is compiled the Council will advertise and put on display the proposed list of public rights of way. The public will be invited to make submissions on the validity of the public rights of way.</p> <p>The Council will endeavour to verify and list the public rights of way and begin the formal process for designating rights of way under Section 14 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).</p> <p>The Plan will be varied to include to list and map the public rights of way.</p> <p>Objective RS36 - To ensure that development does not impinge on public walking routes and public rights of way, particularly those at the seashore, mountain, lakeshore, riverbank or other places of natural beauty or recreational activity.</p>	~	~	~	n/a	
Chapter 16 – Social Inclusion and Community Facilities					
Objective CF01 - To promote social inclusion and access to education, health and community support services, amenities and leisure services and a good quality built environment for all members of the community through the planning process.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF02 - To support Wexford Local Development, other local development structures and the County Development Board in responding to social exclusion issues and creating a more inclusive environment for all members of the community.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF03 - To support the entitlement of all members of the community to enjoy a high quality living	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
environment and to support local communities, the Health Authorities and other bodies involved in the provision of facilities for groups with specific design/planning needs. Objective CF04 - To promote Universal Design and Lifetime Housing in accordance with best practice and the policies and principles contained in Building for Everyone: A Universal Design Approach (National Disability Authority, 2012) and Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas: Guidelines for Planning Authorities and its companion document Urban Design Manual (DEHLG, 2008).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF05 - To ensure that a minimum of 20% of dwellings in all new housing estates of five dwellings or more are suitable to accommodate or are adaptable to provide accommodation for people with disabilities. Developers will be required to show an accessible route to the residential units from the boundary of the property. Proximity and access to local services must also be considered relative to the units which are accessible.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF06 - To require an Access Statement to be carried out for significant developments in accordance with Appendix 6 of Buildings for Everyone: A Universal Design Approach (National Disability Authority, 2012).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF07 - To continue to carry out improvements to the public realm to create a safe and barrier free environment that can be accessed by all members of the community.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF08 -To implement the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2007-2013 and any subsequent Programme adopted by the Council and continue to address the provision of accommodation appropriate to the particular needs of travellers.	x	x	x	HP05 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM01, 2, 6 & 9 NH01-NH15	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective CF09 - To promote the development of sustainable communities on the basis of a high quality of life where people can live, work and enjoy access to a wide range of community, health and educational facilities suitable for all ages, needs and abilities.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF10 - To maintain and, where possible, improve the provision of community facilities in the County, ensuring that these facilities are adequate to meet the needs of the communities they serve, are physically integrated with residential and employment areas and are provided concurrently with new residential development, subject to normal planning and development criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF11 - To carry out, in conjunction with the County Development Board, a Social Infrastructure Audit to identify areas where social, community and recreational infrastructure is lacking and to ascertain the requirements of local communities.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF12 - Facilitate the provision of new burial grounds and the extension of existing cemeteries 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.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF13 - To consult with the Department of Education and Skills in the identification and facilitation of suitable sites for new educational facilities.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF14 - To restrict new development adjacent to existing schools where such development may have the potential to restrict the expansion of that school.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF15 - To encourage the multi-use of school	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
buildings and facilities provided this does not conflict with the delivery of the education service.					
Objective CF16 - To ensure that no significant residential development proceeds without an assessment of existing schools capacity or the provision of new school facilities in tandem with the development.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF17 - To support the development and ongoing provision of Third Level Education in the County, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF18 - To support the transformation of Carlow and Waterford Institutes of Technology and their associated campuses into a technical university	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF19- To further develop educational linkages with European Education Institutions in order to enhance Wexford as Educational Gateway to Europe	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF20- To encourage and facilitate the provision of childcare facilities, in accordance with Childcare Facilities: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2001), within new or existing places of work, residential areas, educational establishments, town centres and adjacent to public transport nodes. Where childcare facilities are proposed to be located within established residential areas, applications for such uses will be assessed having regard to the likely effect on the amenities of adjoining properties, the availability of space for off-street parking and/or suitable drop-off and collection points and outdoor playspace. In some cases, it may be necessary to attach a condition that would require some residential content to be maintained in the premises.	X	X	X	HP05 Chapter 18 Section 18.4 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 NH01-NH15	
Objective CF21 - To require the provision of purpose-built childcare facilities in new residential developments in accordance with Childcare Facilities: Guidelines for	X	X	X	HP05 Chapter 18 Section 18.4	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Planning Authorities (2001) and We Like This Place: Guidelines for Best Practice in the Design of Childcare Facilities (2005). The indicative standard is one childcare facility, accommodating 20 children, for approximately 75 dwellings. This standard may be modified in any particular case where there are significant reasons for doing so. Criteria that may be taken into account in such an assessment include the existing geographical distribution of childcare facilities and the emerging demographic profile of the area.				WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 NH01-NH15	
Objective CF22 - To support the Wexford County Childcare Committee/Wexford County Development Board in carrying out an audit of childcare facilities.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CF23 - To promote the continued improvement and expansion of health and medical care facilities in the County which meet the needs of and are easily accessible to local service users, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Chapter 17 – Design Guide					
Objective DES1 - To encourage architectural creativity and innovation in both the urban and rural environment.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective DES2 - To promote architectural quality and the creation of good places. The Council will have regard to the guidance as set out in the Urban Design Manual – Best Practice Guide (2009) when assessing large scale developments and in the creation of master plans as part of future Town Plans and Local Area Plans.	~	~	~	n/a	
Retail Strategy					
Objective 1: The Council shall ensure that all retail development permitted is in accordance with the Guidelines for Planning Authorities Retail Planning (DECLG, 2012) and the Wexford County Retail Strategy.	x	x	x	ED40 Chapter 18Section 18.4 WQ1-WQ5 NJ01-NH05	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective 2: The Council will permit retail development of a scale which is appropriate to the level of the town/area within the retail hierarchy and the population of the catchment.	x	x	x	ED40 Chapter 18Section 18.4 WQ1-WQ5 NJ01-NH05	
Objective 3: The Council will prohibit new retail developments if they would either by themselves or cumulatively with other recent developments and proposals seriously damage the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective 4: The planning authority will have regard to the findings of the capacity assessment contained in the County Retail Strategy in assessing planning applications, however when considering any individual planning proposal in any town the applicant will be required to demonstrate in the Retail Impact Assessment that the floorspace is appropriate having regard to the quantum of floorspace required in that town. The Retail Impact Assessment shall take account of the particular catchment, extant permissions and their likelihood of being implemented and vacancies in the individual towns. Information with regard to extant permissions can be provided by the Council. The quantitative need for the quantum of floorspace will not be the only deciding factor; the Council will also consider whether any given planning application will be better located sequentially than permitted developments or whether it would be required for qualitative reasons such as strengthening the County's retail profile profile.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective 5: The Council shall promote and protect the designated Primary and Secondary Retail streets as the key locations for retail development.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective 6: The Council shall resist applications for planning permission which would result in net loss of convenience and comparison shopping floorspace at	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
<p>ground level on Primary Shopping Frontages where this would affect the vitality and viability of these streets.</p> <p>Objective 7: On Primary Shopping Frontages permission will be favourably considered for banks and other professional services, office uses, restaurants, bars, off licenses, takeaways and other cultural uses provided: The proposals would not individually or cumulatively cause demonstrable harm to the function, character or appearance of the frontage concerned or to the town centre as a whole. There would be no significant loss of residential accommodation at upper floor levels. While residential use is the preferred use upstairs it is accepted that it is not always possible to accommodate appropriate units in these buildings. Therefore other commercial uses will be considered but the Planning Authority will have regard to the amount of residential uses retained in the area to ensure that a balance of residential and commercial uses are maintained in the town centre. The use, taken together with existing or permitted uses would not result in an unacceptable multiplicity of such uses in any one area.</p>	~	~	~	n/a	
<p>Objective 8: It is an objective of the Council that proposals for large scale retail development will be favourably considered where they: provide safe and easy access for pedestrians, cyclists and disabled persons; are accessible by public and private transport; are of a high design standard and satisfactorily integrate with the surrounding built environment; do not negatively impact on the flow of vehicular traffic either in the immediate vicinity or the wider area of the development.</p>	x	x	x	ED40	

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are of a scale appropriate to its location.					
Objective 9: The Council will generally require a Retail Impact Assessment (RIA) to be carried out for proposals for development ¹ ; greater than 1000 sqm of net floorspace for both convenience and comparison type developments in the four main towns, greater than 500 sq.m. of net retail floorspace for both convenience and comparison type developments in district towns and other settlements, or where the Planning Authority considers the development may impact on the vitality and viability of a town centre.	~	~	~	n/a	
The Planning Authority retains the right to waive the requirement of the Retail Impact Assessment on a case to case basis. Such statements shall include, at minimum, the criteria set out in the Retail Planning Guidelines (2005) or as amended.					
Objective 10: Retail developments on edge of centre sites or out of town centre sites will be considered when it has been clearly demonstrated that all viable, available and suitable sites in the town centre have been fully investigated and considered in accordance with the Retail Planning Guidelines and in particular the Sequential Test. A special financial contribution will be applied to retail developments on edge of centre or out of town centre sites. This contribution will be used by the Council to carry out town centre improvements and/or to enhance access arrangements from the town centre to the subject site. Provisions in this regard will be set out in the respective Development Contribution Schemes.	x	x	x	ED40	

¹ Wexford Town, Enniscorthy and New Ross have their own development plans and they are bound by the objectives of their respective development plans.

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective 11: The Council will prioritise the reuse of vacant and derelict buildings in the town centre for uses including retail development.	x	X	X	NI01	
Objective 12: The Council will encourage 'living over the shop' whereby the upper storeys of buildings have a residential function with the ground floor used for commercial or retail purposes.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective 13: The Council will consider tourism related retail developments in towns and villages or at existing established tourist attractions. The retail facility shall be suitably designed, sited and of a scale that does not detract from the tourism feature and shall be subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18	~	~	~	NI01-NI15 TM03	
Objective 14: It is the objective of the Council to continue to make environmental improvements to the town centres through high quality civic design, provision of attractive street furnishing, lighting and effective street cleaning/business improvement district type initiatives.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective 15: It is an objective of the Council to improve accessibility of town centres by developing a pedestrian and cyclist friendly urban environment and promoting vibrant street life.	~	~	~	NI01-NI15 TM03	
Objective 16: It is the objective of the Council to ensure that all proposed projects relating to retail development (including retail warehouses, factory outlets, shopping centres, convenience shops etc) and any associated improvement works or associated infrastructure (i.e. parking facilities), individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment 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	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Volume 5 Wind Energy Strategy					
Objective WE01 Ensure the security of energy supply by supporting the development of wind energy resources in County Wexford at appropriate scales and in appropriate locations, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Section 5	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WE02 Maximise the potential from renewable energy resources and aim to achieve a target of 300 MW of wind energy, to enable County Wexford to make the initial steps toward a low carbon economy by 2020.	x	x	x	Section 5 Volume 5 Wind Energy Strategy EN06	
Objective WE03 Facilitate wind energy development on appropriate sites in the County and work with the relevant agencies to encourage investment in research and technology associated with wind farms and other renewable energy technology	x	x	x	Section 5 Volume 5 Wind Energy Strategy EN06 WE07	
Objective WE04 Favourably consider proposals for the development of infrastructure for the production, storage and distribution of electricity through the harnessing of wind energy in appropriate sites and locations, subject to relevant policy, legislation and environmental considerations and the development management standards contained in Section 5.	~	~	~	Section 5 Volume 5 Wind Energy Strategy EN06 WE07	
Objective WE05 Promote community consultation in proposed wind farm developments in accordance with Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Wind Energy Development (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2006) and Best Practice Guidelines for the Irish Wind Energy Industry (IWEA, 2012).	~	√	~	n/a	
Objective WE06	~	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Encourage the development of ecological enhancements or improvements that go beyond measures required to mitigate or compensate for damage from wind farm construction. Providing attractive and wildlife-rich habitats is a way to contribute to local and national biodiversity strategies and targets.					
Objective WE07 Require an Appropriate Assessment to be carried out for proposals which have the potential to adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000 site. Having regard to Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, where a proposed development will give rise to significant adverse direct, indirect or secondary impacts on Natura 2000 sites (either individually or in combination with other plans or projects), permission will only be granted where there are no alternative solutions and where there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest in favour of granting permission, including those of a social or economic nature.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective WE08 Facilitate, where appropriate, small scale wind energy development projects in urban areas, industrial estates, business parks and small community-based proposals, subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Section 5.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objectives WE09 Consider the re-powering (by replacing existing wind turbines) and extension of existing wind farms. Applications on such sites will each be assessed on their merits and will be subject to the development management standards contained in Section 5.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective WE10 Facilitate onshore support infrastructure including landing locations for land-sea connections for appropriate offshore development, subject to relevant	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
policy, legislation, environmental, landscape, amenity, seascape and technical considerations and subject to the development management standards contained in Section 5.					
Joint Housing Strategy 2013-2019					
Objective HS01 - Require that a 20% of all land zoned for residential use, or for a mixture of residential and other uses, be reserved for the purposes of Section 94(4)(a)(i) and (4)(a)(ii) with the exception of the exemption(s) provided for in Section 4 of this strategy and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HS02 - Review this interim Housing Strategy when Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) is revised to take account of the of the new economic and policy contexts.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HS03 - Ensure that adequate and appropriate land is zoned to meet the likely future housing need identified in the Housing Strategy and Core Strategy.	x	x	x	SS02 HP05 Section 18.4 Chapter 18 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1	
Objective HS04 - Seek to facilitate all households to access good quality housing appropriate to household circumstances and in their particular community of choice. The Council's priority will be on meeting the most acute needs – those unable to provide for their accommodation from their own resources.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HS05 - Ensure that housing is available for people of different income types. This shall be achieved through the housing support system and through the planning system which will ensure that an appropriate mix of units is provided in appropriate locations.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HS06 - Ensure that a mix of house types and sizes is provided within individual developments and	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
within communities. This will be achieved through the development management and forward planning process. The forward planning process will ensure that appropriate zonings are provided in Development Plans and Local Area Plans at suitable locations to provide for a mix of unit types. Development Plans will also include standards requiring the provision of a mix of unit types and sizes. This will also be achieved through the Council's actions as a housing authority through the selection of lands or units for lease, rent or purchase.					
Objective HS07 - Ensure that the Council's selection of lands or housing units to purchase or lease acts to counteract undue segregation by persons of different social backgrounds.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HS08 - Ensure that those with specific housing needs, such as the elderly, persons with a disability, homeless people and Travellers are accommodated in a manner which is appropriate to their specific needs.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HS09 - To work with other statutory, voluntary and representative and interest groups to identify the needs of those with special housing needs and the appropriate policy and strategic responses.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HS10 - Have regard to the National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability 2011-2016 and, insofar as possible having regard to budgetary constraints, implement the strategic aims of this strategy (see Section 1 above).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HS11 - Promote Universal Design and Lifetime Housing in accordance with best practice and the policies and principles contained in Building for Everyone: A Universal Design Approach (National Disability Authority, 2012) and Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas: Guidelines for Planning Authorities and its companion document Urban Design Manual (DEHLG, 2008).	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective HS12 - Ensure that a minimum of 20% of dwellings in all new housing estates of five dwellings or more are suitable to accommodate or are adaptable to provide accommodation for people with disabilities. Developers will be required to show an accessible route to the residential units from the boundary of the property. Proximity and access to local services must also be considered relative to the units which are accessible.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HS13 - To require an Access Statement to be carried out for significant developments in accordance with Appendix 6 of Buildings for Everyone: A Universal Design Approach (National Disability Authority, 2012).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HS14 - Implement, insofar as possible having regard to budgetary constraints, the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2007-2013 and any subsequently adopted strategy subject.	x	x	x	HP05 Section 18.4 Chapter 8 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM 01, 2, 6 & 9 NI01-NI15	
Objective HS15 - Implement, insofar as possible having regard to budgetary constraints, the actions contained in the South-East Homeless Action Plan 2010-2013 and any subsequently adopted plan.				HP05 Section 18.4 Chapter 8 WQ1-WQ5 AQ1 N03 FRM 01, 2, 6 & 9 NI01-NI15	
Objective HS16 - Ensure, through the forward planning and development management processes and the actions of the housing authorities, that new and existing communities provide high-quality living environments with attractive, comfortable and safe accommodation and adequate and well located social and physical infrastructure.	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Objective HS17 - Promote the development of sustainable housing developments which are energy efficient, and efficient in their use of natural resources such as water and materials.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HS18 - Promote best practice and innovation with regard to ongoing management and maintenance of all housing stock and the associated public realm.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HS19 - Pursue a range of options for housing provision, including direct new stock acquisition or build, leasing, RAS and the utilization of RAS commitments.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective HS20 - Support and assist the voluntary housing sector in their role as providers of housing to those in need of accommodation.	~	~	~	n/a	
Rosslare Strand & Castlebridge Objectives					
Objective RSO01 - To protect and enhance the distinctive character of Rosslare Strand.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RSO02 - To ensure Rosslare Strand maintains its existing population levels and services and that future growth is balanced and sustainable and is relevant and appropriate to the scale, size and character of the village.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RSO03 - To ensure Rosslare Strand maintains and its enhances its role as an important local service centre for its residents and the surrounding rural hinterland whilst maintaining sustainable communities and ensuring a good quality environment	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RSO04 - To ensure Rosslare Strand maintains and enhances its role as a valuable tourism destination in the County and to facilitate the development of appropriate tourism facilities	x	x	x	Chapter 18 Section 18.4 TM03	
Objective RSO05 - To ensure the sustainable use and management of Rosslare Strand's natural resources, assets and amenities.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RSO06 - To ensure the density, scale and form of future residential development in Castlebridge is	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
appropriate to the settlement's position in the County's Settlement Strategy and associated Settlement Hierarchy and that it has regard to the Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas and the accompanying Urban Design Manual-A Best Practice Guide (DEHLG, 2009).					
Objective RSO07 - To consolidate the existing pattern of development and ensure that new development complies with the sequential approach to the development of land which is focused on developing lands closest to the village centre first.	x	x	x	Chapter 18 Section 18.4	
Objective RSO08 - To prepare in conjunction with the local community a Village Design Statement for Rosslare Strand which will: Assess and describe what is unique about Rosslare Strand to ensure these features are enhanced through the planning process and other relevant socioeconomic development programmes; To draw up design principles to guide future development within and surrounding the village, in accordance with Section 28 planning guidelines and the European Landscape Convention; To effectively manage new development and to provide advice to all decision makers, developers and their agents; and To act as a focus for local communities to participate and collaborate effectively in the local planning process and other and other developments in and for the community.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RSO09 - To promote and facilitate the provision of serviced residential sites in the village subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective RSO10 - To consider the development of holiday homes within the boundaries of the settlement subject the development being in keeping with scale and	x	x	x	HP03	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
character of the Rosslare Strand and that the design positively contributes to and enhances the coastal landscape setting.					
Objective RSO11 - To encourage the provision of appropriate retail services and additional social and communities facilities in the village to serve the resident population, surrounding rural hinterland and visitors.	x	x	x	ED40	
Objective RS012 - To ensure all development is in accordance with objectives in Chapter 13 Coastal Zone Management.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective RSO13 - To ensure the protection and conservation of natural heritage including designated sites, protected species, and ecological networks/corridors of local biodiversity value outside the designated sites.	√	√	√	n/a	
Objective CSO01 - To protect and enhance the distinctive character of Castlebridge.	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CSO02 - To ensure the density, scale and form of future residential development in Castlebridge is appropriate to the settlement's position as a District Town in the County's Settlement Strategy and associated Settlement Hierarchy and that new residential development has regard to the Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas and the accompanying Urban Design Manual-A Best Practice Guide (DEHLG, 2009).	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CSO03 - To prepare in conjunction with the local community a Village Design Statement for Castlebridge which will: Assess and describe what is unique about Castlebridge to ensure these features are enhanced through the planning process and other relevant socioeconomic development programmes; Draw up design principles to guide future development within and surrounding the village, in accordance with	~	~	~	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
Section 28 planning guidelines and the European Landscape Convention; Effectively manage new development and to provide advice to all decision makers, developers and their agent; and Act as a focus for local communities to participate and collaborate effectively in the local planning process and other and other developments in and for the community.					
Objective CSO04 - To consolidate the existing pattern of development and ensure that new development complies with the sequential approach to the development of land which is focused on developing lands closest to the village centre first.	x	x	x	Chapter 18 Section 18.4	
Objective CSO05 - To promote and facilitate the provision of serviced residential sites in the village subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18 of Volume 1	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CSO06 - To encourage the provision of appropriate retail services and additional social and communities facilities in the village to serve the resident population, surrounding rural hinterland and visitor subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18 of Volume 1	x	x	x	ED40	
Objective CSO07 - To ensure the sustainable use and management of Castlebridge's natural resources, assets and amenities subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18 of Volume 1	~	~	~	n/a	
Objective CSO08 - To ensure the protection and conservation of natural heritage including designated sites, protected species, and ecological networks/corridors of local biodiversity value outside the	√	√	√	n/a	

Table A1: Assessment Matrix of County Development Plan Objectives on all Natura 2000 Sites	Direct	Indirect	Cumulative	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Other Measures
designated sites.					

Part 3

Addendum No. 1 to Appropriate Assessment
Screening Report prepared by RPS
November 2012



Screening for Appropriate Assessment of the Material Amendments of Draft Wexford County Council Development Plan 2013-2019

AA Screening Report & Determination

DOCUMENT CONTROL SHEET

Client	Wexford County Council					
Project Title	Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 Appropriate Assessment Screening					
Document Title	AA Screening Report and Determination					
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This Document Comprises	DCS	TOC	Text	List of Tables	List of Figures	No. of Appendices
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DRAFT WEXFORD COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2013-2019

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT – SCREENING

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Under section 12 (4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), Wexford County Council have prepared a Report to the Members detailing the material amendments to the County Development Plan 2013-2019 following receipt of submissions and observations with respect to the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019.

All land use plans, such as this draft Development Plan, must undergo a formal 'test' or be screened to see if they would have likely significant effects on specific sites designated for their nature conservation importance. These sites are those designated under European Commission's Natura 2000 network of sites. These sites are designated on the basis of the presence of certain habitats and species that are deemed to be of international importance.

The EC Habitats and Birds Directives are the frameworks under which these sites are designated. The EC Habitats Directive requires the 'screening' of plans and projects under Article 6 (3). If the screening process results in a judgement that identifies that likely significant effects may occur or cannot be ruled out, then a more detailed 'appropriate assessment' (AA) is required. Whilst the structure of this assessment process is not specified in legislation, guidance documentation has been published which provides direction with respect to carrying out appropriate assessment.

RPS undertook an AA Screening of the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 in June 2012. This assessment concluded that a Natura Impact Statement was not required. In order to ensure that the material amendments of the Plan fully comply with the requirements of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive and all relevant Irish transposing legislation, RPS on behalf of Wexford County Council carried out this AA Screening exercise which identifies if any of the proposed material amendments, as outlined in the Report entitled Proposed Amendments to the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 would be likely to impact a Natura 2000 site.

1.2 Scope of Assessment

The original report identified that there were no likely significant effects of the draft Plan on Natura 2000 sites and, therefore, no appropriate assessment was required.

This Addendum to the AA Screening Report (June, 2012) presents a further AA Screening of the material amendments of the Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019. The Material Amendments are those outlined the Manager's Report (October 2012).

Section 2 of this report describes the likely significant effects, if any, of the material amendments on the integrity of the European sites within the Natura 2000 network (hereafter referred to as "Natura 2000 Sites").

Changes have not been made to the original Appropriate Assessment Screening Report at this stage. On adoption of the Plan, the findings of this Addendum will be used to update the Screening Report, where appropriate.

This Report documents the outputs of the screening of the material amendments only. Background information on the location and nature of the relevant European Sites is contained within the AA Screening Report prepared with respect to the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 (June 2012). Other background information regarding the assessment methodology is also contained within the original Screening Report.

2. AA SCREENING OF MATERIAL AMENDMENTS

2.1 Assessment

Each of the potential threats to the European sites have been examined (See Table 4.1 and 4.2 of the AA Screening Report of the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019) and in turn the following question was asked:-

“Is there any risk that the implementation of the material amendments to the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 that could lead to this threat or likely significant effects to Natura 2000 sites?”

The response to this question is presented below following a detailed examination of the material amendments and discussions with Wexford County Council.

As outlined in the previous screening exercise for the Draft Plan, in some places policies of the draft Plan have pre-empted the potential for likely significant effects and have been amended accordingly through recommendations and advice from the AA team to the SEA and Plan making teams. Recommendations included revisions to policies or objectives to include for the protection of Natura 2000 sites.

As part of this Addendum to the AA Screening of the Draft Plan 2013-2019, each of the material amendments (including new policies or amendments to policies and text) were examined for a potential source – pathway - receptor link to impact on Natura 2000 sites.

In ecological and environmental impact assessments, for an impact to occur there must be a risk enabled by having a 'source' (e.g. works during the construction of individual aspects of the Scheme), a 'receptor' (e.g. a European site or a supporting pNHA or NHA), and a pathway between the source and the receptor (e.g. a watercourse which connects the draft Plan lands to a European site). The risk of the impact does not automatically mean it will occur, or that it will be significant. However, identification of the risk does mean that there is a possibility of ecological or environmental damage occurring, with the level and significance of the impact depending upon the nature and exposure to the risk and the characteristics of the receptor.

The screening process at the Draft Plan stage does not remove the need to carry out screening at the planning application stage as outlined in the Plan and set out under the Development Managements Standards in Chapter 18.

2.2 Recommendations

To ensure the integrity of the Natura 2000 network and to avoid any impacts, the following changes are recommended to the Material Amendments.

1. Material Amendment Section 18.16 Extractive Industries page 429 from Managers Report:-

- The activity should not result in potential significant adverse impacts on designated sites of natural and/or built heritage, whether or not a significant resource exists at such locations. **All planning applications will be assessed having regard to the Habitats Directive to determine if the project has the potential to impact on the potential of a Natura 2000 site.**

Should be amended to read as follows:-

- The activity should not result in potential significant adverse impacts on designated sites of natural and/or built heritage, whether or not a significant resource exists at such locations. **All planning applications will be assessed having regard to the Habitats Directive to determine if the project has the potential to impact on the integrity or the conservation objectives of any Natura 2000 site.**

2. Material Amendment to Objective T20 on page 183 with regard to existing access/egress points to the national road network, except in the following exceptional circumstances as described under Bullet points 1, 2, 3 and 4

Should be amended to include the following under each bullet point 1-4:

- **Subject to compliance with the development management standards outlined in Chapter 18**

3. Material Amendment to Section 9.2.3- Objective on page 198:

- a) To provide water treatment facilities in accordance with statutory obligations as set out by EU and National policy

Should be amended to read as follows:-

- a) To provide water treatment facilities in accordance with statutory obligations as set out by EU and National policy and **subject to compliance with the development management standards outlined in Chapter 18.**

3. CONCLUSION

Following a detailed review of the amendments by an RPS Ecologist and Planner this review has shown that there are no elements of the material amendments that could either directly or indirectly, on their own or in combination, have a significant effect on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site.

Part 4

Addendum No. 2 to Appropriate Assessment
Screening Report prepared by RPS
February 2013



**Screening for Appropriate Assessment
of Manager's proposed modifications to the
Proposed Amendments
Draft Wexford County Council Development
Plan 2013-2019
AA Screening Report & Determination
DOCUMENT CONTROL SHEET**

Client	Wexford County Council					
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Document Title	AA Screening Report and Determination - Managers Proposed Modifications to the proposed Amendments					
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This Document Comprises	DCS	TOC	Text	List of Tables	List of Figures	No. of Appendices
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DRAFT WEXFORD COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2013-2019

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT – SCREENING

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Under section 12 (4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), Wexford County Council have prepared a Report to the Members detailing the material amendments to the County Development Plan 2013-2019 following receipt of submissions and observations with respect to the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019. A Mangers Report has also been prepared recommending some modifications to these material amendments which is the subject of this Screening exercise.

All land use plans, such as this draft Development Plan, must undergo a formal 'test' or be screened to see if they would have likely significant effects on specific sites designated for their nature conservation importance. These sites are those designated under European Commission's Natura 2000 network of sites. These sites are designated on the basis of the presence of certain habitats and species that are deemed to be of international importance.

The EC Habitats and Birds Directives are the frameworks under which these sites are designated. The EC Habitats Directive requires the 'screening' of plans and projects under Article 6 (3). If the screening process results in a judgement that identifies that likely significant effects may occur or cannot be ruled out, then a more detailed 'appropriate assessment' (AA) is required. Whilst the structure of this assessment process is not specified in legislation, guidance documentation has been published which provides direction with respect to carrying out appropriate assessment.

RPS undertook an AA Screening of the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 in June 2012 and a Screening of the Proposed Amendments to the Draft Plan in November 2012. Both these assessments concluded that a Natura Impact Statement was not required. In order to ensure the Final Plan fully complies with the requirements of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive and all relevant Irish transposing legislation, RPS on behalf of Wexford County Council carried out this AA Screening exercise which identifies if any of the Managers Proposed modifications to the proposed material amendments, as outlined in the Mangers Report would be likely to impact a Natura 2000 site.

1.2 Scope of Assessment

The original report identified that there were no likely significant effects of the draft Plan on Natura 2000 sites and, therefore, no appropriate assessment was required.

The Addendum to the AA Screening Report (June, 2012) presented a further AA Screening of the material amendments of the Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019. The Material Amendments are those outlined in the Manager's Report (October 2012) and the screening assessment determined that that AA was not required.

Section 2 of this report describes the likely significant effects, if any, of the Managers proposed modifications to the material amendments on the integrity of the European sites within the Natura 2000 network (hereafter referred to as “Natura 2000 Sites”).

Changes have not been made to the original Appropriate Assessment Screening Report at this stage. On adoption of the Plan, the findings of this Addendum and the Addendum submitted in November 2012 will be used to update the Screening Report, where appropriate.

This Report documents the outputs of the screening of the managers proposed modification to the material amendments only. Background information on the location and nature of the relevant European Sites is contained within the AA Screening Report prepared with respect to the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 (June 2012). Other background information regarding the assessment methodology is also contained within the original Screening Report.

2. AA SCREENING OF MATERIAL AMENDMENTS

2.1 Assessment

Each of the potential threats to the European sites have been examined (See Table 4.1 and 4.2 of the AA Screening Report of the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019) and in turn the following question was asked:-

“Is there any risk that the implementation of the material amendments to the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 that could lead to this threat or likely significant effects to Natura 2000 sites?”

The response to this question is presented below following a detailed examination of the proposed manager’s modifications to the material amendments and discussions with Wexford County Council.

As outlined in the previous screening exercise for the Draft Plan, in some places policies of the draft Plan have pre-empted the potential for likely significant effects and have been amended accordingly through recommendations and advice from the AA team to the SEA and Plan making teams. Recommendations included revisions to policies or objectives to include for the protection of Natura 2000 sites.

As part of this Addendum (Proposed Managers Modifications to the amendments) to the AA Screening of the Draft Plan 2013-2019, each of the material amendments (including new policies or amendments to policies and text) were examined for a potential source – pathway - receptor link to impact on Natura 2000 sites.

In ecological and environmental impact assessments, for an impact to occur there must be a risk enabled by having a 'source' (e.g. works during the construction of individual aspects of the Scheme), a 'receptor' (e.g. a European site or a supporting pNHA or NHA), and a pathway between the source and the receptor (e.g. a watercourse which connects the draft Plan lands to a European site). The risk of the impact does not automatically mean it will occur, or that it will be significant. However, identification of the risk does mean that there is a possibility of ecological or environmental damage occurring, with the level and significance of the impact depending upon the nature and exposure to the risk and the characteristics of the receptor.

The screening process at the Draft Plan stage does not remove the need to carry out screening at the planning application stage as outlined in the Plan and set out under the Development Managements Standards in Chapter 18.

2.2 Recommendations

To ensure the integrity of the Natura 2000 network and to avoid any impacts, the following changes, highlighted in red below, are recommended to the Managers Modifications to the Material Amendments.

Modification: Section 18.26 Telecommunications Structures of the Draft Plan page 439 as follows:

Planning applications relating to the erection of antennae and support structures shall be accompanied by:

- A reasoned justification as to the need for the particular development at the proposed location in the context of the operator's overall plans for the County having regard to coverage.
- Details of what other sites or locations in the County were considered, and reasons why these sites or locations are not feasible.
- Written evidence of site-specific consultations with other operators with regard to the sharing of sites and support structures. The applicants must satisfy the Council that a reasonable effort has been made to share installations. In situations where it not possible to share a support structure, the applicants will be encouraged to share a site or to locate adjacently so that masts and antennae may be clustered.
- Detailed proposals to mitigate the visual impact of the proposed development, including the construction of access roads, additional poles and structures.

And should be subject to compliance with the development management standards outlined in Chapter 18

3. CONCLUSION

Following a detailed review of the proposed managers modifications to the material amendments by an RPS Ecologist and Planner this review has shown that there are no elements of the material amendments that could either directly or indirectly, on their own or in combination, have a significant effect on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site provided the recommended amendment outlined in Section 2.2 is implemented in the Plan.